

Environmental Product Declaration



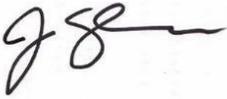
VAAGEN
TIMBERS

EPD for Glued- Laminated Timber produced by Vaagen Timbers in Colville, WA.



ASTM Certified Environmental Product Declaration

Program Operator	ASTM International 100 Barr Harbor Drive PO Box C700 West Conshohocken, PA, 19428-2959 USA www.astm.org			 ASTM INTERNATIONAL Helping our world work better
General Program Instructions and Version Number	ASTM Program Operator for Product Category Rules (PCR) and Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) - General Program Instructions, version: 8.0			
Declaration Owner	Vaagen Timbers, LLC 1245 N. Highway Colville, WA 99114 USA vaagentimbers.com			 VAAGEN TIMBERS
Declaration Number	EPD 168			
Declared Product	Glued Laminated Timber (Glulam)			
Declared Unit	1 m ³ of Glulam produced at Vaagen Timbers facility in Colville, WA			
Reference PCR and Version Number	ISO 21930:2017 Sustainability in Building Construction — Environmental Declaration of Building Products. [9] UL Environment: Product Category Rules for Building-Related Products and Services Part A: Calculation Rules for the Life Cycle Assessment and Requirements on the Project Report, v3.2 [13] Part B: Structural and Architectural Wood Products EPD Requirements, v1.0 [14]			
Description of Product's intended application and use	Glulam, is an engineered structural wood product that consists of multiple individual layers of dimension (softwood) lumber that are glued together under controlled conditions.			
Markets of Applicability	Construction Sector, Mass timber design			
Date of Issue	April 15, 2021			
Period of Validity	April 15, 2026			
EPD Type	Product-specific EPD			
EPD Scope	Cradle to Gate			
Year of reported manufacturer primary data	2019			
LCA Software	SimaPro v8.5			
LCI Databases	USLCI [11], Ecoinvent 3.5 [15], Datasmart [10]			
LCIA Methodology	TRACI 2.1 [5]			
The sub-category PCR review was conducted by:	Dr. Thomas Gloria (chair) Industrial Ecology Consultants	Dr. Indro Ganguly University of Washington	Dr. Sahoo University of Georgia	

<p>LCA and EPD Developer This life cycle assessment was conducted in accordance with ISO 14044 and the reference PCR by:</p>	<p>Athena Sustainable Materials Institute 280 Albert Street, Suite 404 Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1P 5G8 www.athenasmi.org</p>   <p>James Salazar</p>
<p>This declaration was independently verified in accordance with ISO 14025:2006. The UL Environment “Part A: Calculation Rules for the Life Cycle Assessment and Requirements on the Project Report,” v3.2 (December 2018), in conformance with ISO 21930:2017, serves as the core PCR, with additional considerations from the USGBC/UL Environment Part A Enhancement (2017).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INTERNAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXTERNAL</p>	
<p>Independent Verifier This life cycle assessment was independently verified in accordance with ISO 14044 and the reference PCR by:</p>	<p>Dr. Thomas Gloria Industrial Ecology Consultants</p> 
<p>Limitations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Environmental declarations from different programs (ISO 14025) may not be comparable. · Comparison of the environmental performance using EPD information shall consider all relevant information modules over the full life cycle of the products within the building. · This PCR allows EPD comparability only when the same functional requirements between products are ensured and the requirements of ISO 21930:2017 §5.5 are met. It should be noted that different LCA software and background LCI datasets may lead to differences results for upstream or downstream of the life cycle stages declared. 	

COMPANY AND PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Vaagen Timbers, LLC

Vaagen Timbers, LLC is a manufacturer of engineered wood products. Two of the company's main products are cross laminated timber (CLT) and glued laminated timber (glulam). The company is located in Colville, Washington.

Glulam

Glulam is an engineered wood product consisting of multiple layers of kiln-dry dimensional (softwood) lumber, glued together with waterproof adhesives. Glulam can be manufactured in a wide range of shapes, sizes, and configurations. It is suitable for a variety of structures in both exterior and interior applications, has high structural strength, and is also an attractive architectural building material. Glulam is commonly used in posts and beams, heavy timber and mass timber structures, as well as wood bridges [5].

The main product components of Glulam are dimensional softwood lumber (99%) and various resins (1%). The softwood lumber used for Glulam production is derived from sustainable managed forests in Pacific Northwest (See below 'Treatment of biogenic carbon and sustainable forest management certification'). Glulam is certified to meet the requirements of the "Standard for Wood Products -Structural Glued Laminated Timber" ANSI/APA A190.1-2017 [2].



METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Type of EPD and Life Cycle Stages

The underlying LCA [4] investigates the Glulam product system from cradle to gate. This comprises the production stage including the information modules 'A1 Extraction and upstream production', 'A2 Transport to factory' and 'A3 Manufacturing' (Figure 1).

Building Life Cycle Information Modules																
Production stage			Construction Stage		Use stage							End-of-life stage				
Extraction and upstream production	Transport to factory	Manufacturing	Transport to site	Installation	Use	Maintenance	Repair	Replacement	Refurbishment	Operational Energy Use	Operational Water Use	De-Construction/ Demolition	Transport to waste processing or disposal	Waste processing	Disposal	
																A1
X	X	X	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND

Figure 1 Life Cycle Stages and Information Modules per ISO 21930:2017. (MND: module not declared)

System Boundaries and Product Flow Diagram

The product system described in Figure 2 includes the following information modules and unit processes:

A1 Extraction and upstream production

A1 includes the cradle-to-gate production of softwood lumber and resins that are used in Glulam manufacture.

The upstream resource extraction includes removal of raw materials and processing, processing of secondary material input (e.g., recycling processes) after crossing the system boundary of the previous product system. A1 also includes reforestation processes that include nursery operations (which include fertilizer, irrigation, energy for greenhouses if applicable etc.), site preparation, as well as planting, fertilization, thinning and other management operations.

A2 Transport to facility

Average or specific transportation of raw materials (including secondary materials and fuels) from extraction site or source to manufacturing site (including any recovered materials from source to be recycled in the process).

A3 Manufacturing

Manufacturing of the Glulam product, including packaging (lumber wrap).

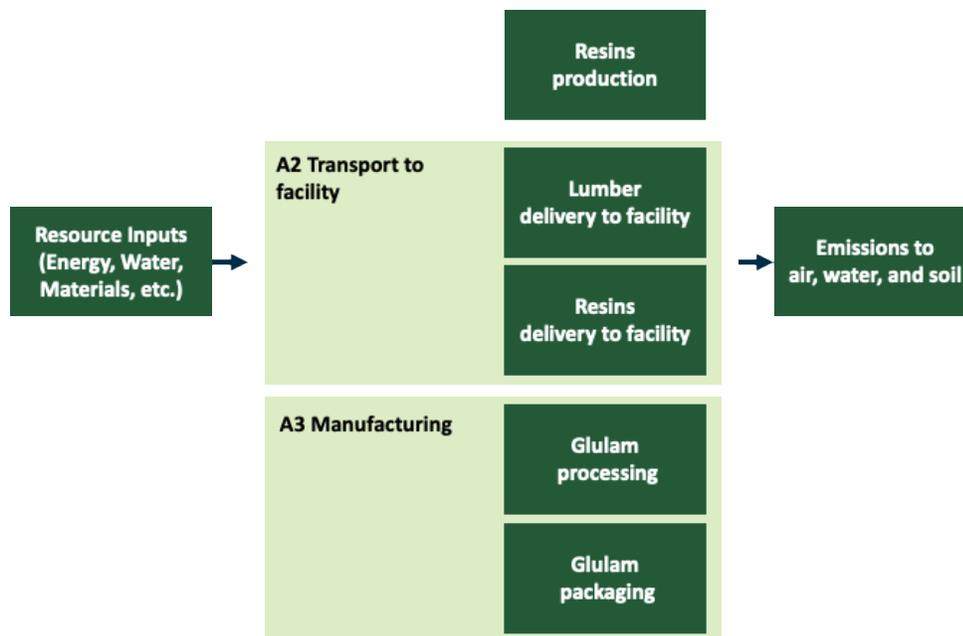


Figure 2: Cradle-to-Gate Glulam Product System

Declared Unit

Table 1 shows the declared unit and additional product information.

Table 1: Declared Unit and Product Information

Declared Unit		
The declared unit is “the production of one cubic meter (1 m ³) of Glulam produced at Vaagen Timbers facility in Colville, WA”.		
Property	Unit	Value
Mass	kg	442.10
Moisture Content	%	12
Product Composition		
Softwood Lumber	kg	436.96
Resins	kg	5.14

Allocation Methods

Allocation is the method used to partition the environmental load of a process when several products or functions share the same process. The Vaagen Timbers facility in Colville produces CLT and glulam products. In accordance with UL PCR 2019, the environmental load among these products is allocated according to its mass. Furthermore, the manufacturing process does produce wood waste that is transferred for free to downstream users. No environmental burden has been allocated to these wastes. A detailed explanation of the allocation methodology of upstream lumber production is provided in the lumber LCA project report.

Cut-off Criteria

The cut-off criteria for all activity stage flows considered within the system boundary conform with ISO 21930: 2017 Section 7.1.8. Specifically, the cut-off criteria were applied as follows:

- All inputs and outputs for which data are available are included in the calculated effects and no collected core process data are excluded.
- A one percent cut-off is considered for renewable and non-renewable primary energy consumption and the total mass of inputs within a unit process. The sum of the total neglected flows does not exceed 5% of all energy consumption and mass of inputs.
- All flows known to contribute a significant impact or to uncertainty are included.
- The cut-off rules are not applied to hazardous and toxic material flows – all of which are included in the life cycle inventory.

No material or energy input or output was knowingly excluded from the system boundary.

Data Sources

Primary and secondary data sources, as well as the respective data quality assessment are documented in the underlying LCA project report in accordance with UL PCR 2019.

This EPD estimates the impacts of forest management by the weighted industry average EPD of Pacific Northwest softwood lumber.

Third party verified ISO 14040/44 secondary LCI data sets contribute more than 67% of total impact to any of the required impact categories identified by the applicable PCR.

Treatment of Biogenic Carbon and Sustainable Forest Management Certification

Biogenic carbon emissions and removals are reported in accordance with ISO 21930 7.2.7. and 7.2.12. Detailed information is provided in the underlying LCA in Section 2.5.

ISO 21930 requires a demonstration of forest sustainability to characterize carbon removals with a factor of -1 kg CO₂e/kg CO₂. ISO 21930 Section 7.2.11 Note 2 states the following regarding demonstrating forest sustainability: “Other evidences such as national reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) can be used to identify forests with stable or increasing forest carbon stocks.” The United States UNFCCC annual report Table 6-1 provides annual NET GHG Flux Estimates for different land use categories. This reporting indicates non-decreasing forest carbon stocks and thus the source forests meet the conditions for characterization of removals with a factor of -1 kg CO₂e/kg CO₂.

Table 3 provides additional inventory parameters related to biogenic carbon removal and emissions.

ENVIRONMENTAL PARAMETERS DERIVED FROM LCA

Table 2 presents the LCIA and LCI parameter results for the declared unit of 1 m³ of Glulam. The impact categories and characterization factors (CF) for the LCIA were derived from the U.S. EPA Tool for the Reduction and Assessment of Chemical and Other Environmental Impacts -TRACI 2.1 [5].

The total primary energy consumption is tabulated from the LCI results based on the Cumulative Energy Demand Method published by ecoinvent [15]. Lower heating value of primary energy carriers is used to calculate the primary energy values reported in the study.

Other inventory parameters concerning material use, waste, water use and biogenic carbon were drawn from the LCI results. We followed the ACLCA's Guidance to Calculating non-LCIA Inventory Metrics in accordance with ISO 21930:2017 [1].

SimaPro v8.5 [14] was used to organize and accumulate the LCI data, and to calculate the LCIA results.

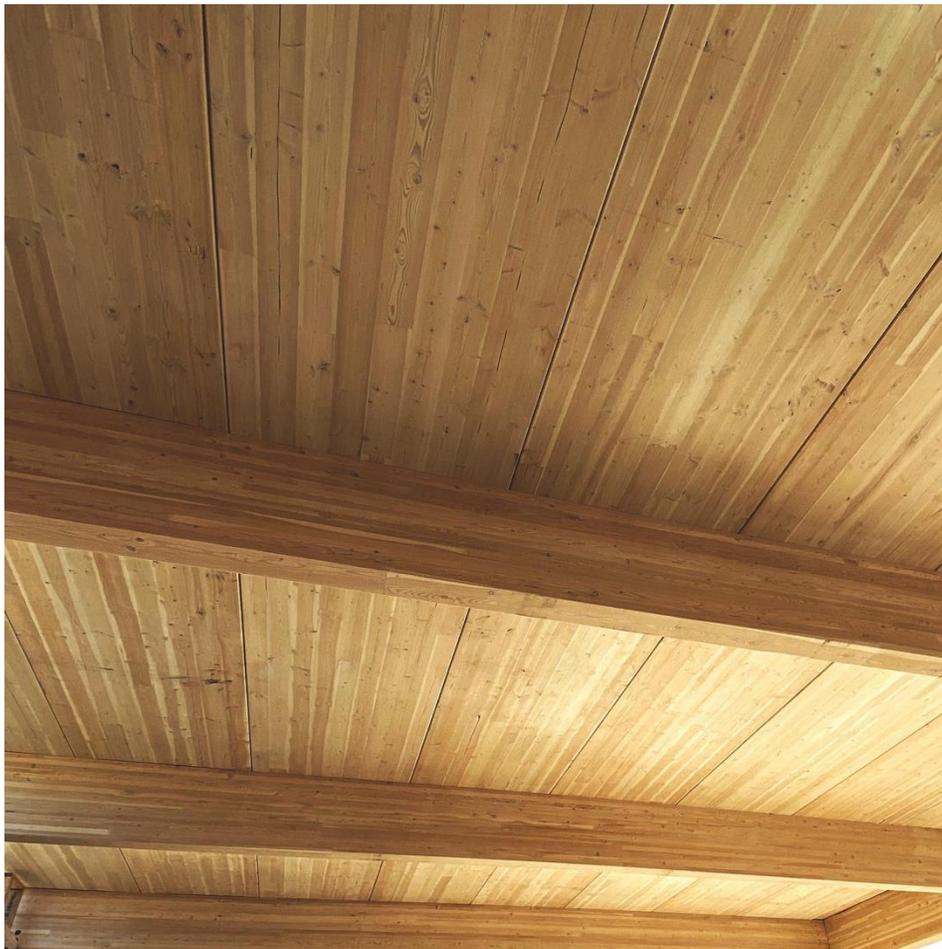


Table 2: LCIA Results Summary for Cradle-to-Gate production of 1 m³ of Glulam

Core Mandatory Impact Indicator			Total	A1	A2	A3
Global warming potential – TRACI 2.1	GWPTRACI	kg CO2e	147.99	84.63	18.16	45.20
Global warming potential – w/ biogenic CO2	GWPBIO	kg CO2e	147.99	-1,014.99	18.16	1,144.82
Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer	ODP	kg CFC11e	1.78E-01	5.23E-06	7.66E-10	1.78E-01
Acidification potential of soil and water sources	AP	kg SO2e	1.22	0.68	0.24	0.30
Eutrophication potential	EP	kg Ne	2.29	0.24	0.01	2.04
Formation potential of tropospheric ozone	SFP	kg O3e	605.94	16.43	6.15	583.36
Abiotic depletion potential (ADP _{fossil}) for fossil resources;	ADP _f	MJ, NCV	1,568.45	1,246.10	260.31	62.03
Fossil fuel depletion	FFD	MJ Surplus	351.75	164.05	38.47	149.23
Use of Primary Resources						
Renewable primary energy carrier used as energy	RPRE	MJ, NCV	3,358.50	2,619.65	0.00	738.85
Renewable primary energy carrier used as material	RPRM	MJ, NCV	13,175.53	12,899.59	275.94	0.00
Non-renewable primary energy carrier used as energy	NRPRE	MJ, NCV	910.13	910.13	0.00	0.00
Non-renewable primary energy carrier used as material	NRPRM	MJ, NCV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary Material, Secondary Fuel and Recovered Energy						
Secondary material	SM	kg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Renewable secondary fuel	RSF	MJ, NCV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-renewable secondary fuel	NRSF	MJ, NCV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Recovered energy	RE	MJ, NCV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mandatory Inventory Parameters						
Consumption of freshwater resources	FW	m3	0.18	0.02	0.00	0.17
Indicators Describing Waste						
Hazardous waste disposed	HWD	kg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-hazardous waste disposed	NHWD	kg	23.51	0.00	0.00	23.51
High-level radioactive waste, conditioned, to final repository	HLRW	m3	6.01E-08	8.83E-09	0.00	5.13E-08
Intermediate- and low-level radioactive waste, conditioned, to final repository	ILLRW	m3	5.22E-07	4.23E-08	0.00	4.79E-07
Components for re-use	CRU	kg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Materials for recycling	MR	kg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Materials for energy recovery	MER	kg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Recovered energy exported from the product system	EE	MJ, NCV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

To ensure transparency Table 3 shows additional inventory parameters related to biogenic carbon removal and emissions. The carbon dioxide flows are presented unallocated to consider co-products leaving the product system in information module A3. Even though, the system boundary of this study included only the information modules A1-A3, in accordance with ISO 21930, BCEK was reported in A5 and BCEP of the main product in C3/C4.

The net carbon emission across the entire life cycle is zero. It is assumed that all carbon removed from the atmosphere is eventually emitted to the atmosphere as CO₂. Total GWP_{BIO} includes biogenic carbon emissions and removals from the information modules A1-A3, A5 and C3/C4, leading to a net zero contribution of biogenic carbon to GWP_{BIO}. Therefore, in Table 2, results for total GWP_{TRACI} and total GWP_{BIO} are equal.

Table 3: Biogenic carbon inventory parameters for Glulam

Additional Inventory Parameters			Total	A1	A2	A3	A5	C3/C4
Biogenic Carbon Removal from Product	BCRP	kg CO ₂	-1099.62	-1099.62	-	-	-	-
Biogenic Carbon Emission from Product	BCEP	kg CO ₂	1099.62	-	-	298.52	-	801.10
Biogenic Carbon Removal from Packaging	BCRK	kg CO ₂	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biogenic Carbon Emission from Packaging	BCEK	kg CO ₂	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biogenic Carbon Emission from Combustion of Waste from Ren. Sources Used in Production	BCEW	kg CO ₂	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net biogenic carbon emission		kg CO₂	0.00					

INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATIONS

Comparability

Environmental declarations from different programs (ISO 14025) may not be comparable. Comparison of the environmental performance using EPD information shall consider all relevant information modules over the full life cycle of the products within the building.

This PCR allows EPD comparability only when the same functional requirements between products are ensured and the requirements of ISO 21930:2017 §5.5 are met. In addition, to be compared EPDs must comply with the same core and sub-category PCRs (Part A and B) and include all relevant information modules. It should be noted that different LCA software and background LCI datasets may lead to differences results for upstream or downstream of the life cycle stages declared.

Forest Management

While this EPD does not address landscape level forest management impacts, potential impacts may be addressed through requirements put forth in regional regulatory frameworks, ASTM 7612-15 guidance, and ISO 21930 Section 7.2.11 including notes therein. These documents, combined with this EPD, may provide a more complete picture of environmental and social performance of wood products.

While this EPD does not address all forest management activities that influence forest carbon, wildlife habitat, endangered species, and soil and water quality, these potential impacts may be addressed through other mechanisms such as regulatory frameworks and/or forest certification systems which, combined with this EPD, will give a more complete picture of environmental and social performance of wood products.

Scope of the EPD

EPDs can complement but cannot replace tools and certifications that are designed to address environmental impacts and/or set performance thresholds – e.g. Type 1 certifications, health assessments and declarations, etc.

Data

National or regional life cycle averaged data for raw material extraction does not distinguish between extraction practices at specific sites and can greatly affect the resulting impacts.

Accuracy of Results

EPDs regularly rely on estimations of impacts; the level of accuracy in estimation of effect differs for any particular product line and reported impact when averaging data.

ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Information should be provided in this section on the relationship between the product, the environment and health, including **any possible harmful substances or emissions** e.g. reference to a product safety data sheet (SDS).

EXTRAORDINARY EFFECTS

- **FIRE**
Information should be included on the product's fire test response characteristics and possible impacts on the environment e.g. reaction-to-fire, other relevant fire tests as applicable, and emissions to air.
- **WATER**
Information should be included on the product's performance and possible impacts on the environment following unforeseeable influence of water, e.g. flooding.
- **MECHANICAL DESTRUCTION**
Information should be included on the product's performance and possible impacts on the environment following unforeseeable mechanical destruction, such as an earthquake.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Categorization of sources of wood fiber according to their forest management or certification systems may be provided in accordance with ASTM D7612-10.
- Other environmental activities, such as participation in recycling or recovery programs along with the details of these programs and contact information, may be provided.
- For certifications applied to the product and listed in the EPD, a statement shall be included on where an interested party can find details of the certification program.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- A reference source for additional information, e.g. safety data sheet.

REFERENCES

1. American Center for Life Cycle Assessment (2019) ACLCA Guidance to Calculating Non-LCIA Inventory Metrics in Accordance with ISO 21930:2017
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15. Wernet, G., Bauer, C., Steubing, B., Reinhard, J., Moreno-Ruiz, E., & Weidema, B. (2016) The ecoinvent database version 3 (part I): overview and methodology. The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, 21, 1218–1230.

