

PRODUCT IMPACT FRAMEWORK

How Solid Gear measures product environmental impact.



01 **WHY WE
MEASURE.**

02 **WHAT WE
MEASURE.**

03 **TOOLS AND
APPROACH**

04 **CARBONFACT
METHODOLOGY.**

05 **INTERPRETING
THE DATA.**

06 **MEASUREMENTS
TO DECISIONS.**

07 **LIMITATIONS &
TRANSPARENCY.**

08 **DIRECTION OF
DEVELOPMENT.**

**THE OBJECTIVE IS TO BASE DECISIONS
ON DATA RATHER THAN INTUITION.**



Solid Gear has used product-level life cycle assessment (LCA) for several years. Without it, design-, material- and supplier decisions rest on assumption rather than evidence.

In footwear, the majority of environmental impact occurs upstream – in materials, processing, and energy use. LCA's gives a clearer view of how this occurs across the full life cycle.

The model is not perfect, but it is reliable enough to indicate where impact concentrates. The objective is to base decisions on data rather than intuition.

WE WORK WITH CARBONFACT TO MODEL PRODUCT IMPACT.

We work with Carbonfact to model product impact. Each product is characterized by its components, material mixes, weight, production location, and processes, producing a model of impact across the full life cycle.

The approach is bottom-up. Rather than applying a single average across the range, the output is product-specific, even if some inputs still rely on secondary data.

The model extends beyond carbon to sixteen impact categories spanning climate, resource use, biodiversity, and human and environmental health because carbon alone does not represent the full picture.

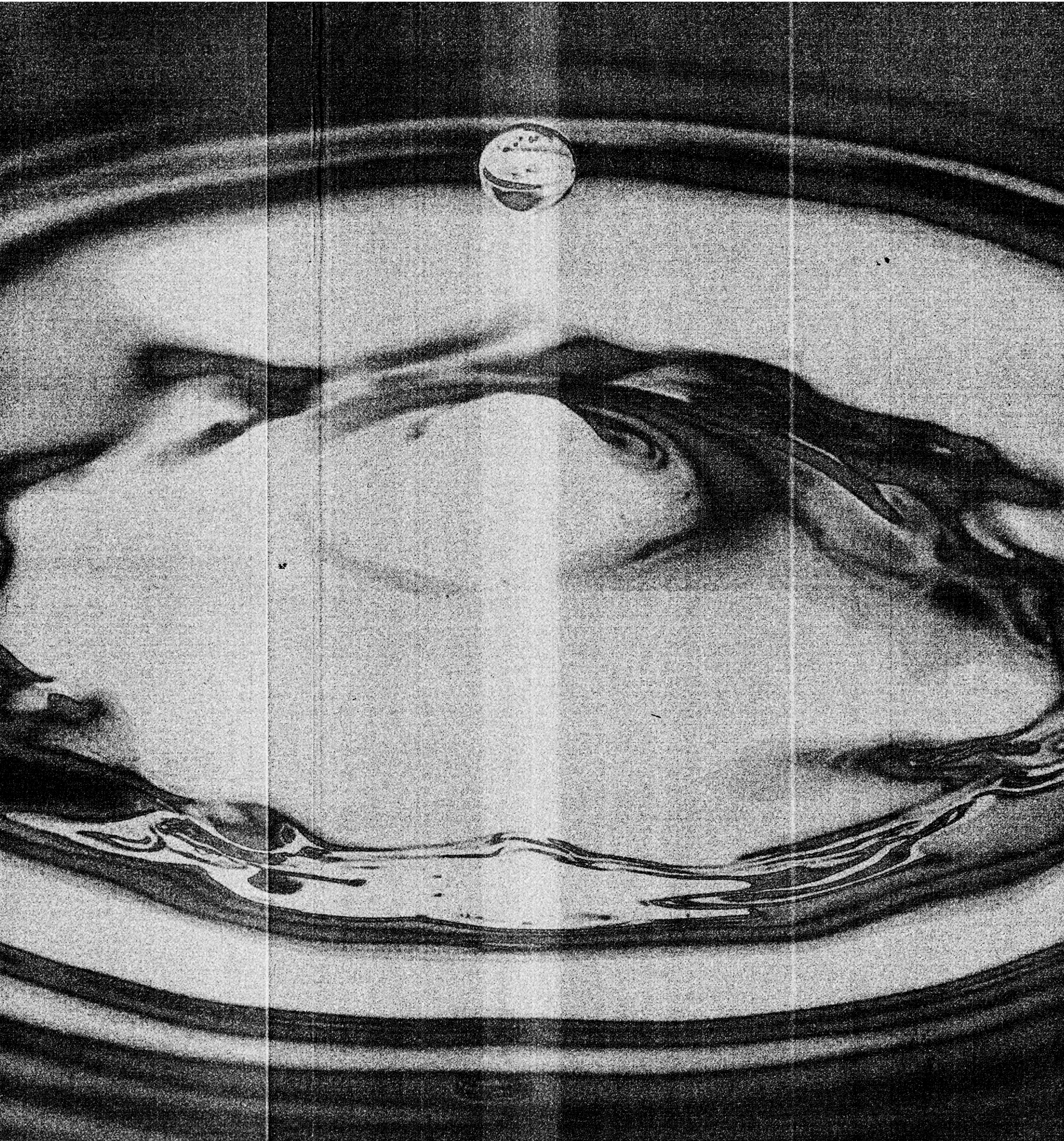
CARBON IS ONE INDICATOR AMONG SEVERAL.

Carbon is one indicator among several. We also measure water use, resource depletion, land use, and toxicity, because reducing carbon while increasing impact in another category does not improve the product; it shifts the problem.

The result is a more complete view that's harder to summarise in a single number, but a more accurate representation of a product's environmental footprint.



THE SCOPE COVERS THE FULL LIFE CYCLE.



The calculations follow established LCA frameworks: ISO 14040 and 14044, the EU Product Environmental Footprint methodology, and the GHG Protocol.

The scope covers the full life cycle – raw materials, processing, manufacturing, transport, use, and end-of-life. The dataset combines product- and supplier-specific information where available and uses established heuristics where it is not.

As with any LCA, the output is a model; its value lies in consistency. The same methodology is applied each time, allowing us to compare options and track changes over time.

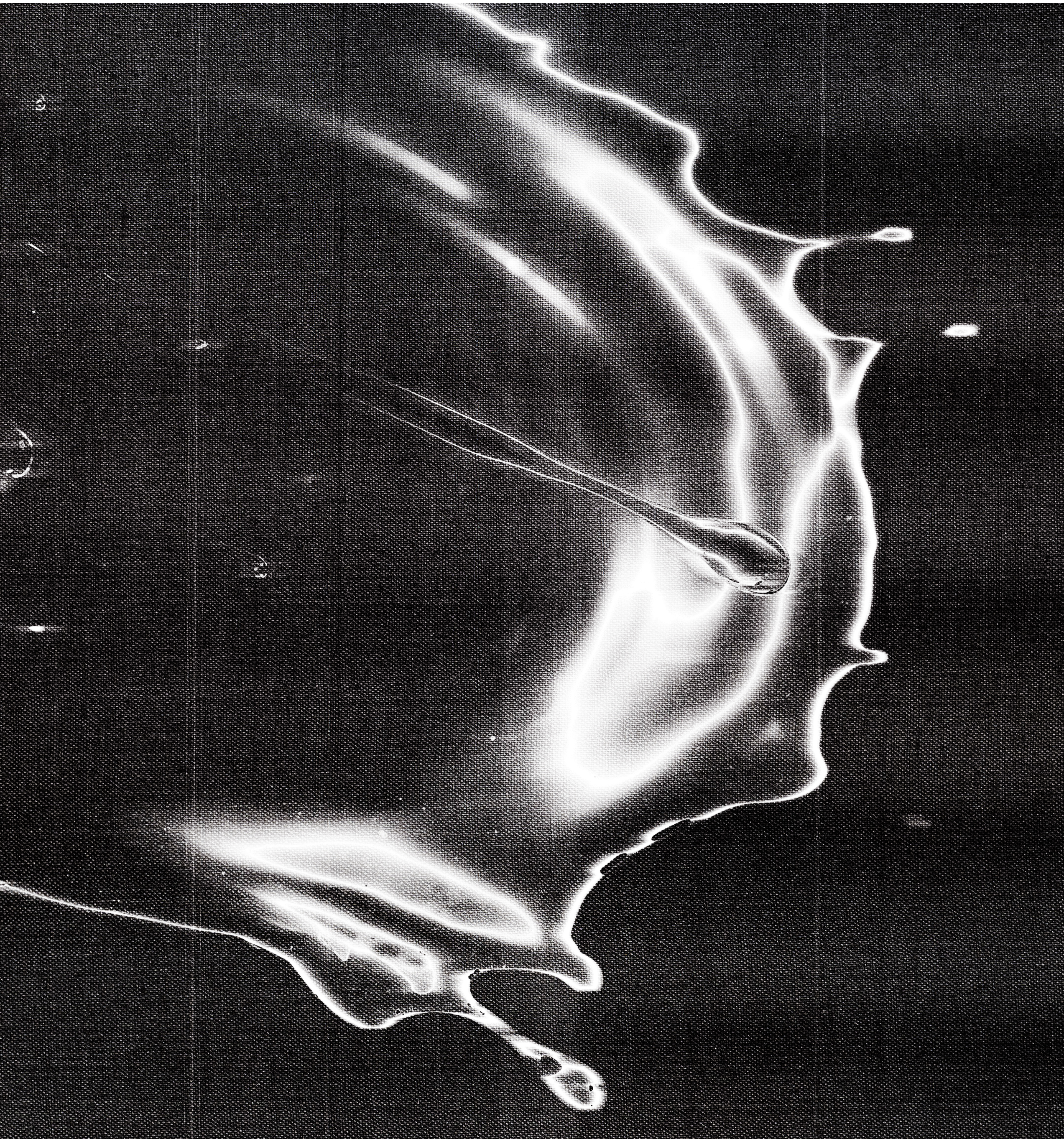
THE PRACTICAL VALUE OF LCA'S IS INTERNAL.

LCA's outcomes are sensitive to system boundaries, assumptions, and data sources. Small differences can move results significantly, which is why direct comparison between brands is often misleading.

For Solid Gear, the practical value of LCA's are internal: comparing our own products, materials, and design choices against each other under a consistent methodology. That is where the data becomes useful.



**A CHANGE THAT DOES NOT REDUCE
IMPACT IS RECONSIDERED.**



The framework is integrated into product development, not applied retrospectively. We use it when selecting materials, evaluating constructions, and working with suppliers. The output sometimes confirms our assumptions and sometimes contradicts them. In either case, the result is actionable.

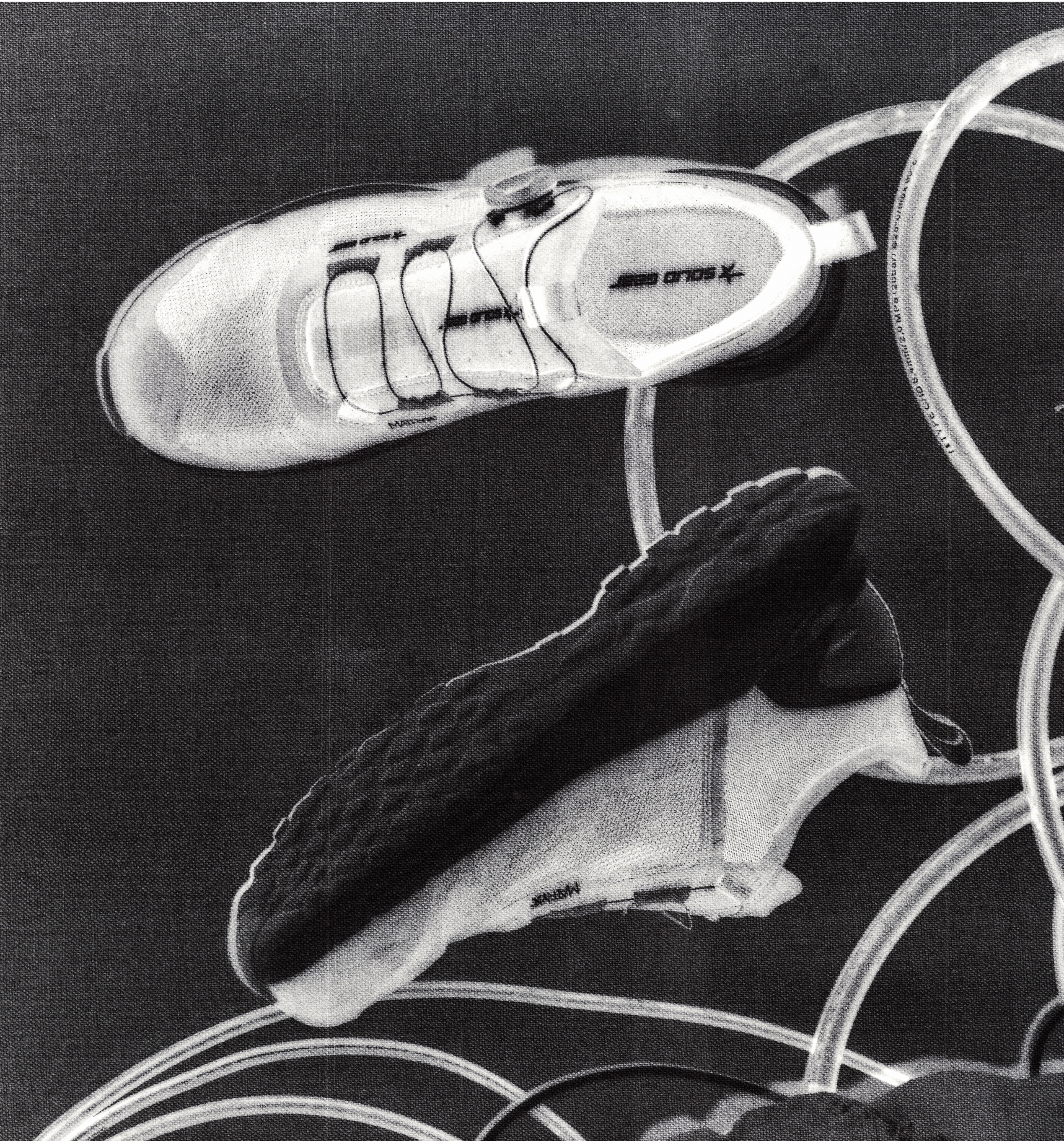
A change that does not reduce impact is reconsidered; a change that shifts impact into another category is evaluated against the trade-off. The framework also supports our wider climate work, including Scope 3, which represents a significant share of our overall footprint.

OUR AIM IS NOT PERFECT NUMBERS, BUT BETTER DECISIONS OVER TIME.

LCA is a model, not a definitive measurement. Its accuracy depends on the quality of the underlying data and the validity of the assumptions behind it. Our focus is on the elements we can control: applying the methodology consistently, defining scope clearly, and improving the data as it becomes available.

Our aim is not perfect numbers, but better decisions over time and transparency about how we arrived at them.

**THIS IS A DIRECTION OF TRAVEL
RATHER THAN A FINISHED PLAN.**



We are working towards improved supplier-level data quality, broader coverage across our product range, and earlier integration of the framework into product development so that it informs decisions rather than documenting them after the fact.

This is a direction of travel rather than a finished plan. Specific timelines and rollout scope remain under internal review and will be communicated as the work progresses.

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