

Product-Category Rules (PCR)  
for Preparing an Environmental Product  
Declaration (EPD) for  
Recycled Glass – for Buildings  
PCR 2011:1.0

TaiBao Glass Industry Co., Ltd.

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## **Table of Contents**

1. General information
  2. Company and product description
    - 2.1 Product group function
    - 2.2 Product constituents
    - 2.3 Product technical description
  3. List of materials and chemical substances
  4. Declared unit
  5. System boundaries
    - 5.1 Specifications for different boundary settings
  6. Cut-off rules
  7. Allocation rules
  8. Units
  9. Calculation rules and data quality requirements
  10. Parameters to be declared in the EPD
  11. Recycling information
  12. Other environmental information (Optional)
  13. Information about the certification
  14. References
- Appendix I Generic data sources to refer to
- Appendix II Reporting format for the EPD
- Appendix III Abbreviations

## **1. General Information**

This document is to be used as the product category rules (PCR) for the global production and manufacturing of recycled glass products. The requirements specified in this PCR are intended to be used for EPDs certified in accordance with ISO 14025 standard. This document shall be valid until December 31, 2013.

This PCR was prepared by TaiBao Glass Industry Co., Ltd. Representatives from major Taiwanese manufacturers of similar products and stakeholders were invited to the open consultation meeting on December 26, 2011, to participate in the discussion and review of this PCR. Environment and Development Foundation (EDF) then reviewed and approved this PCR.

This PCR is applicable to products with the CCC Code of 6901.

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## **2. Company and product description**

The EPD shall include information about the manufacturing company/organization. The information may include manufacturing process related information, and environmental related information, such as the environmental management system information. The information may also include special issues which the company/organization would like to emphasize, such as the products meeting certain environmental criteria, or environmental safety and health related information.

This PCR is applicable to both business-to-customer/consumer (B2C) and business-to-business (B2B) communications. While conducting inventory for environmental impact assessment, the recycled glass product products also include the accessories and packaging.

### **2.1 Product group function**

Recycled glass products are made from recovered waste glass products or waste glass materials through glass recycling and treatment process. They are typically used in such applications:

- Aggregate materials: e.g., filling materials for building/construction purpose;
- Asphalt paving material: e.g., paving material for road surface;
- Construction material for building's external decoration: e.g., green glass stone.

### **2.2 Product constituents**

The main raw material for recycled glass products is close to 100% recycled waste glass, which contains no hazardous substances and can be subjected to direct reuse (recycled glass which meets the definition of Taiwan Environmental Protection Administration's Announcement Number R0401 and R0407 recycled glass), including:

- Household generated waste glass;

- Industrial waste glass generated by the industrial sector, e.g., CRT panel glass, glass fiber, LCD glass panel without liquid crystal, etc.;
- Waste glass generated by consumer consumption sector;
- Waste glass generated by food and health care sectors, e.g., IV bottles, medicine bottles, beverage cans, canned food cans, etc.; and
- Waste glass generated by transportation sector, e.g., glass bottles, scraps.

The data quality requirements for the main constituents are described in Section 9 on calculation rules and data quality requirements. The EPD shall also include the other constituents of the product, but their data quality requirements are different from those of the main constituents.

### **2.3 Product technical description**

The product technical description part of the EPD may include but not limited to the following information:

- Size: Size of the finished product for reuse purpose;
- Material: e.g., 100% recycled glass; and
- Use: e.g., material for paving, building facades, entrance, garden trail, pavilion, flower bed, walls and landscaping of other public facilities.

## **3. List of materials and chemical substances**

The contents of the following materials and substances in the product shall be declared:

- All materials of the product (excluding packaging material) with weight ratio (material weight/product weight (excluding packaging))  $\geq 1\%$ ;
- All materials of the packaging with weight ratio (material weight/packaging weight)  $\geq 1\%$ ;
- All materials/substances in the product (including packaging) regulated by legal, customer and environmental requirements.

## **4. Declared unit**

The declared unit is one unit weight (e.g., kg) of recycled glass product. This unit is chosen because the recycled glass products are marketed and sold in such a unit.

## 5. System boundaries

The main system boundaries for the declared product system are presented as follows:

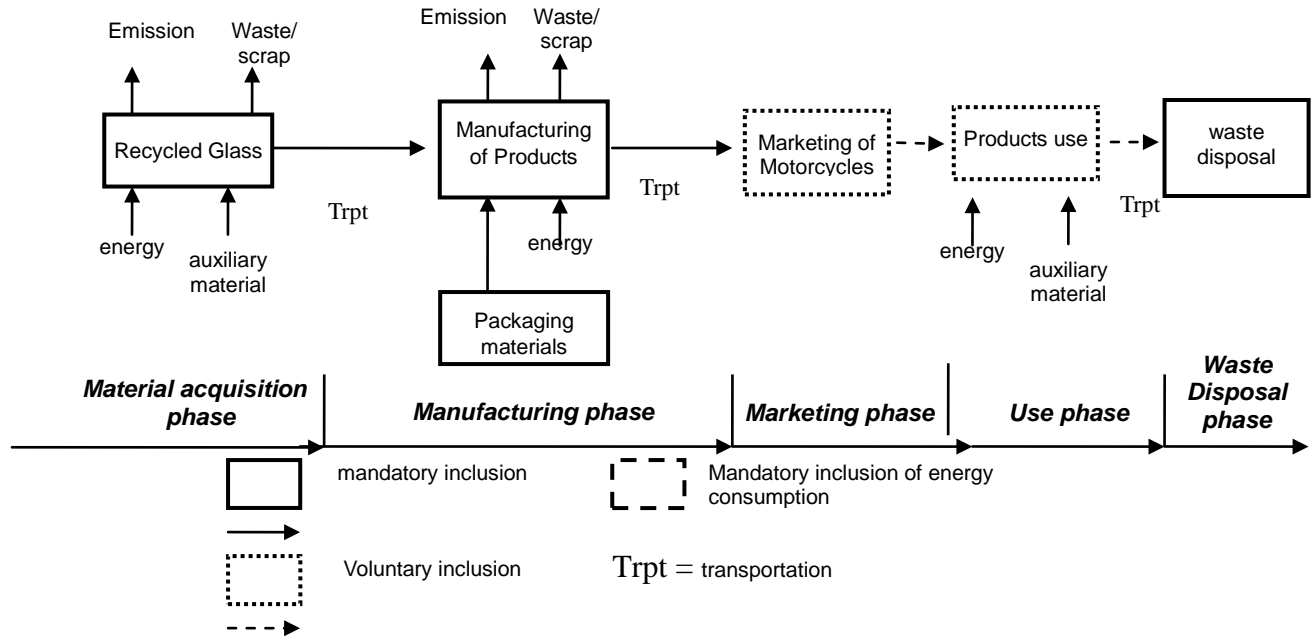


Figure 1 System boundary of the recycled glass product system

As noted in Figure 1 above, the life cycle of a recycled glass product covers five life cycle stages: raw material acquisition, product manufacturing, distribution, product use and waste disposal. The data quality requirements for the main constituents and other constituents are described in Section 9 on calculation rules and data quality requirements.

### Raw Materials Acquisition Stage

The LCA shall include information for the following unit processes:

- Transportation of recovered/recycled glass during recycling channel;
- Resource/energy input during recovery/processing/treatment of main raw material (recycled glass);
- Transportation of main raw materials from recycling plant to product manufacturing plant.

### Manufacturing Stage

The LCA shall include information for the following unit processes:

- Manufacturing of main constituents and generation of associated process waste;
- Reporting of input/output of packaging material during main raw material manufacturing process is optional (voluntary).

## **Distribution and Marketing Stage**

The LCA shall include information for the following unit processes:

- Transportation of products to the distribution sites or customer designated locations;
- Inventory and reporting of energy/resource input and waste generation during the marketing process is optional (voluntary);
- Inventory and reporting of transportation from sales/distribution sites to users is optional (voluntary).

## **Use Stage**

Reporting of resource/energy input during this stage is optional (voluntary).

## **Recycling/end-of-life Stage**

The LCA shall include information for the following unit processes:

- Relevant recycling/waste treatment information during this stage shall be considered.

## **5.1 Specification of different boundary settings**

### **Boundary in time**

The validity period for the LCA results presented in the LCA report shall be defined.

### **Boundary towards nature**

If the manufacturing processes are located within Taiwan, the solid waste categories as defined in Taiwan's Waste Disposal Act shall be adopted. If the processes are located in other countries, equivalent legal requirements shall be considered.

The natural boundary of the system shall describe the boundary where the materials and energy resources flow from nature into the system, and where the water and air emissions and waste are released out of the system.

Only the waste which is required to be disposed of needs to be considered; landfilling process does not need to be included. If the waste is generated through wastewater treatment or incineration process, such waste should be included into the wastewater treatment or incineration process.

### **Boundaries in the life cycle**

The boundaries in the product life cycle are described in Figure 1. The construction of the site and infrastructure, as well as the production of manufacturing equipment and activities of the workers, does not need to be included.

### **Boundaries towards other technical systems**

Boundaries towards other technical systems describe the inputs of material and other components towards other systems, as well as outputs of materials towards other systems. For the inputs of recycled materials and energy towards the product manufacturing stage, the transportation between the recycling process and use of recycled materials shall be included in the data set. For the production of recyclable products during the manufacturing stage, the

transportation towards the recycling process shall be included.

*(Note: Further explanations are provided in Section 7 on open-loop recycling)*

### **Boundaries regarding geographical coverage**

The manufacturing stage may cover manufacturing processes located on any sites around the world. For processes located in a specific region, the data used should be representative of the region. The data for the main components shall be the specific regional data for the region where the process takes place (see Section 9). For ease of comparison, no matter where the emissions are generated, the same environmental impact parameters should be used for life cycle impact assessment (see Section 10).

## **6. Cut-off rules**

For any impact category, if the sum of various impacts from a specific process/activity is less than 1% of the impact equivalent in that category, such a process/activity may be neglected during the inventory analysis. Nonetheless, the accumulated impact of neglected process/activity may not exceed 5%. Components and materials omitted from the LCA shall be documented.

*(Note: This judgment for this “1% Rule” is based on the environment relevance assessment of material input to the system, and does not consider special and exceptional environmental impacts.)*

## **7. Allocation rules**

The main allocation rules shall be valid for the entire product system. For other secondary processes, other allocation rules may be defined; however, the use of these rules should be justified. Product-specific information should be preferentially collected in order to avoid the need for allocation. While selecting allocation rules, the following principles are recommended.

- Multi-output: The allocations are based on the changes in the resource consumption and pollutant emissions (for example, adopted quantity allocation for some main component, or surface allocation for some components), following the changes in the studied system’s output product or function or economical relationship.
- Multi-input: The allocation is based on actual relationship. For example, the manufacturing process’s emissions may be affected by the change in waste flow input.
- Open loop recycling: For the input of recycled materials or energy during the manufacturing stage of the product system, the transportation between the recycling process and the recycling to material use shall be included in the dataset. For the product which shall be recycled during the manufacturing stage, the transportation towards the recycling process shall be included.

*Notes:*

- *Allocation may be avoided through avoidance of dividing processes, for example as described in Section 6.3 of ISO/TR 14049; or through expansion of system boundary (for example as described in Section 6.4), so that the amended system shares the same product exchanges as the original system.*

## 8. Units

The base units and derived units of the International System of Units (SI, *Système International d'unités*) shall be used preferentially.

Power & energy units:

- power unit: W
- energy unit: J

Specification units:

- length unit: m
- capacity unit: m<sup>3</sup>
- area unit: m<sup>2</sup>
- weight unit: kg

If necessary, prefixes may be used before the SI units.

- 10<sup>9</sup> = giga, symbol “G”
- 10<sup>6</sup> = mega, symbol “M”
- 10<sup>3</sup> = kilo, symbol “k”
- 10<sup>-2</sup> = centi, symbol “c”
- 10<sup>-3</sup> = milli, symbol “m”
- 10<sup>-6</sup> = micro, symbol “μ”
- 10<sup>-9</sup> = nano, symbol “n”

## 9. Calculation rules and data quality requirements

### **Date quality requirements for the raw material acquisition stage**

- Generic data may be used for the acquisition, production, forming and refining of raw materials used for the constituents of the recycled glass products. Please refer to Appendix I for the common sources of generic data.

### **Date quality requirements for the manufacturing stage**

- Site specific data (for example, specific data for manufacturing plant or transportation) shall be used for the manufacturing of major constituents of the recycled glass products. If other types of information are used, description of the information and rationale for using the information shall be provided. For site specific data of main materials manufacturing plants, specific data from a plant representative of such a site may be used.
- Generic data may be used for the manufacturing of other materials for the recycled glass products, and based the calculation on actual consumption. Please refer to Appendix I for the common sources of generic data.
- When generic data are used, the equivalence between the chemical and/or physical process of referred systems shall be considered. Moreover, it is also recommended to consider the date or geographic aspects of the data quality when feasible.
- Generic data may also be used when suppliers refuse to provide specific data, or when even if generic data are used in place of specific data, there is only minor impact to the results. The general rule is that if generic data are used in place of specific data, their combined contribution for all life cycle stages shall not be greater than 20% of total impacts for each impact category. But there may be certain exception to specific products, and such



- exceptions shall be explained.
- The data shall be representative for the average of a specific year. If the average data for a specific time period of less than one year is used, the reason for using such data shall be provided.
  - The electricity mix for the manufacturing stage should be site specific data. If site specific data cannot be obtained, the official electricity mix for the country where the site is located may be used as approximate value. The electricity mix should be documented.
  - For the definition of hazardous waste, the definition as defined in Taiwan's Waste Disposal Act shall be used for sites located in Taiwan. For sites located outside Taiwan, legal requirements for the host country shall be observed.
  - For the transportation of main raw materials to the manufacturing plant, the actual transportation modes used and distance traveled shall be considered.

#### **Date quality requirements for the distribution and marketing stage**

- For the transportation of product to the distribution sites or retailer sites, the actual mode of transportation and distance traveled shall be considered.

#### **Date quality requirements for the use stage**

- Reporting for inventory of this stage is optional (voluntary).

#### **Date quality requirements for the recycling/waste disposal stage**

- For transportation of end-of-life product as post-consumer waste for delivery to processors or recyclers, the data from national, industry or consumer surveys can be used. When such data cannot be obtained, evaluation based on assumed scenario can be made, and the assumptions for such a scenario shall be reported in the EPD.
- Generic data may be used during the recycling/end-of-life stage, if for specific reason the site specific data for the recycling/waste disposal system cannot be obtained. Then generic data and recycling rate may be used to calculate environmental impact. Please refer to Appendix I for the common sources of generic data used internationally.

## **10. Parameters to be declared in the EPD**

The following parameters shall be declared in the EPD:

### **Energy use**

- The energy consumption during each product life cycle stage shall be declared. If the product is intended for end-users, the power consumption during the use stage shall also be declared.
- The following units shall be used preferentially:  
kW or W for power; J or MJ for energy.

### **Resource use**

The information on resource input during the product life cycle stages shall be declared.

## Impact equivalents expressed as potential environmental impacts

-Global warming	kg CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent
-Acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> equivalent
-Photochemical oxidant formation	kg C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> equivalent
-Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> equivalent
-Ozone depletion	kg CFC-11 equivalent

Note: For characterization factors of each impact category, please refer to *EPD Supporting Annexes*, Version 1.0 (2008-02-29), The International EPD Cooperation, downloadable from [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com).

## Additional information

- Recyclable materials (optional)
- Information on secondary materials (optional)
- Waste (classification):
  - Hazardous waste as defined in Taiwan's Waste Disposal Act. Follow host countries' laws for sites outside Taiwan.
  - Other waste.
  - Plastic packaging materials marking: The Plastic packaging materials shall be labeled on the parts with SPI or other international standards for ease of sorting.

## 11. Recycling information

If practical, information for the constituents which can not be recycled and therefore should be disposed of properly during the end-of-life stage may also be included.

## 12. Other environmental information (Optional)

The EPD may cover information including technology adopted, site of product manufacturing and assembly, as well as information on other working environment, health and risk-related aspects.

If this PCR is to be used for product carbon footprint declaration purpose, in the declaration, information regarding commitment on GHG reduction should be included and shall ensure that the commitment is measurable, reportable and verifiable. The organization may also list environmental and energy management related information, such as awards, commendations and system certifications (e.g., ISO 14001, ISO 14064-1, IECQ HSPM) etc.

### 13. Information about the certification

The information on PCR review, EPD verification and verification organization shall be included.

EPD Certification is valid until 20__-__-__	
According to the Requirements for the international EPD system. General Programme Instructions, Version 1 (2008) – www.environdec.com	
The PCR review for _____ (PCR 20__: ) was administered by the Environment and Development Foundation and carried out by an LCA expert panel chaired by Dr. Ning Yu (ningyu@edf.org.tw). Independent verification of the declaration, according to ISO 14025:2006	
<input type="checkbox"/> Internal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External	
Third party verifier: Environment and Development Foundation in Taiwan.	
Accredited by :	
Name:	
Title:	
Organization:	Signature:_____
Name:	
Title:	
Organization:	Signature:_____
Name:	
Title:	
Organization:	Signature:_____
Environmental declarations from different programmes may not be comparable.	

## **14. References**

Energy Star Computer Specification -Version 5.2

The EPD shall make reference to the following documents:

- EPD General Program Instructions, Version 1.0 (2008-02-29), The International EPD Cooperation, downloadable from <http://www.environdec.com/>;
- Relevant PCR documents;
- The underlying LCA report.

When available, the following documents shall also be referenced:

- Other documents and recycling instructions which verify and complement the EPD.

## Appendix I – Generic Data Sources to Refer to

For processes located within Taiwan, Taiwan generic data or the data published by the commercial, industrial and energy competent authorities of the Republic of China (ROC) government, may be used. However, for other regions (such as EU), if there are more relevant generic data available, these data should be used instead. The following generic databases are recommended for use.

Material	Database
Packing materials, transport, Waste treatments	BUWAL 250
Steel, Primary copper, Copper products, Electricity, Fuels, Aluminum, Chemicals, Transports, Waste management	ELCD EIME (Environmental Information and Management Explorer) EcoBilan
Plastics	PE Plastics Europe (Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe) ELCD EIME (Environmental Information and Management Explorer) EcoBilan
Electronic components	ELCD EIME (Environmental Information and Management Explorer) EcoBilan
General Database	Ecoinvent The Boustead Model PE-GaBi DoITPro(Taiwan)

## Appendix II – Reporting Format for the EPD

This appendix provides guidance information for the titles of sections, types of data and required information to be reported in the mandatory reporting part of the EPD. As a generic reporting template, the following titles and sub-titles are recommended:

*(Refer to the PCR manual for the section numbering, the information in Italics are the recommended data/information for inclusion)*

### **Introductory part**

Each EPD should have an introduction part on the top part of the EPD which includes the following information:

- *Company/organization name*
- *Product name*
- *EPD registration number*

### **Description of the company/organization and product/service**

#### ***Company/Organization***

- *Description of company/organization*
- *Description of overall working environment, existing quality system and environmental management system*

#### ***Product and services (see Section 2)***

- *Product's main applications*
- *Description of product specification, manufacturing process, manufacturing sites (if there are several sites)*
- *For product's environmental performance aspects, characteristics which may improve the usefulness of product*
- *Other types of relevant information, for example, special manufacturing processes with special advantages to the environment*

### **List of materials and chemical substances**

- *Content declaration (see Section 3)*

### **Presentation of the environmental performance**

- *Outline of the LCA methodology, for example, period of LCA, declared units, system boundaries (graphical presentation), cut-off and allocation rules, and data sources.*

#### ***Manufacturing stage (see Section 10)***

#### ***Use stage (see Section 10)***

- *Geographical region for product delivery*
- *Transportation data*
- *End-of-life information*

### **Information about Company and Certification Organization**

#### ***Recycling information (see Section 11)***

#### ***Other environmental information (see Section 12)***

#### ***Information regarding certification***

- *Names of certification and verification organizations*

- *Validity of certification certificates*
- *Compliance with legal and relevant requirements*

**References** (see Section 14)

- *relevant PCR documents*
- *EPD General Program Instructions, Version 1.0 (2008-02-29)*
- *underlying LCA study*
- *other supporting documents for LCA information*
- *other relevant documents regarding company/organization's environmental activities*

### Appendix III Abbreviations

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
APLAC	Asia Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
CFP	Carbon Footprint of Product
EPD	Environmental Product Declaration
ErP	Energy Related Product
ILAC	International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
ILAC MAR	International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Mutual Recognition Arrangement
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment
PCR	Product Category Rule
RoHS	The Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment
SPI	Society of the Plastics Industry
TAF	Taiwan Accreditation Foundation
TEC	Typical Energy Consumption
Trpt	Transportation
WEEE	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive