Sekurit Service key vocabulary for a better understanding of EPD and Ecovadis

Life Cycle Thinking (LCT)

Going beyond the traditional focus on production sites and manufacturing processes to include environmental, social and economic impacts of a product over its entire life cycle.

Product Category Rules (PCR)

PCR are guidelines and rules that define how an LCA should be conducted for a specific product category. PCR provide the framework for developing EPDs within that category.

Global Warming Potential (GWP)

In kg of CO2 equivalent: increase of the average earth's surface temperature due to emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. (This is an indicator related to our info-graphics.)

Functional / Declared Unit

A functional unit is the quantified performance of product system. In other words ,a functional unit defines the amount of service to be delivered by a product. The functional unit includes,

- 1. an amount or quantity using SI-units
- 2. a description of the application
- the performance parameters, as many as relevant. After the functional unit is specified, the applicable region and time period for which the performance is met (RSL) should also be described.

A declared unit is used instead of functional unit when a LCA study does not cover the entire life cycle, but only certain modules (e.g. only "cradle-to-gate"). The declared unit includes an amount or quantity using SI-units.

The functional/ declared unit is used to express the results of the LCA for a given product group. If different products do not fulfill the same performance, by definition they represent different product groups.

Fresh Water

Use of freshwater, expressed in m3.



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Use of Secondary Material

Material recovered from previous use of from waste, which substitutes primary materials. (expressed in kilograms)

Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)

Standardized document that transparently reports objective, comparable and third-party verified data about products' and services' environmental performances from a life cycle perspective. It is compliant with the ISO 14025 standard.



EcoVadis

Platform that provides sustainability ratings and assessments for companies. The company's sustainability performance is evaluated based on a set of criteria related to environmental, social, and ethical factors. The assessment often extends beyond the company itself to include the supply chain. The rating is categorized into different levels (gold, silver, bronze medals), and helps stakeholders to make informed decisions about engaging with a particular company. It contributes to a greater transparency in corporate sustainability practices, supporting ongoing efforts to enhance environmental and social performance.



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