ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION (EPD) FOR WOOD CEMENT ELEMENTS FOR ACOUSTIC BARRIERS

ISOTEX®
BLOCCHI E SOLAI IN LEGNO CEMENTO

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PCR: 2012:01 Construction products and construction services version 2.2
Geographical scope: Europe
EPD registration number: S-P-01290
ECO EPD reference number: 00000793
Date of publication (issue): 2018-12-13
Date of validity: 2023-11-15

SUMMARY

1 PROGRAMME RELATED INFORMATION

This EPD is developed under the program The International EPD ® System, in compliance with the General Program Instruction version 2.5.for the EPD development and the Product Category Rules PCR CPC 54 "Construction products and Construction services" 2012:01 version 2.2.

More information about the International EPD ® System is available on the website:
https://www.environdec.com/

2 PRODUCT RELATED INFORMATION

2.1 THE COMPANY

ISOTEX is the first Italian company which manufacture wood cement blocks. This building system technique has been used in Germany since 1946.
So far, the ISOTEX® systems has been used in around 400,000 homes in Europe (of which approximately in Italy), due to the high reliability obtained by ISOTEX Company and its products in these years.

The manufacturing process is entirely performed in the company's site and make use of procedures and fully automatized machinery, which guarantees high quality and precise products.
More in detail, the company uses in its products just recycled wood (post-consumer) and as a such it performs accurate check on the quality of wood reaching the factory in order to validate the supply.
The company is equipped with machinery to check the specific characteristics of used raw materials, with special focus on the wood, and to adjust the mixture accordingly in order to keep constant and at the desired level the characteristics of the wood-cement produced.
Isotex owns a on site laboratory with equipment compliant to the requirements of the specific standard for checks and controls which are performed on each production lot are performed, including checks on specific weight (density) of the wood cement and mechanical tests.
Finally, the company is committed in the reduction and limitation of energy and resources from the environment. Indeed, the company re-uses in the production the wood cement products eventually not compliant and the scrap as well. In addition, the company has recently substituted part of the diesel forklift for the internal handling of the products with electric ones and has installed a Photovoltaic System for electricity generation.

Safety and living comfort represent the ISOTEX main goals for developing its building system. The technical performance of the products, in accordance with current Italian and European regulations, is guaranteed with tests in laboratories, university institutes and third party certification bodies.

The ISOTEX building system, with blocks and panels in wood cement, is the most widely used alternative to the traditional systems. Thanks to ease of use, remarkable technical characteristics, high-level living comfort and competitive costs, ISOTEX is the European leader company for the manufacturing of wood cement blocks and panels in wood-cement for over 30 years. Moreover, the company has become a reference point for technicians, builders and sellers.

The company has been implemented a quality management system according to the EN ISO 9001:2008 standard and it is certified by ANAB-ICEA (Italian National Association for Green Construction) for green construction material.

Figure 1: View of the ISOTEX site

2.2 THE PRODUCTS

The products covered by the present EPD are ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements. Products used for the construction acoustic barrier and can be produced in different thickness. More in detail references included in the EPD are:

- Barrier element S10, S13 and S20

Elements are produced starting from fir wood grinded and refined, and bonded by cement Portland. The wood in input is recycled wood exclusively from pallets at end-of-life, selected and not treated. The production process is represented in Figure 2.

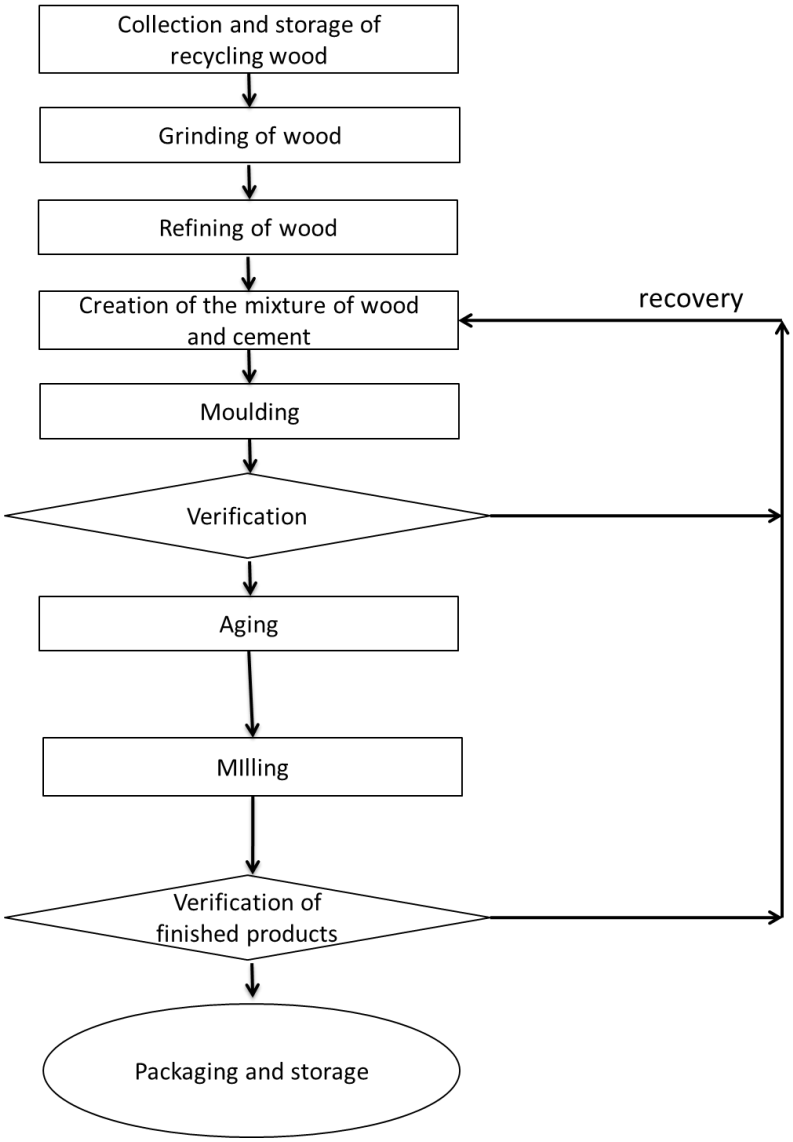


Figure 2: Production process of the ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements

Figure 3: View of ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic element

A picture of an acoustic element is showed in Figure 3.

Dimension specification and main technical characteristics of the ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements are reported in Table 1.

Table 1: Dimension specification and main technical characteristics of the ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements

dimension specification	S10	S13	S20
Length of the wood-chip concrete element	1200 mm	1200 mm	500 mm
Width of the wood-chip concrete element	100 mm	130 mm	200 mm
Height of the wood-chip concrete element	250 mm	250 mm	250 mm
Technical characteristics			
A_w (alpha) -Sound absorption coefficient (UNI EN ISO 11654)	0,80 - B	0,95 - B	
NRC – Noise Reduction Coefficient (ASTM C423 – 09a)	0,80	0,95	
DL_α - (dB) Sound absorption class (UNI EN 1793-1)	8 – A3	14 – A4	8 – A3
DL_R - (dB) Sound insulation class (UNI EN 1793-2)			32 – B3
DL_R - (dB) Sound insulation class- with plaster on the smooth side of the barrier (UNI EN 1793-2)			47 – B4

2.2.1 PRODUCT COMPOSITION

The ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements do not contain SVHC. The composition of 1 m^2 of products is reported in Table 2.

Table 2: Composition (in weight) of 1 m^2 of product.

Material and specification (in brakets)	UM	Element S10	Element S13	Element S20
Portland cement (Cement)	kg	26,95	41,79	42,9
Fir (Wood)	kg	18,5	28,69	29,45
Hydraulic lime, clinker based (Lime)	kg	2,76	4,28	4,39
Iron oxide (Pigment suspension)	kg	0,16	0,25	0,25

3 ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION

3.1 METHODOLOGY

The study behind the present EPD has been performed according to the state of art of the LCA methodology, with specific reference to the construction sector, in accordance to the following standard and guide lines:

- ISO 14040: 2006;
- ISO 14044: 2006;
- ILCD, International Reference Life Cycle Data System, Handbook. General Guidance for life cycle assessment. Detailed Guidance;
- ISO 14025:2006,

- International EPD System, General Programme Instructions for the International EPD System vers. 2.5
- International EPD System, 2012:01 Construction products and construction services, version 2.2
- EN 15804:2012+A1:2013 "Sustainability of construction works, Environmental product declarations, Core rules for the product category of construction products"

The goal of the study is the evaluation of the potential environmental impacts of elements S10, S13 and S20.

The EPD is mainly addressed to the business-to-business communication. The data elaboration has been performed with the Gabi software, version 8.0.6.0.20. The LCIA method used is CML 2001 version 4.2 (April 2013).

3.2 DECLARED UNIT

The declared unit is 1 m^2 of surface composed of wood cement ISOTEX® acoustic elements.

3.3 SYSTEM BOUNDARY

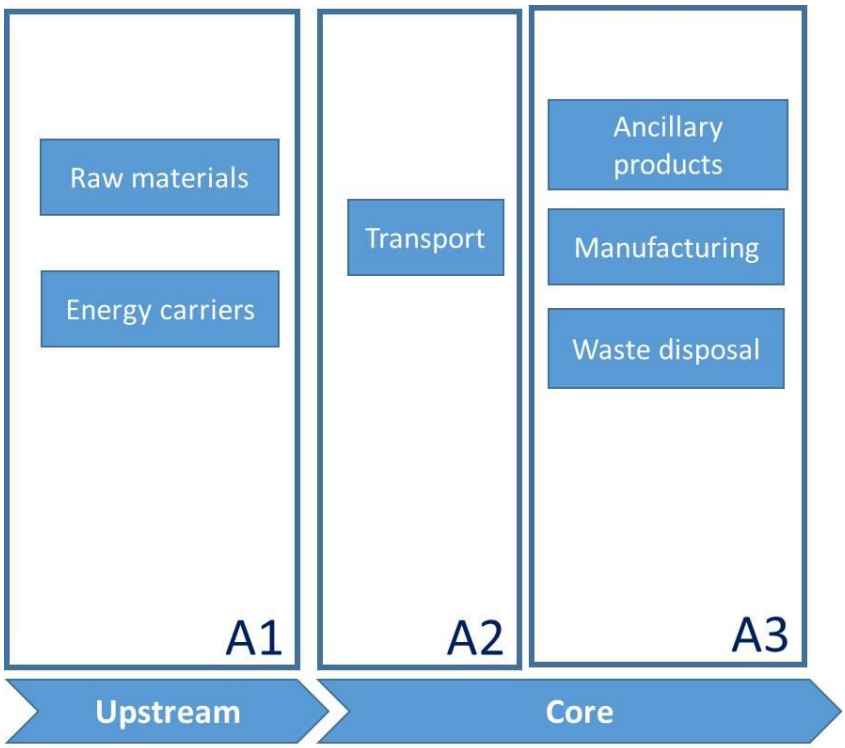
System boundaries are "from cradle to gate" as represented in Table 3 and in Figure 4.

Table 3: Life cycle stages included in the study for ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements

PRODUCT STAGE			**CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE**		**USE STAGE**					**END-OF-LIFE STAGE**				**BENEFITS and LOADS BEYOND SYSTEM BOUNDARY**
A1	**A2**	**A3**	**A4**	**A5**	**B1**	**B2**	**B3**	**B4**	**B5**	**C1**	**C2**	**C3**	**C4**	**D**
Raw Material Supply	Transport	Manufacturing	Transport to the installation site	Construction, Installation	Use	Maintenance	Repair	Replacement	Refurbishment	Deconstruction, Demolition	Transport	Waste processing	Disposal	Reuse, Recycling potential
x	x	x	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*	Mnd*

* Module Not Declared

Figure 4: System boundary of the study for ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements



The following stages are included in the study:

Raw Material supply (A1). Production of raw materials used in the products, of as well as the production of energy carriers used in the production process.

Transport of raw materials to the factory and internal handling (A2)

Manufacturing of the ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements (A3). *It includes the following production phases:*

- Collection and storage of (recycled) wood
- Grinding and refining of wood
- Creation of the mixture of wood-cement
- Moulding of elements and check on semi-finished products
- Aging of elements
- Milling of elements
- Final check on finished products and packaging.

Moreover, in module A3, the production of primary packaging and of the ancillary materials and the treatment of waste generated from the manufacturing processes are accounted for.

The electricity used in the manufacturing processes is from a specific supplier from Italy.

The reference year of the study is 2017.

3.4 MAIN ASSUMPTIONS, CUT OFFS AND BACKGROUND DATA INFORMATION

Regarding the exclusion of product life cycle stages and processes, the capital goods have not been accounted for, as well as the use and the end of life phases.

The main assumptions applied in the study are reported below.

- For the majority of the raw materials as well as for the packaging for the finished products an European production is assumed.
- A default mean a transportation (truck Euro 4 > 32 t) with an utilisation ratio of 0,61 has been assumed when primary data on transport were not available.
- For the energy consumption and the ancillary consumption in the manufacturing process, an allocation based on the mass of wood-cement has been applied.
- All the impacts related to the on-site production of energy have been allocated to the manufacturing process as conservative approach.
- For modelling the specific electricity mix purchased by ISOTEX from an Italian electricity supplier, the Guarantee of Origin certificate was used as reference for the composition of the energy sources, more in detail the last GO available at the moment of the development of the present EPD, i.e. 2016.

The construction of the manufacturing site (capital goods) is not included in the LCA study.

Background data used in the study are from LCI database implemented in the GaBi software and are not older than 5 years.

3.5 PARAMETERS DESCRIBING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Table 4: Environmental profile for the ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements S10, S13 and S20

Impact category	Module A1-A3 Barrier elements		
	S10	S13	S20
Abiotic Depletion (ADP elements) [kg Sb-Equiv.]	8,20E-06	1,23E-05	1,26E-05
Abiotic Depletion (ADP fossil) [MJ]	1,27E+02	1,95E+02	2,03E+02
Acidification Potential (AP) [kg SO2-Equiv.]	3,73E-02	5,72E-02	5,88E-02
Eutrophication Potential (EP) [kg Phosphate-Equiv.]	1,43E-02	1,72E-02	1,75E-02
Global Warming Potential (GWP 100 years) [kg CO2-Equiv.]	2,60E+01	4,02E+01	4,14E+01
Ozone Layer Depletion Potential (ODP, steady state) [kg R11-Equiv.]	2,12E-08	2,15E-08	2,15E-08
Photochem. Ozone Creation Potential (POCP) [kg Ethene-Equiv.]	3,27E-03	4,95E-03	5,09E-03

3.4 INDICATORS OF RESOURCES USE

Table 5: Indicators of resources use for the ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements S10, S13 and S20

Indicators of resources	Module A1-A3 Barrier elements		
	S10	S13	S20
Use of renewable primary energy excluding renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials [MJ, net calorific value]	6,37E+01	9,87E+01	1,02E+02
Use of renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials [MJ, net calorific value]	2,26E+02	3,50E+02	3,60E+02
Total use of renewable primary energy resources (primary energy and primary energy resources used as raw materials) [MJ, net calorific value]	2,89E+02	4,49E+02	4,61E+02
Use of non- renewable primary energy excluding non-renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials [MJ, net calorific value]	1,42E+02	2,18E+02	2,26E+02
Use of non- renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials [MJ, net calorific value]	0,00E+00	0,00E+00	0,00E+00
Total use of non- renewable primary energy resources (primary energy and primary energy resources used as raw materials) [MJ, net calorific value]	1,42E+02	2,18E+02	2,26E+02
Use of secondary material [kg]	1,85E+01	2,87E+01	2,95E+01
Use of non renewable secondary fuels [MJ, net calorific value]	2,44E+01	3,79E+01	3,89E+01
Use of renewable secondary fuels [MJ, net calorific value]	2,35E-15	3,90E-15	5,67E-15
Use of net fresh water [m3]	7,00E-01	7,75E-01	7,81E-01

3.4 INDICATORS OF WASTE AND OUTPUT FLOWS

Table 6: Indicators of waste for the elements for ISOTEX® wood cement acoustic elements S10, S13 and S20

Indicators of waste	Module A1-A3 Barrier elements		
	S20	S20	S20
Hazardous waste disposed [kg]	9,38E-07	1,46E-06	1,49E-06
Non-hazardous waste disposed [kg]	1,88E-01	2,91E-01	3,00E-01
Radioactive waste disposed [kg]	5,71E-03	8,87E-03	9,19E-03

4 REFERENCE

EC-JRC, 2010. International reference Life Cycle data System Handbook. General Guidance for life cycle assessment. Detailed Guidance

Ecoinnovazione, 2018. Technical report: LCA study of wood cement products and components for wall and flooring systems and for acoustic barriers

EN 15804:2012 "Sustainability of construction works – Environmental product declarations – Core rules for the product category of construction products"

International EPD® System, 2017. General Programme Instructions for the International EPD System, vers. 2.5

International EPD® System, 2012. PCR 2012:01 Construction products and construction services, version 2.2

International Organisation for Standardization (ISO), 2006a Environmental management – Life Cycle assessment – Principles and framework. ISO 14044:2006, Geneva

International Organisation for Standardization (ISO), 2006b Environmental management – Life Cyle assessment –Requirements and guidelines. ISO 14044:2006, Geneva

5 GLOSSARY

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's environmental aspects [ISO 14001:2015].

ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION: Claim which indicates the environmental aspects of a product or service. An environmental label or declaration may take the form of a statement, symbol or graphic on a product or package label, in product literature, in technical bulletins, in advertising or in publicity, amongst other things. [ISO 14020:2000].

HAZARDOUS WASTE: Hazardous waste is waste that poses substantial or potential threats to public health or the environment [EPD, General Programme Instructions 2.5].

IMPACT CATEGORY: Class representing environmental issues of concern to which life cycle inventory analysis results may be assigned [ISO 14040:2006]

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA): Compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product system throughout its life cycle [ISO 14040:2006]

PRODUCT CATEGORY RULES (PCR): Set of specific rules, requirements and guidelines for developing Type III environmental declarations for one or more product categories [ISO 14025:2006].

RAW MATERIAL: Primary or secondary material that is used to produce a product. Secondary material includes recycled material. [ISO 14040:2006]

RECOVERED (RECLAIMED) MATERIAL: Material that would have otherwise been disposed of as waste or used for energy recovery but has instead been collected and recovered (reclaimed) as a material input, in lieu of new primary material, for a recycling or a manufacturing process. [ISO 14021:2016].

SYSTEM BOUNDARY: Set of criteria specifying which unit processes are part of a product system [ISO 14040:2006].

SVHC: Substances that may have serious and often irreversible effects on human health and the environment can be identified as substances of very high concern (SVHCs). If a substance is identified as an SVHC, it will be added to the Candidate List for eventual inclusion in the Authorization List of the REACH Regulation). The inclusion in this list implicates legal duties for manufacturers, importers o companies, which use those substances as such, in formulation or in their products.

6 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EPDs within the same product category but from different programme may not be comparable. EPDs of construction products may not be comparable if they do not comply with EN 15804. Environmental product declarations within the same product category from different programs may not be comparable. This EPD and the PCR CPC 54 "Construction products and Construction services"are available on the website of the International EPD® System (www.environdec.com).
The verifier and the Programme Operator do not make any claim nor have any responsibility of the legality of the products included in the present EPD.
Additional information on the company and on the products covered by the present EPD are available at https://www.blocchiisotex.com/

The LCA study and the present EPD have been issued with the technical scientific support of Ecoinnovazione S.r.l., spin-off ENEA (http://ecoinnovazione.it/?lang=en).

7 VERIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

CEN standard EN 15804 served as core PCR	
EPD Programme:	The International EPD® System For more information – www.environdec.com
PCR:	PCR 2012:01 Construction products and construction services version 2.2
PCR review was conducted by:	The Technical Committee of the International EPD® System. Contact via info@environdec.com
EPD Registration nº:	S-P-01290
EPD validity:	2023-11-15
EPD valid within the following geographical area:	Europe
Technical support:	Ecoinnovazione S.r.l. – spin-off ENEA Via d'Azeglio 51, 40123 Bologna www.ecoinnovazione.it
Independent verification of the declaration and data according to ISO 14025:	EPD verification (external)
Third party verifier:	Tecnalia R&I Certificación
Accredited or approved by:	ENAC nº125/C-PR283 accreditation