BS EN 17672:2022

BSI Standards Publication

Sustainability of construction works — Environmental product declarations — Horizontal rules for business-to-consumer communication

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/558, Sustainability of construction works.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

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Sustainability of construction works - Environmental product declarations - Horizontal rules for business-to-consumer communication

Contribution des ouvrages de construction au développement durable - Déclarations environnementales sur les produits - Règles horizontales régissant la communication de l'entreprise au consommateur

Nachhaltigkeit von Bauwerken - Umweltproduktdeklarationen - Horizontale Regeln für die Kommunikation von Unternehmen an Verbrauchern

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European foreword

This document (EN 17672:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 350 “Sustainability of construction works”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2023, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2023.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document has been prepared under a Standardization Request given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

This document supports the use of Product Category Rules (EN 15804:2012+A2:2019) for construction products. Together they are used as the means of producing Environmental Product Declarations for Business to Consumer communication.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

This document provides horizontal rules for business-to-consumer communication including benchmarking systems using environmental product declarations (EPDs) according to EN 15804. The objective is the provision of clear and intelligible information to consumers to promote informed comparisons on the environmental impacts of construction products, assembled systems and construction elements based on the Product Environmental Footprint approach adapted to the specificities of EN 15804.

The following elements define the approach of this document:

— Aggregation of results: in addition to the detailed communication rules in EN 15804 and EN 15942, this document allows the option of aggregating results from modules A1-C4 into a total sum of impacts or respective LCA indicators for communication of cradle to grave EPD for Business to Consumer purposes.

— Benchmarks: This document develops the rules for benchmarking and rules for the definition of functional equivalence based on default scenarios to be used in defining the respective Functional Unit and taking into account findings from the Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) pilot phase. It provides guidance to allow product Technical Committees to develop their own functional equivalence(s) and means by which to classify performance according to indicator results for the purpose of Business to Consumer (B2C) communication, where relevant.

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1 Scope

This document provides horizontal rules for business-to-consumer communication including benchmarking systems that aim to inform consumers about the life cycle environmental performance of construction products, assembled systems and construction elements. The communication is based on the results of the life cycle of the product, system or element, as incorporated to the construction asset, see EN 15804:2012+A2:2019. B2C communication includes information on benefits and loads beyond the system boundary.

This document is aimed at organizations providing business-to-consumer communication and benchmarking systems and provides guidance on how to develop business-to-consumer communication and common rules for benchmarking methodologies using EPD, see EN 15804, and see EN 15942 for the communication format.

Business-to-consumer communication and benchmarking methodology described in this document is based on a functional unit and cradle-to-grave assessments. B2C communication with no benchmarking is also described in this document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 15804:2012+A2:2019, *Sustainability of construction works - Environmental product declarations - Core rules for the product category of construction products*

EN 15978, *Sustainability of construction works - Assessment of environmental performance of buildings - Calculation method*

EN ISO 14025, *Environmental labels and declarations - Type III environmental declarations - Principles and procedures (ISO 14025)*

EN ISO 14026:2018, *Environmental labels and declarations - Principles, requirements and guidelines for communication of footprint information (ISO 14026:2017)*

EN ISO 14044:2006[1], *Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Requirements and guidelines - Amendment 1 (ISO 14044:2006/Amd 1:2017)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 15804 and EN 15978 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org

[1] As impacted by EN ISO 14044:2006/A1:2018.

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3.1
assembled system
component or a set of components incorporated in the construction works

[SOURCE: EN 15643:2021, 3.4, modified: "part of works" has been removed]

3.2
benchmark
reference point against which comparisons can be made

[SOURCE: ISO 21678:2020, 3.2]

3.3
benchmarking
process of collecting, analysing and relating performance data of comparable construction products, assembled systems and construction elements

Note 1 to entry: Benchmarking is typically used for evaluating and comparing performance between or within objects of consideration.

[SOURCE: ISO 21678:2020, 3.1, modified: "buildings or other types of construction works" has been replaced by "construction products, assembled systems and construction elements"]

3.4
benchmarking system
established classification system based on clearly defined goals, processes and procedures

3.5
business-to-business communication
describing or involving the passage of information between different businesses, rather than between businesses and the general public and consumers

[SOURCE: EN 15942:2011, 3.2]

3.6
business-to-consumer communication
describing or involving the passage of information between businesses and the general public and consumer

3.7
business-to-consumer communication without comparative assertion
business-to-consumer communication delivering information that cannot be used for comparison purposes because it does not fit the minimum requirements for it

3.8
comparative assertion
environmental claim regarding the superiority or equivalence of one product versus a competing product

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14025:2010, 3.19, modified: "that performs the same function" has been removed at the end of the definition]

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3.9
construction element
part of a building or construction works

EXAMPLE: Foundations, floor, roof, wall, services.

3.10
consumer
individual member of the general public purchasing or using goods, property or services for private purposes

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14025:2010, 3.16]

3.11
c-PCR
complementary product category rules
product group specific or horizontal PCR, which provide additional compliant and non-contradictory requirements to EN 15804

Note 1 to entry: c-PCR are meant to be used together with EN 15804.

[SOURCE: EN 15804:2012+A2:2019, 3.5]

3.12
functional equivalent
quantified functional requirements and/or technical requirements for a building or an assembled system (part of works) for use as a reference unit

[SOURCE: EN 15804:2001+A2:2019, 3.12]

3.13
modules A1 to C4 score
score comprising the aggregation of values for modules A1 to C4

3.14
module D score
score comprising the aggregation of values for module D

3.15
normalization
calculating the magnitude of category indicator results relative to reference information

[SOURCE: EN ISO 14044:2006[1], 4.4.3.2.1]

3.16
performance
ability to fulfil required functions under intended use conditions

[SOURCE: ISO 6707-1:2020, 3.7.1.1]

3.17
product group
set of construction products, assembled systems or construction elements created for classification in terms of functionality

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