

RTS EPD, general instructions

11 May 2016

These general instructions describe the principles of the environmental product declaration (RTS EPD) operations. These general instructions have been approved by the EPD Committee (PT 18) of the Building Information Foundation RTS sr at its meeting of 11 May 2016.

1 INTRODUCTION

The environmental product declarations of construction products (RTS EPD) are primarily intended for declaring the environmental information of products used in construction and infrastructure. The activity is based on EN 15804+ A1 *Sustainability of construction works. Environmental product declarations of construction products. Core rules for the product category of construction products.*, protocol: *EPDs published by the Building Information Foundation RTS: General instructions for drawing up EPDs (RTS PCR) for prEN and EN standards of product groups and criteria and principles of EPDs in effect at the time of drawing.*

RTS EPDs are granted by the Building Information Foundation RTS sr. The RT EPD Committee (PT 18), appointed by the Director General of the Building Information Foundation RTS sr, maintains and develops the practices related to EPDs, promotes and controls their use, and otherwise fosters building with sustainable material practices. Matters related to EPD applications and decisions are handled in confidence by a separate EPD workgroup that has been appointed by the Committee and that consists of a representative of the Finnish Association of Construction Product Industries, a technical expert, and a secretary of the EPD workgroup.

2 APPLYING FOR RTS EPD

Applications for RTS EPDs are submitted to the Building Information Foundation RTS sr on an application form drawn up for this purpose. Applicants should enclose with their application the EPD, the product specification/instructions for use, a picture of the product, and a signed verification report and a certificate. When applying for RTS EPD, the verification certificate must not be more than four (4) years old. The applicant may, if necessary, be asked to supply supplementary information. The declaration may be in Finnish, Swedish or English.

3 THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

The Building Information Foundation RTS sr treats all documents and information submitted by applicants in support of their application in confidence. However, the EPD, the EPD number, the databank used, the verification authority, and the holder of the classification will be released and entered in the directory of EPDs referred to in Section 13.

4 RIGHT OF USE OF EPD CODE

A company that has been granted the right of use of the EPD code has the right to label the approved product with the EPD sign and to use a classification sign for marketing purposes. The company must use the valid RTS EPD sign, which is a registered trade mark.



The RTS EPD sign currently in effect

5 VALIDITY OF RIGHT OF USE

The period of validity of the right of use of the EPD sign is a maximum of five (5) years starting from when the RTS EPD is granted. If the composition and method of manufacturing the product have not changed, the declaration can be renewed for another five (5) years by application without new LCA-calculations, provided that the required testing methods and the criteria set for the products have not been altered fundamentally. A valid verification certificate is required for a renewal. Both new and continuation applications will always be examined in accordance with the current requirements set for the drawing of declarations.

6 OBLIGATION TO GIVE NOTICE OF CHANGES TO PRODUCT

The holder of the RTS declaration is under an obligation to give the Building Information Foundation RTS sr prior notice

of changes relating to the methods of manufacturing the product, its composition etc. if these changes affect the properties on the basis of which the declaration was granted. The quality control of products granted a RTS EPD sign is the responsibility of the holder of the declaration. The holder of the declaration is responsible for the labelled product having an approved quality control system.

7 RESPONSIBILITY FOR RTS EPD LABELLED PRODUCT

The holder of the declaration is solely responsible for that the product fulfils the requirements concerning it. The Building Information Foundation RTS sr is not responsible for the RTS EPD labelled products or for the product properties as reported by the holder of the RTS EPD code.

8 NOTICE OF TERMINATION OR REVOCATION OF RIGHT OF USE OF EPD CODE

Both the Building Information Foundation RTS sr and the holder of the declaration can give notice of terminating the RTS EPD and the right of use three months from the notice. The Building Information Foundation RTS sr can revoke the RTS EPD and right of use without a period of notice in cases of abuse or if it transpires that the requirements for granting the declaration are no longer met. If the Building Information Foundation RTS sr has reasonable grounds to suspect that the product no longer meets the requirements set for it, the holder of the declaration must present new testing results showing that the requirements are met.

9 TESTING AND EXPERT ASSESSMENT FOR EPD

9.1 Product life cycle assessment and drawing of declaration before application

The granting of the RTS EPD code requires the product life cycle to be tested along with the expert assessment of an approved verifier in accordance with the required methods.

9.2 Selection of verifier

The verification must be carried out by a qualified and impartial verifier approved by the Committee PT18 RTS EPD. A list of approved verifiers is available online at epd.rts.fi. The applicant shall be responsible for documentation.

10 FEES

10.1 Declaration fees

The applicant shall pay the Building Information Foundation RTS sr a declaration fee for the EPD as well as any other fees due. The fees are confirmed by the Building Information Foundation RTS sr.

10.2 Expenses for drawing up the declaration and verification expert report

The applicant shall be responsible for all the expenses arising from the testing required for the application or the drawing up the declaration. The applicant shall pay the costs of testing directly to the verifier.

11 USE OF DECLARATION SIGN

11.1 Product labelling

Products, packaging, product specifications or instructions for use are to be labelled with RTS EPD sign.

11.2 Product marketing

The declaration sign can be used for advertising and marketing the RTS EPD product alone. The sign must not be used in marketing in such a way that it refers to the company as a whole or to products which have not been granted right to the RTS EPD sign.

12 THE APPEAL PROCEDURE

Applicants wishing to appeal a decision concerning the right of use of RTS EPD sign or its refusal may submit an appeal in writing within 14 days of receipt of the decision to the Director General of the Building Information Foundation RTS sr, who will forward it to the RT EPD Committee (PT 18) for adjudication.

13 DIRECTORY OF RTS EPD PRODUCTS

The Building Information Foundation RTS sr maintains and publishes a directory of current RTS EPD products and holders of right of use.

15 CHANGES TO GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions have been approved by the RT EPD Committee (PT 18) of the Building Information Foundation RTS sr at its meeting of 11 May 2016. The RT EPD Committee (PT 18) may alter these instructions if necessary.

REFERENCES

- EN 15804+ A1 Sustainability of construction works Environmental product declarations of construction products. Core rules for the product category of construction products.
- EPDs published by the Building Information Foundation RTS sr: General instructions for drawing up EPDs (RTS PCR)

THE BUILDING INFORMATION FOUNDATION RTS sr

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