



PRODUCT CATEGORY RULES

EN 15804

PCR 026 version 2.0

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PCR – Part B for Furniture



REVISION LOG

This is an overview of the changes made to this PCR. Typology of changes:

- Editorial (ed): Text or layout edited, with no change in content.
- Technical (te): Existing content has been changed.
- Addendum (ad): New content has been added.

Naming convention: Version x.y, where x is a major revision and y is a minor revision.

Date (2018-10-18)	Type	Description of change
Version 1.0		
2018.10.18	te	First version of PCR for Furniture. This document replaces PCR 003:2015 Seating version 2.1 and PCR and 021:2012 Plate furniture

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Table of Contents

REVISION LOG.....	2
Introduction.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references.....	7
3 Terms and Definitions.....	7
4 Abbreviations.....	7
5 General Aspects.....	8
5.1 Objective of PCR Part A and B.....	8
5.2 Types of EPD in respect to life cycle stages covered.....	8
5.3 Comparability of EPD of furniture products.....	9
5.4 Additional information.....	9
5.5 Ownership, responsibility and liability for the EPD.....	9
5.6 Communication format.....	9
6 Product Category Rules for LCA.....	9
6.1 Product Category.....	9
6.1.1 Indoor seating.....	10
6.1.2 Indoor tables.....	10
6.1.3 Indoor storage.....	10
6.1.4 Beds and mattresses.....	10
6.1.5 Children's and nursery furniture.....	10
6.1.6 Screens and sound-absorbing elements, not included in PCR part B for building boards	10
6.1.7 Writing boards.....	11
6.1.8 Outdoor furniture.....	11
6.1.9 Street furniture, seating and tables.....	11
6.2 Life cycle stages and their information modules to be included.....	11
6.2.1 General.....	11
6.2.2 A1-A3, Product stage, information modules.....	12
6.2.3 Module A4-A5, Construction/installation stage, life cycle information modules.....	12
6.2.4 B1-B5, Use stage, life cycle information modules.....	12
6.2.5 B6-B7 Use stage, life cycle information modules related to operation.....	12
6.2.6 C1-C4 End-of-life stage, life cycle information modules.....	12



6.2.7	Benefits and loads beyond the system boundary, information module.....	13
6.3	Calculation rules for the LCA.....	13
6.3.1	Functional unit.....	13
6.3.2	Declared unit.....	13
6.3.3	Reference service life (RSL).....	14
6.3.4	System boundaries.....	15
6.3.5	Criteria for the exclusion of inputs and outputs (cut-off).....	15
6.3.6	Selection of data.....	15
6.3.7	Data quality requirements.....	15
6.3.8	Scenarios at the product level.....	15
6.3.9	Units.....	17
6.4	Inventory analysis.....	17
6.5	Impact assessment.....	17
7	Content of the EPD.....	17
7.1	Declaration of general information.....	17
7.2	Declaration of environmental parameters derived from LCA.....	18
7.2.1	General.....	18
7.2.2	Rules for declaring LCA information per module.....	18
7.2.3	Parameters describing environmental impacts.....	18
7.2.4	Parameters describing resource use.....	18
7.2.5	Other environmental information describing waste categories and output flows.....	19
7.2.6	Accounting of biogenic carbon during the life cycle.....	19
7.2.7	Greenhouse gas emissions from land use change.....	19
7.3	Scenarios and additional technical information.....	19
7.3.1	General.....	19
7.3.2	Construction process stage.....	19
7.3.3	Use stage.....	20
7.3.4	End of life.....	20
7.3.5	Reuse, recovery and recycling.....	20
7.4	Additional information.....	20
7.4.1	Additional information on release of dangerous substances to indoor air, soil and water: Indoor air.....	20
7.4.2	Additional information on release of dangerous substances to indoor air, soil and	



water: Soil and water.....	20
7.4.3 Additional Norwegian requirements.....	20
7.5 Aggregation of information modules.....	21
7.6 Additional Environmental Information.....	21
8 Project Report.....	21
9 Verification and Validity of an EPD.....	22
10 Bibliography.....	22

Introduction

These product category rules (PCR) are intended for companies preparing an environmental product declaration (EPD) for all types of furniture for domestic, non-domestic, educational and professional use, for users of all ages (see chapter 6.1 for a definition of the product group).

This PCR complies with ISO14044: 2006, Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Requirements and guidelines and ISO14025: 2006, Environmental management – Type III environmental declarations – Principles and procedures. Furniture are here seen in a building context and the PCR for furniture therefore consist of two parts. PCR part A are the common requirements for construction products and services. PCR part B are the requirements that are specific to furniture. When preparing an EPD for furniture, all requirements outlined in part A and part B must be followed. In PCR part B, the requirements for PCR part A are referred to in each section where they occur. The purpose of this document is to define clear guidelines for performing the underlying life cycle assessment (LCA) to ensure comparability between EPDs.

This PCR was developed from August 2017 to February 2018, by a Norwegian PCR work group (WG) with representatives from the furniture industry and with aid from Ostfold Research (Østfoldforskning), SINTEF Building and Infrastructure and the EPD program operator The Norwegian EPD Foundation.

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1 Scope

This document complements the core rules for the product category of construction products as defined in EN 15804:2012+A1:2013 and PCR part A, and is intended to be used in conjunction with those standards.

In addition to EN 15804:2012+A1:2013 and PCR part A; this PCR:

defines the system boundaries

defines the modelling and assessment of material-specific characteristics

defines allocation procedures for multi-output processes along the production chain

defines allocation procedures for reuse and recycling

includes the rules for calculating the LCI and the LCIA underlying the EPD

provides guidance/specific rules for the determination of the reference service life (RSL)

gives guidance on the establishment of default scenarios

gives guidance on default functional units for furniture

The intended application of this product category rule (PCR) is to give guidelines for the development of environmental product declarations (EPD) for furniture; for either a cradle to gate with options EPD or a cradle to grave EPD; and to further specify the underlying requirements of the life cycle assessment (LCA). The core rules valid for all construction products are given in standard EN 15804 and PCR Part A, and are expected to be known by those preparing the EPD.

2 Normative references

NPCR Part A: Construction products and services. Ver. 1.0. April 2017. Oslo: EPD-Norge.

3 Terms and Definitions

As in PCR part A.

4 Abbreviations

As in PCR part A, including the following additions

RSL Reference service life

ESL Estimated service life

5 General Aspects

5.1 Objective of PCR Part A and B

As in PCR part A, including the following clarification:

The objective of this PCR (part B) for furniture is to:

- define the mandatory parameters
- define how the mandatory parameters are to be collated and reported
- describe which stages of a product's life cycle are to be considered in the EPD, and which processes are to be included in the life cycle stages
- define rules for the development of scenarios, including the rules for calculating the life cycle inventory and the life cycle impact assessment underlying the EPD, including a specification of the data quality to be applied
- identify different types of EPD according to the life cycle stages covered

5.2 Types of EPD in respect to life cycle stages covered

The EPDs for furniture follow the modules and life cycle stages in PCR Part A.

For a type 1 EPD, the EPD for furniture products should declare the whole life cycle of the product, including life cycle modules A1 to C4. (EPD 1).

EPD 1 - Cradle to grave, as a minimum A1-C4:

- Mandatory: Information modules A1- A3
- Mandatory: Information module A4-A5
- Mandatory: Information module B1 – B7
- Mandatory: Information modules C1-C4
- Optional: Information module D

However, if you declare a component or part of a piece of furniture it may be more appropriate to prepare a type 2 EPD, which considers modules A1 to A4 (EPD-2).

EPD 2 - Cradle to gate with options, as a minimum A1-A3:

- Mandatory: Information modules A1-A4
- Optional: Information modules A5
- Optional: Information modules B1-B7
- Optional: Information modules C1-C4
- Optional: Information module D

Table 2. Types of EPD with respect to life cycle stages and modules covered for furniture. Modified from EN 15804.

	A1-A3 Product stage	A4-A5 Construction /installastion stage	B1-B7 Use Stage	C1-C4 End of life	D Benefits and loads from recycling
EPD 1: Cradle to grave	Mandatory	Mandatory (scenario)	Mandatory (scenario)	Mandatory (scenario)	Optional (scenario)
EPD 2: Cradle to gate / Cradle to gate with options	Mandatory	A4 Mandatory (scenario) A5 Optional (scenario)	Optional (scenario)	Optional (scenario)	Optional (scenario)

5.3 Comparability of EPD of furniture products

As in PCR part A, including the following clarification:

Comparison of the environmental performance of furniture using EPD information, shall be based on the product's ability to serve a function over a specified amount of time, and shall consider the complete life cycle from cradle to grave. For comparability, EPDs of different products must be calculated using the same basic assumptions and methodological choices, e.g. allocation, cut-off, scenarios, etc. A justification shall be given for any aspects excluded.

5.4 Additional information

As in PCR part A.

5.5 Ownership, responsibility and liability for the EPD

As in PCR part A.

5.6 Communication format

As in PCR part A.

6 Product Category Rules for LCA

As in PCR part A.

6.1 Product Category

As in PCR part A, including the following clarification:

The product group “furniture” comprises of all kinds of furniture for domestic -, non-domestic-, educational and professional use, for users of all ages (NS ICS 97.140 Furniture). The furniture is prepared for trade and may be made of different materials. Furniture is not limited to the furniture described in 6.1.1. to 6.1.8.

6.1.1 Indoor seating

Sofas, chairs, recliners, office work chairs, visitor chairs, children’s chairs, children’s high chairs, chairs for educational purposes, chairs for special purpose workstations, ranked seating and similar.

6.1.2 Indoor tables

Coffee tables, dining tables, conference tables, office work tables and desks, tables for educational purposes, tables for special purpose workstations, work top counters and similar. Indoor tables also include tables to be used in a seated, sit-stand or standing position.

6.1.3 Indoor storage

Kitchen storage, bathroom storage, living room storage, book shelves, dressers, wardrobes, cabinets, office storage, industrial storage, retail storage, laboratory storage, brochure stands and similar.

6.1.4 Beds and mattresses

Beds, single beds, double beds, mattresses, folding beds, bunk beds, high beds, adjustable beds, sofa beds, hospital beds and similar. Water beds and air beds are not included.

6.1.5 Children’s and nursery furniture

Children’s cots, folding cots, travel cots, suspended baby beds, playpens, folding playpens, cribs, cradles and similar.

6.1.6 Screens and sound-absorbing elements, not included in PCR part B for building boards

Screens, desk screens and floor-standing screens. The screens and sound-absorbing elements may be aimed at partitioning only, or aimed at both partitioning and absorption of indoor sounds. This also includes interior acoustic products; as single objects, as furniture, or as a part of a piece of furniture, which is aimed at absorbing indoor sounds.

6.1.7 Writing boards

Wall mounted and free-standing writing boards.

6.1.8 Outdoor furniture

Outdoor seating and tables for camping, domestic and contract for use by adults. It does not apply to seating for spectator facilities.

6.1.9 Street furniture, seating and tables

Outdoor furniture used in public space, permanently fixed to the ground or any structure (e.g. bus stop, wall...) or not manually removable.

Furniture includes litterbins, planters, cycle parking posts and racks, tree guards, bollards, fences, urban partitions and gratings

6.2 Life cycle stages and their information modules to be included

6.2.1 General

As in PCR part A, including the following clarification:

Transport shall include the following:

- Direct emissions during transport (exhaust, tyres, etc.)
- Upstream emissions from fuel extraction, processing and distribution
- Life cycle emissions of vehicles (raw materials, manufacturing, maintenance and disposal)
- Life cycle emissions of infrastructure (raw materials, manufacturing, maintenance and disposal)

The modules or life cycle stages that should be included is dependent on the type of EPD (EPD type 1 or EPD type 2). EPDs based on this PCR should include the following life cycle stages:

EPD 1 - Cradle to grave, as a minimum A1-C4:

- Mandatory: Information modules A1- A3
- Mandatory: Information module A4-A5
- Mandatory: Information module B1 – B7
- Mandatory: Information modules C1-C4
- Optional: Information module D

EPD 2 - Cradle to gate with options, as a minimum A1-A4:

- Mandatory: Information modules A1-A4
- Optional: Information modules A5
- Optional: Information module B1 – B7
- Optional: Information modules C1-C4

- Optional: Information module D

6.2.2 A1-A3, Product stage, information modules

As in PCR Part A, including the following clarifications:

It is important to clarify whether the substance entering the production process under study is classified as “waste” or as “secondary product”, i.e. secondary material or secondary fuel. See ISO 21930:2017 for further specification.

6.2.3 Module A4-A5, Construction/installation stage, life cycle information modules

As in PCR part A, including the following further clarification:

Life cycle module A4 includes the transportation of furniture, to the place in where it is to be used.

Life cycle module A5 includes, if relevant, assembly and/or installation of declared product at the place in where it is to be used. The installation phase includes all materials and activities connected to the installation of the furniture with the necessary accessories included (e.g. screws, fasteners and adhesives etc.).

6.2.4 B1-B5, Use stage, life cycle information modules

As in PCR part A, including the following clarifications:

The use stage, shall include a scenario for EPD Cradle to gate with options (Type 2) and/or EPD Cradle to grave (Type 1).

- Module B1 Use, includes, if any, the emission or uptake taking place during the use phase, e.g. emissions of VOC from painted surface, and the uptake of CO₂ for exposed concrete products
- Module B2, includes maintenance, e.g. energy and water use in cleaning, and recommended repainting during the RSL
- Module B3, repair includes, if any, repairs during the RSL
- Module B4, replacement, if any, recommended during the RSL
- Module B5, refurbishment. If relevant

6.2.5 B6-B7 Use stage, life cycle information modules related to operation

- Module B6, Operational energy use, if relevant
- Module B7, Operational water use, if relevant

6.2.6 C1-C4 End-of-life stage, life cycle information modules

As in PCR Part A, including the following clarifications:

The end-of-life stage shall include:

- Module C1, includes the demolition of the furniture
- Module C2, includes the transport of the furniture to final waste treatment.
- Module C3, includes all activities regarding reuse, recovery and/or recycling after transportation.
- Module C4 includes disposal, i.e. waste handling that does not give a useful product (the end-of-waste criteria are fulfilled). Examples include landfilling and incineration without energy recovery.

6.2.7 Benefits and loads beyond the system boundary, information module

As in PCR Part A.

6.3 Calculation rules for the LCA

The scope and variations of products must be declared according to EPD-Norway's guidelines. As of 2014, similar products in the same EPD can only be included if the variation in results for each LCIA category does not exceed +/- 10 %. The level of variation shall be stated in the EPD.

6.3.1 Functional unit

The functional unit for EPD Cradle to grave (type 1) is defined as:

The production of one unit of the declared product provided and maintained for an estimated service life (ESL) for the product declared.

Results should be displayed both per functional unit and per life cycle module A4-A5, B1-B7, C1-C4 and D.

Tests and/or guaranties shall be used to define the RSL, and necessary measures for the maintenance and repair of the product must be described (e.g. repainted every XX years, change of parts etc.).

6.3.2 Declared unit

The declared unit (cradle to gate with options, type 2) is defined as:

One produced unit of furniture ready to leave the factory gate.

The declared unit as a minimum includes all processes up to the point in which the declared product leaves the manufacturer's gate.

6.3.3 Reference service life (RSL)

Furniture shall be planned and constructed according to a reference service life as provided and documented by the manufacturer. A reference service life (RSL) is mandatory for all Type 1 EPD's. Tests and/or guaranties shall be used to define the reference service life of the product.

A list of typical reference and estimated service lifetimes for different types of furniture is given in Table 3.

Table 3. Typical reference and estimated service lifetimes for different types of furniture

	Reference Service Life (RSL)	Estimated Service Life (ESL)
Indoor seating	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. airport, residential)	15 years
Indoor tables	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. airport, residential)	15 years
Indoor storage	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. airport, residential)	15 years
Beds and mattresses	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. hotels, residential)	15 years
Children's and nursery furniture	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. nursery, residential, schools)	15 years
Screens and sound absorbing elements	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. office, residential, schools)	15 years
Writing boards	Declared by producer and related to intended use (e.g. office, residential, schools)	15 years
Outdoor furniture	Declared by producer and related to intended use	15 years
Street furniture	Declared by producer (ref to documentation in bibliography)	30 years

6.3.4 System boundaries

As in PCR part A.

6.3.5 Criteria for the exclusion of inputs and outputs (cut-off)

As in PCR part A, including the following clarifications:

Processes excluded from the assessment include:

- The production of machinery for the production of furniture, due to the assumption that the machinery has relatively low impacts relative to other impacts.
- The production of machinery for the production of raw materials, due to the assumption that aggregate machinery has relatively low impacts relative to other impacts.
- Business travel.
- Travel to the workplace.
- Inspections made by authorities or commissioning bodies.

A list of hazardous and toxic materials and substances shall be included in the inventory. The general cut-off rules do not apply to such substances. However, substances included in amounts below the limits for chemical products health and environment hazard classification do not have to be declared.

Exceptions apply for substances on the REACH candidate list and Norwegian priority list, whereby a cut-off of 0.1 % applies. All REACH candidate list substances occurring in amounts exceeding 0.1 % of the finished product must be declared. The same limit applies to all substances on the Norwegian priority list.

6.3.6 Selection of data

As in PCR part A.

6.3.6.1 *Data for electricity*

As in PCR part A.

6.3.6.2 *Losses considered by different users and the installed voltage supplied*

As in PCR part A.

6.3.7 Data quality requirements

As in PCR part A.

6.3.8 Scenarios at the product level

As in PCR part A, with the following additions:

6.3.8.1 Product stage

Extraction and processing of raw materials (e.g. mining processes) and biomass production and processing.

- A1 Reuse of products or materials from a previous product system;
- A1 Processing of secondary materials used as input for manufacturing the product, but not including those processes that are part of the waste processing in the previous product system;
- A1 Generation of electricity, steam and heat from primary energy resources, also including their extraction, refining and transport;
- A1 Energy recovery and other recovery processes from secondary fuels, but not including those processes that are part of waste processing in the previous product system;
- A2 Transportation up to the factory gate and internal transport;
- A3 Production of ancillary materials or pre-products;
- A3 Manufacturing of furniture product and co-products;
- A3 Manufacturing of packaging

A1-A3 Processing up to the end-of-waste state or disposal of final residues including processes for any packaging not leaving the factory gate with the product.

6.3.8.2 A4 Transport from the factory gate to the customer

As in PCR part A.

6.3.8.3 A5 Installation

As in PCR part A with the following additions:

The installation phase includes all materials and activities connected to assembly and/or installation of the declared product. This is by default only manual labour. If the installation scenario for furniture deviates from the predefined scenarios, this shall be clearly stated and justified.

Personnel activities and transport of personnel shall not be included. Environmental impacts from the production of capital goods shall also be excluded.

6.3.8.4 Use stage

As in PCR part A, including the following additions:

Life cycle modules B1 – B5: information required for the use, maintenance, repair, replacement and refurbishment scenarios deviate from EN15804 as this is a consumer product and not a building product.

Table 4 describes the relevant input to B-modules for all furniture product groups.



Table 4. Use scenario descriptions for all furniture product groups.

	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7
	Use	Maintenance (incl. production and transport of necessary	Repair (incl. production and transport of necessary materials)	Replacement (incl. production and transport of necessary	Refurbishment (incl. production and transport of necessary	Operational energy use	Operational water use
Indoor seating		Vacuum cleaning		Change of texture covering			
Indoor tables		Cleaning					
Indoor storage		Cleaning					
Beds and mattresses		Vacuuming or cleaning (wet or dry)		Replacement of top mattress, replacement of			
Children's and nursery furniture		Vacuum cleaning of		Replacement of mattress.			
Screens and sound absorbing elements		Vacuum cleaning of					
Writing boards		Cleaning					
Outdoor furniture		Vacuum cleaning of					
Street furniture		Cleaning	Oiling or varnishing				
	Normally not relevant						

6.3.8.5 End of life stage

As in PCR part A.

6.3.9 Units

As in PCR part A.

6.4 Inventory analysis

As in PCR part A.

6.5 Impact assessment

As in PCR part A.

7 Content of the EPD

7.1 Declaration of general information

As in PCR part A, with the following additions:

The following information about the product shall be declared:

- Product description

- Technical data (including weight and measurements, etc.)
- Market where the declared product is distributed
- Estimated service life
- Table showing the material composition of the declared product

A table of selected key indicators can be displayed on the general information page.

If the EPD is a type 2 EPD (cradle to gate with options) or type, then this table can be displayed with the aggregated results from life cycle modules A1-A3 (Cradle to Gate), but then the following text needs to be presented together with the information box: **“These key environmental performance indicators are only based on the modules A1-A3 (Cradle to Gate). Unless compared to an EPD covering the identical LCA modules, only limited comparability can be achieved”**.

Key environmental performance indicators	Unit	Cradle to Gate A1-A3	Cradle to Grave A1-C4
Global warming potential	kg CO2 eq.	[value]	[value]
Total energy use	MJ	[value]	[value]
Optional indicator(s) if desired	[Unit]	[value]	[value]

7.2 Declaration of environmental parameters derived from LCA

7.2.1 General

As in PCR part A.

7.2.2 Rules for declaring LCA information per module

As in PCR part A.

7.2.3 Parameters describing environmental impacts

As in PCR part A.

7.2.4 Parameters describing resource use

As in PCR part A.

7.2.4.1 *Water use*

As in PCR part A.

7.2.4.2 *Electricity used in A3 Manufacturing*

As in PCR part A.

7.2.5 Other environmental information describing waste categories and output flows

As in PCR part A.

7.2.6 Accounting of biogenic carbon during the life cycle

As in PCR part A

7.2.7 Greenhouse gas emissions from land use change

As in PCR part A, including following additions:

If no specifications are given in PCR part A, greenhouse gas emissions from land use change shall be declared according to ISO 21930:2017.

7.2.8 Carbonation

As in PCR part A, including the following additions:

If no specifications are given in PCR part A, carbonisation shall be declared according to ISO 21930, EN 16757:2017 or PCR 020 Concrete Products.

7.3 Scenarios and additional technical information

7.3.1 General

As in PCR part A.

7.3.2 Construction process stage

7.3.2.1 A4, Transport from the production site to the construction site.

As in PCR part A, including the following additions:

Transport from the production gate to the construction site is typically carried out using trucks. The distance, type of vehicle, fuel consumption and degree to which the transport capacity is utilised may have a large impact on transport emissions, thus these factors must be stated. Capacity utilisation is calculated as a percentage (%) of the total load capacity of the vehicle. The percentage given shall be the average of the capacity utilisation including the return trip.

7.3.2.2 A5, Installation

As in PCR part A, including the following clarification:

The installation phase includes all materials and activities connected to installation and user

assembly of the piece of furniture. This is by default only manual labour.

If the EPD deviates from the predefined scenario, then this shall be clearly stated and justified.

7.3.3 Use stage

As in PCR part A, with the following additional information:

Maintenance, replacement, and other relevant modules shall be stated in the EPD. Eg. "The use stage is represented by a scenario for each life cycle module, whereby the maintenance scenario includes vacuum cleaning textiles once a month".

7.3.4 End of life

As in PCR part A.

7.3.5 Reuse, recovery and recycling

As in PCR part A.

7.4 Additional information

As in PCR part A.

7.4.1 Additional information on release of dangerous substances to indoor air, soil and water: Indoor air

As in PCR part A.

7.4.2 Additional information on release of dangerous substances to indoor air, soil and water: Soil and water

As in PCR part A.

7.4.3 Additional Norwegian requirements

As in PCR part A.

7.4.3.1 *Greenhouse gas emissions from electricity use in A3 Manufacturing*

As in PCR part A.

7.4.3.2 Dangerous substances and content declaration

As in PCR part A, including the following additions:

Specification of materials and substances that can adversely affect human health and environment shall be reported.

A detailed list of the product's substances (chemicals included in the final furniture product), including CAS number and health class (risk phrases or CLP regulations Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008) when these are in force, shall be included in the product content declaration. The content of substances shall be declared in terms of weight percentages. Only substances that are mentioned in the raw material safety declaration sheets (SDS) shall be included. The EPD owner has no obligation to investigate the content of ingredients used in raw material production, with the exception of products on the REACH candidate list and the Norwegian Priority List.

In cases where information about contents could affect patent or company secrets, a qualitative list of chemicals and their expected functions is sufficient, including the risk phrases. This does not apply to substances registered under the REACH Directive

7.4.3.3 Emission classification

As in PCR part A.

7.5 Aggregation of information modules

As in PCR part A.

7.6 Additional Environmental Information

Additional information about the furniture can be added in the "Product description field". This must be relevant, objective and verifiable information.

This clause has a wider scope compared to other standards, and includes additional information not derived from LCA or information about product variations or markets (e.g. a table that describes climate footprint for different models).

It is important to state in the EPD, that any additional information on product variations cannot be considered as a full EPD since not all indicators are included.

8 Project Report

As in PCR part A.

9 Verification and Validity of an EPD

As in PCR part A.

Approved 18.10.2018, valid until 18.10.2023.

Norwegian EPD Foundation, Technical committee



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10 Bibliography

As in PCR part A, including the following additions:

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