

## ABRASIVE PRODUCTS

PRODUCT CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION: UN CPC 3791 AND 35333

C-PCR-XXX (TO PCR 2019:14)

**DRAFT VERSION: 2023-MM-DD FOR OPEN CONSULTATION. DO NOT USE OR CITE.**

DRAFT PCR FOR OPEN  
CONSULTATION



ABRASIVE PRODUCTS

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## INTRODUCTION TO OPEN CONSULTATION

This draft complementary PCR (c-PCR) is available for open consultation from 2023-11-24 until 2024-01-24. Feel free to forward the draft to any other stakeholder you might think is relevant, including colleagues and other organisations.

We are interested in comments from stakeholders on:

- General
  - o Alignment with PCRs available in other programmes for type III environmental declarations, industry-specific LCA guidelines and standards (e.g. EN 15804), or similar.
- Scope of PCR
  - o Product category definition and description
  - o Classification of product category using CPC codes
- Goal and scope, life cycle inventory and life cycle impact assessment
  - o Functional unit/declared unit
  - o System boundary
  - o Allocation rules
  - o Data quality requirements
  - o Examples of databases for generic data
  - o Impact categories and impact assessment methodology
- Additional information

Comments may be sent directly to the PCR Moderator (contact details available in Section 1). There is a template for comments on [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com) that may be used.

For questions about the PCR, please contact the PCR moderator. For general questions about the International EPD® System, EPD or PCR development, please contact the Secretariat via [pcr@environdec.com](mailto:pcr@environdec.com).

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 GENERAL

This document constitutes complementary Product Category Rules (c-PCR) developed in the framework of the International EPD System: a programme for type III environmental declarations<sup>1</sup> according to ISO 14025:2006, ISO 14040:2006, ISO 14044:2006, and product-specific standards such as EN 15804 and ISO 21930 for construction products. Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) are voluntary documents for a company or organisation to present transparent, consistent and verifiable information about environmental performance of their product (goods or services).

This document is the complementary Product Category rules for the abrasive products. Although sometimes used in construction, please note that abrasive products are not construction products even though it follows the basic concept of the construction sector standards. The rules for the overall administration and operation of the programme are the General Programme Instructions (GPI), publicly available at [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com). PCRs and c-PCRs complement the GPI and the normative standards by providing specific rules, requirements, and guidelines for developing an EPD for one or more specific product categories (see Figure 1). A PCR/c-PCR should enable different practitioners using the PCR/c-PCR to generate consistent results when assessing products of the same product category.

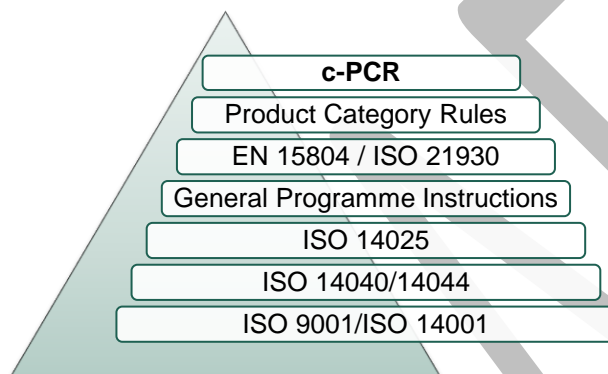


Figure 1 This c-PCR in relation to the hierarchy of standards and other documents.

Within the present c-PCR, the following terminology is adopted:

- The term “shall” is used to indicate what is obligatory, i.e. a requirement.
- The term “should” is used to indicate a recommendation, rather than a requirement. Any deviation from a “should” requirement shall be justified in the PCR development process.
- The terms “may” or “can” is used to indicate an option that is permissible.

For definitions of further terms used in the document, see the normative standards.

A PCR and its c-PCRs are valid for a pre-determined period of time to ensure that it is updated at regular intervals. The latest version of the PCR and its c-PCRs are available at [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com). Stakeholder feedback on PCRs and c-PCRs is very much encouraged. Any comments on this c-PCR may be sent directly to the PCR Moderator and/or the Secretariat during its development or during its period of validity.

Any references to this document shall include the PCR registration number, name, and version.

The programme operator maintains the copyright of the document to ensure that it is possible to publish, update, and make it available to all organisations to develop and register EPDs. Stakeholders participating in c-PCR development should be acknowledged in the final document and on the website.

<sup>1</sup> Type III environmental declarations in the International EPD® System are referred to as EPD, Environmental Product Declarations.

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1.2 ROLE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document provides complementary product category rules (c-PCR) to PCR 2019:14 Construction products available at [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com). This document cannot be used by itself but shall be used together with PCR 2019:14 and the European standard EN 15804:2012+A2:2019 (called EN 15804 in short). If a c-PCR is available for a product category, it shall be used.

See Figure 2 for an illustration on how PCR 2019:14 and this c-PCR relate to each other and the EPDs that may be based on them.

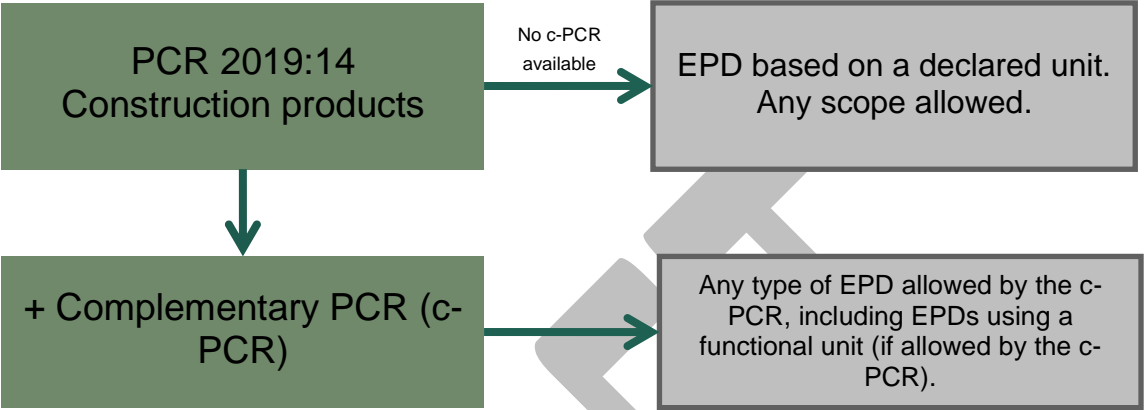


Figure 2 Overview of using PCR 2019:14 directly to develop an EPD, or how to use it together with a c-PCR.

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## 2 GENERAL INFORMATION

### 2.1 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name:	Abrasive products
Registration number and version:	<i>To be added by the Secretariat</i>
Programme:	 The International EPD System
Programme operator:	EPD International AB, Box 210 60, SE-100 31 Stockholm, Sweden.  Website: <a href="http://www.environdec.com">www.environdec.com</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@environdec.com">info@environdec.com</a>
PCR Moderator:	Nora Siepker, Ramboll Deutschland GmbH, Nora.Siepker@Ramboll.com
PCR Committee:	Ramboll Deutschland GmbH, 3M Company - Abrasive Systems Division (ASD), August Rüggeberg GmbH & Co. KG, Federation of European Producers of Abrasives (FEPA), Federchimica (Italian Federation of the Chemical Industry), Hermes Schleifmittel GmbH, Hilti Deutschland AG, Imerys S.A., Klingspor AG, Lukas-Erzett GmbH & Co. KG, Mirka Ltd., Ramboll Deutschland GmbH, Roxor Abrasives B.V., Saint-Gobain Abrasifs S.A., SAIT Abrasivi SPA, Starcke Schleifmittelwerk GmbH & Co KG, Tyrolit Schleifmittelwerke Swarovski KG, Verband Deutscher Schleifmittelwerke e.V. (German Abrasive Association), VSM Vereinigte Schmirgel- und Maschinen-Fabriken AG, Weiler Abrasives GmbH, EA Consulting
Date of publication and last revision:	<i>To be added by the Secretariat</i>
Valid until:	<i>To be added by the Secretariat</i>
Schedule for renewal:	This document will be revised together with the PCR for Construction products. In case a c-PCR is developed by a CEN Product TC, the standard will replace this c-PCR, with a transition period of at least 90 days under which both are valid.
Standards conformance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Programme Instructions (GPI) of the International EPD System, version 4.0, based on ISO 14025:2006, ISO 14040:2006 and ISO 14044:2006</li> <li>EN 15804:2012+A2:2019</li> <li>ISO 21930:2017. This standard is used in selected sections, such as allocation, when it provides additional but not contradictory rules to EN 15804.</li> </ul> <p>All EPDs based on this PCR shall be compliant with EN 15804:2012+A2:2019. If additional rules are followed, e.g. additional indicators, this PCR may also be used to develop an EPD compliant with ISO 21930:2017.</p> <p>Although sometimes used in construction, abrasive products are not construction products even though it follows the basic concept of the construction sector standards.</p>
PCR language(s):	This PCR was developed and is available in English. In case of translated versions, the English version takes precedence in case of any discrepancies.



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## 2.2 SCOPE

### 2.2.1 PRODUCT CATEGORY DEFINITION AND DESCRIPTION

This c-PCR serves the assessment of the environmental performance of abrasive products and the declaration of this performance by an EPD. Please note that only finished products are concerned. The product category is represented by products under two UN CPC classifications:

- class 3791 (Millstones, grindstones, grinding wheels and the like, without frameworks, for working stones, and parts thereof, of natural stone, of agglomerated natural or artificial abrasives, or of ceramics; natural or artificial abrasive powder or grain, on a base of textile, paper or other material) of group 379 (Other non-metallic mineral products n.e.c.)
- class 3533 (cleaning and polishing preparation) of group 353 (Soap, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations). Please note that this c-PCR is published under PCR 2019:14 and focusses on construction-related products, especially subclass 35333 (Polishes and creams, for footwear, furniture, floors, coachwork, glass or metal).

For further information, check <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/classifications/Family/Detail/1074> and [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/classifications/Econ/Download/In%20Text/CPCv2.1\\_complete\(PDF\)\\_English.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/classifications/Econ/Download/In%20Text/CPCv2.1_complete(PDF)_English.pdf).

If an EPD for a product under these classifications shall be created according to this c-PCR, the main purpose of the product shall correspond to one of the following functions:

1. **Grinding**

Removing material of a surface in its most general sense by use of an abrasive product and with a relatively high material removal rate.

2. **Cutting**

Creating a new surface *on* a workpiece (more precisely: two new surfaces on both sides of the cut) where the abrasive is applied to as the cutting edge. Unlike grinding, the purpose of cutting is the creation of the new surface area and not the removal of material.

3. **Drilling**

Creating a mainly circular shaped void *within* a workpiece. The purpose is the shape and volume of the void and not the removal of material.

4. **Surface conditioning**

Modifying the surface properties of the workpiece i.e., a removal of ridges, without a significant change of dimension or shape.

Other products that are not included in the above UN CPC classifications but have one of the mentioned functions can be assessed according to this c-PCR. For those cases, the moderator of this c-PCR or the Secretariat must be contacted and the applicability of this c-PCR for the requested product will be checked. It can only be approved, if the product is not already covered by another c-PCR (existing or under development) of the International EPD System.

### 2.2.2 TYPE OF EPD AND INFORMATION MODULES INCLUDED

Following the requirements in Section 2.2.2 of PCR 2019:14, an EPD based on this c-PCR should preferably be a type "c" ("cradle to grave and module D") EPD, including module A1-A5, B1-B7, C1-C4 and D. If the function of the product in the use stage is unknown, if the product can be used for several different functions, or if the function cannot be clearly defined, a declared unit may be used. In this case, the EPD used can be a type "a" ("cradle to gate" with modules A1-A3, C1-C4 and D), which excludes the use phase (module B1-B7).

Section 4.2 below provide more information on each life-cycle stage concerning the product category in scope.

### 2.2.3 GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

This c-PCR may be used globally.

### 2.2.4 EPD VALIDITY

See PCR 2019:14.

### 3 PCR REVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This c-PCR was developed in accordance with the PCR development process described in the GPI of the International EPD System, including open consultation and review.

#### 3.1 OPEN CONSULTATION

##### 3.1.1 VERSION 20XX-YY-ZZ

This c-PCR is available for open consultation from 2023-11-24 until 2024-01-24, during which any stakeholder was able to provide comments by contacting the PCR Moderator and/or the Secretariat.

Stakeholders were invited via e-mail or other means to take part in the open consultation and were encouraged to forward the invitation to other relevant stakeholders. The following stakeholders provided comments during the open consultation and agreed to be listed as contributors in the c-PCR and at [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com).

- List of stakeholder names and affiliation to be added after the consultation

#### 3.2 PCR REVIEW

##### 3.2.1 VERSION 20XX-YY-ZZ

PCR review panel:	The Technical Committee of the International EPD System. A full list of members is available at <a href="http://www.environdec.com">www.environdec.com</a> . The review panel may be contacted via <a href="mailto:info@environdec.com">info@environdec.com</a> .  Members of the Technical Committee were requested to state any potential conflict of interest with the PCR Committee, and if there were conflicts of interest they were excused from the review.
Chair of the PCR review:	Added by the Secretariat
Review dates:	Added by the Secretariat

#### 3.3 EXISTING PCRS FOR THE PRODUCT CATEGORY

As part of the development of this c-PCR, existing PCRs/c-PCRs and other internationally standardised methods that could potentially act as c-PCRs were considered to avoid unnecessary overlaps in scope and to ensure harmonisation with established methods of relevance for the product category. The existence of such documents was checked among the following EPD programmes and international standardisation bodies:

- International EPD System – [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com)
- IBU Institut Bauen und Umwelt e.V. – [www.ibu-epd.com](http://www.ibu-epd.com)
- EPD Norge – [www.epd-norge.no](http://www.epd-norge.no)
- UL Environment – [www.UL.com](http://www.UL.com)
- PEP Ecopassport – [www.pep-ecopassport.org](http://www.pep-ecopassport.org)
- NSF – <https://www.nsf.org/standards-development/product-category-rules>

Table 1 lists the identified PCRs and other standardised methods.

Table 1 Existing PCRs/c-PCRs and other internationally standardized methods that were considered to avoid overlap in scope and to ensure harmonisation with established methods.

NAME OF PCR/c-PCR/STANDARD	PROGRAMME/STANDARDISATION BODY	REGISTRATION NUMBER, VERSION NUMBER/DATE OF PUBLICATION	SCOPE
Graphite products	EPD International	PCR 2023:02, Version 1.0.1 (2023-04-27)	Also, UN CPC group 379, but different class (graphite products, class 3795). No overlap



with abrasive products of this c-PCR (class 3791).

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## 4 GOAL AND SCOPE, LIFE CYCLE INVENTORY AND LIFE CYCLE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This section provides specific rules, requirements, and guidelines for developing an EPD for the product category as defined in Section 2.2.1.

### 4.1 FUNCTIONAL UNIT OR DECLARED UNIT

The functional unit shall be applied if a type "c" EPD is established.

For any product, the assessment of the technical performance (i.e., the measurement and/or calculation of performance characteristics of the product) is based on operation in the product's optimal application setting. This optimal application setting is the foundation for the use stage scenario description and shall be stated in the EPD type "c", providing enough information for a third party to reproduce and at minimum the following information (if applicable for the particular product):

- Type of tool or machinery used (electrical battery, electrical corded, high frequency, gasoline, pneumatic, alkylate, etc...)
- Power classification of the machinery used (kW, etc...)
- Rotation (or applicable) speed of the product (m/s, RPM, etc...)
- Angle & pressure of application (°, N/m<sup>2</sup>, etc...)
- Type and consumption quantities of auxiliary materials such as lubricants or cooling agents (water, oil, air, etc... and volume)
- Type of workpiece the abrasive is used on. Specify the shape, dimensions, properties and the material of the workpiece e.g. stainless steel 304 plate, 100 mm x 6 mm, 44 HRC.

The Reference Service Life (RSL) should be evaluated at the same time that performance is evaluated.

See Section 6.3.4 and Annex A in EN 15804. Note that the RSL of a product category is the reference time period to which the performance of a product may be related to in the functional unit (for a definition and description of RSL, see Section A.2.1 of the GPI). As such, the RSL can only be declared if defined as part of the FU according to this c-PCR.

For each of the functions described in Section 2.2.1, the associated functional unit from below shall be used for the EPD.

1. Grinding: The removal of 1 kg of material from the workpiece.
2. Cutting: The creation of a new surface of 1 m<sup>2</sup> on the workpiece (considering both newly created areas) by removal of material.
3. Drilling: The creation of a void of 1 dm<sup>3</sup> within the workpiece by removal of material.
4. Surface conditioning: The modification of the properties of 1 m<sup>2</sup> existing surface without significantly changing its initial shape. Note: Measurements should be performed before and after the product application, i.e., for roughness or gloss. If such measurements are not meaningful for this application, the surface condition before and after the application shall be described in detail. Photos are suggested as a useful addition to this description.

The declared unit shall be applied if a type "a" EPD is established. The declared unit is independent of the function of the product.

The declared unit in the EPD shall be declared applying one of the unit types listed below. A different unit may be declared for reasons that shall be explained. In such case, information shall be provided on how to convert this unit to one or more of the required unit types.

One unit of product:

- An item (piece), an assemblage of items, e.g., 1 grinding wheel, 1 cutting disc, 1 coated sheet or belt (dimensions shall be specified);
- Mass (kg), e.g., 1 kg of polishing paste;
- Length (m), e.g., 1 m of cutting wire (dimensions shall be specified);
- Area (m<sup>2</sup>), e.g., 1 m<sup>2</sup> of unconverted coated abrasive "jumbo" (dimensions shall be specified);
- Volume (L), e.g., 1 L of liquid polishing paste.

On top of the unit product selected, reference packaging shall be added.

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The reference flow in the LCA shall be defined at the point where the product leaves the factory (modules A1-A3), i.e., any losses occurring before then must be taken into account. Then, add end of life (module C), and if possible, module D.

## 4.2 SYSTEM BOUNDARIES

In deviation to the definitions given in EN 15804, names of information modules and life cycle stages will be amended to the context of abrasive products (in contrast to building & construction products). These amendments are provided in Table 2.

Table 2 EN 15804 nomenclature adaption for abrasive products

Nomenclature in EN 15804	Nomenclature for abrasive products, as used in this c-PCR
Construction process stage (A4-A5)	Distribution and setup stage (A4-A5)
Installation (A5)	Setup (A5)
Deconstruction (C1)	Disassembly (C1)

EPDs type "c" that are developed based on this c-PCR shall cover product stage (A1-A3), distribution and setup stage (A4-A5), use stage (B1-B7), end-of-life stage (C1-C4) as well as benefits and loads beyond the system boundary (D) which is optional.

EPDs type "a" that are developed based on this c-PCR shall cover product stage (A1-A3), end-of-life stage (C1-C4) as well as benefits and loads beyond the system boundary (D).

Certain modules are not applicable for abrasive products and must hence not be declared. No efforts are expected to be in relation to the definition of the modules B2 Maintenance, B3 Repair or B4 Replacement in EN 15804. All actual, technical possibilities to reset an abrasive from a non-functional to a functional state, for example through a recoating of a carrier material, is covered by the following definition of module B5 Refurbishment:

*The module "refurbishment" covers the combination of all technical and associated administrative actions during the service life of a product associated with the return [...] to a condition in which it can perform its required functions. These activities cover a concerted programme of maintenance, repair and/or replacement activity [...]. Restoration activities should be included within refurbishment.* [see section 6.3.5.4.2 of EN 15804]

Table 3 summarizes the modules that are required for an EPD of abrasive products.

Table 3 Life cycle stages to be covered in the EPD.

Life cycle stage	Information module		a EPD	c EPD
<b>A1-A3 Product stage</b>	A1	Raw material supply	Included	Included
	A2	Transport	Included	Included
	A3	Manufacturing	Included	Included
<b>A4-A5 Distribution and Setup stage</b>	A4	Distribution	Excluded	Included
	A5	Setup	Excluded	Included
<b>B1-B7 Use stage</b>	B1	Use	Excluded	Included
	B2	Maintenance	Excluded, not applicable for abrasive products	Excluded, not applicable for abrasive products
	B3	Repair	Excluded, not applicable for abrasive products	Excluded, not applicable for abrasive products
	B4	Replacement	Excluded, not applicable for abrasive products	Excluded, not applicable for abrasive products
	B5	Refurbishment	Excluded	Included
	B6	Operational energy use	Excluded	Included
	B7	Operational water use	Excluded	Included
<b>C1-C4 End-of-life stage</b>	C1	Disassembly	Included	Included
	C2	Transport	Included	Included
	C3	Waste processing	Included	Included

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	C4	Waste disposal	Included	Included
<b>D Benefits and loads beyond the system boundary (optional)</b>	D	Reuse, recovery, recycling, potential	Included	Included

The following subsections describe the covered information modules and the respective processes. For detailed information on each module, see EN 15804 (Section 6.3.5). Here only specific descriptions related to this c-PCR are provided.

#### 4.2.1 PRODUCT STAGE: MODULES A1-A3

In general, see PCR 2019:14 and Section 6.3.5.2 of EN 15804. Special attention shall be paid to the packaging materials of the raw materials (A1), their respective transports (A2) and end-of-life treatment in manufacturing waste (A3).

#### 4.2.2 DISTRIBUTION AND SETUP STAGE: MODULES A4-A5

See PCR 2019:14 and Section 6.3.5.3 of EN 15804 where the rules for module A5 Installation can be applied on module A5 Setup.

Module A5 Setup includes all efforts needed to prepare the product to ensure the correct use of the abrasive (e.g., mounting, truing and dressing). This specifically includes the waste handling of the packaging material (incl. potential for module D) and the production and transportation of potential auxiliary products required before the first use.

#### 4.2.3 USE STAGE: MODULES B1-B7

See PCR 2019:14 and Section 6.3.5.4 of EN 15804.

The use of consumable (oil, lubricant, coolant, etc...) shall be included in module **B1 Use**, if relevant.

If such consumable is required during use but can be used significantly longer than just for one fulfilment of the functional unit, they may be omitted. This shall be clearly documented and justified in the EPD.

Module **B6 Operational energy use** shall include consumables (fuel, etc.).

Module **B7 Operational water use** shall include the wastewater treatment based on the geographic region where the product is used. If different wastewater treatments are obligatory due to applicable regulations (for example for highly specialised abrasive products that are only used in regulated, industrial settings), these treatment methods shall be included instead.

#### 4.2.4 END-OF-LIFE (EOL) STAGE: MODULES C1-C4

See PCR 2019:14 and Section 6.3.5.5 of EN 15804. In addition, the end-of-life stage shall be based on current waste handling systems at the geographic region where the product is disposed. The used scenario shall be clearly documented and justified in the EPD, describing the adopted method for waste handling, for example recycling, incineration and/or landfill.

If applicable, module **C1 Disassembly** shall include all energy and auxiliary consumption required to remove the abrasive product from the machinery and until the machinery is ready for the setup of the next abrasive product.

#### 4.2.5 BENEFITS AND LOADS BEYOND THE SYSTEM BOUNDARY: MODULE D

See PCR 2019:14 and Section 6.4.3.3 of EN 15804.

#### 4.2.6 OTHER BOUNDARY SETTING

See PCR 2019:14 and EN 15804.

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### 4.3 SYSTEM DIAGRAM

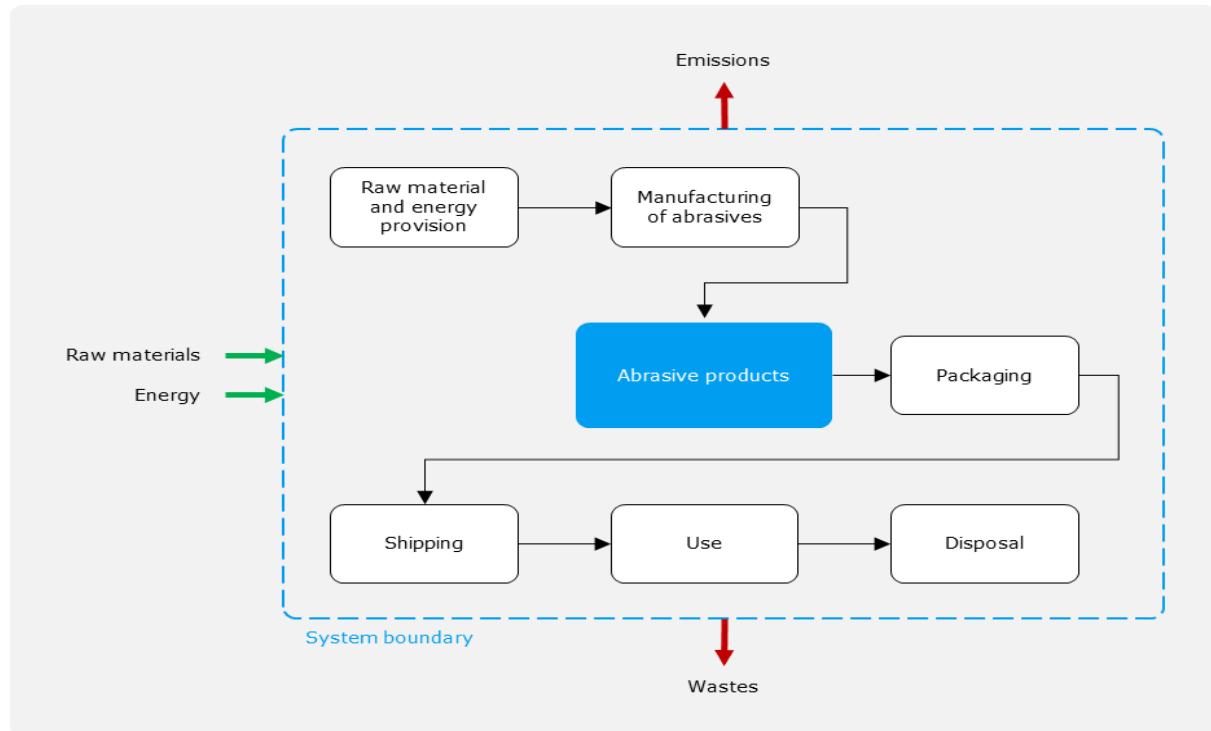


Figure 3 System diagram illustrating the processes that are included in the product system, divided into life-cycle stages and information modules.

### 4.4 CUT-OFF RULES

See PCR 2019:14 and EN 15804.

### 4.5 ALLOCATION RULES

See PCR 2019:14 and EN 15804.

### 4.6 DATA QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

See PCR 2019:14 and EN 15804 as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Application of generic and specific data.

Modules	A1-A3		A4-A5	B1-B7	C1-C4
	Production of commodities and raw materials	Product manufacture	Distribution and Setup	Use processes	End-of-life processes
Process type	Upstream processes	Processes the manufacturer has influence over	Downstream processes		
Data type	Generic data or specific data	Manufacturer's average or specific data	Generic data or specific data	Generic data or specific data	Generic data

#### 4.6.1 DATA QUALITY REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER MODELLING GUIDANCE PER LIFE-CYCLE STAGE

No additional data quality requirements were identified in the LCAs.

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313 **4.7 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

314 See PCR 2019:14 and EN 15804.

315 **4.8 INCLUDING MULTIPLE PRODUCTS IN THE SAME EPD**

316 See PCR 2019:14.

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## 5 CONTENT AND FORMAT OF EPD

See PCR 2019:14.

### 5.1 EPD LANGUAGE

See PCR 2019:14.

### 5.2 UNIT AND QUANTITIES

See PCR 2019:14.

### 5.3 USE OF IMAGES IN EPD

See PCR 2019:14.

### 5.4 EPD REPORTING FORMAT

See PCR 2019:14.

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## 6 LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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In addition to abbreviations listed in PCR 2019:14, Section 6:

none

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## 7 REFERENCES

- CEN (2019) EN 15804:2012+A2:2019, Sustainability of construction works – Environmental product declarations – Core rules for the product category of construction products.
- EPD International (2019) PCR 2019:14 Construction products, version 1.2.
- EPD International (2021) General Programme Instructions of the International EPD System. Version 4.0, dated 2021-03-29. [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com).
- ISO (2006a) ISO 14025:2006, Environmental labels and declarations – Type III environmental declarations – Principles and procedures.
- ISO (2006b) ISO 14040:2006, Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Principles and framework.
- ISO (2006c) ISO 14044: 2006, Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Requirements and guidelines.
- ISO (2017) ISO 21930:2017, Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works -- Core rules for environmental product declarations of construction products and services.

ABRASIVE PRODUCTS

PRODUCT CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION: UN CPC 3791 AND 3533

## 8 VERSION HISTORY OF C-PCR

VERSION 20YY-MM-DD

Original version of this c-PCR.

ABRASIVE PRODUCTS

PRODUCT CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION: UN CPC 3791 AND 3533

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