

Putting the metrics behind sustainability at Argos.



Argos



Regional LCAs to produce EPDs and access new markets

The Challenge

Argos, an international cement and concrete producer, used life cycle assessment (LCA) to establish a baseline for environmental product performance and to support the creation of environmental product declarations (EPDs) to address marketplace shifts in the construction industry.

PRé Solution

Following the development of a plan to implement a company-wide Product Sustainability Program, PRé successfully completed 13 LCAs across Argos' three regions (US, Colombia, Caribbean). These LCAs helped launch the program by establishing a baseline of environmental product performance that can be used to measure future progress. The process and methodology developed during these 13 LCAs can easily be expanded to analyze additional products and facilities and to help Argos accomplish its goal of completing LCAs for its representative and new products by 2020.

Argos' LCAs will support the creation of EPDs, which are becoming more prevalent due to building certification standards such as LEED v4. These documents are similar to nutrition labels, but contain environmental information. The EPDs will be used to quickly and clearly communicate the benefits of Argos' products to potential clients and to illustrate the advantages of Argos' sustainable concrete options compared to less sustainable alternatives. Additionally, by creating EPDs, Argos' products



can contribute to certain LEED credits; this attribute further differentiates its products from the competition in the rapidly growing market of sustainable construction.

Business Value

Working with PRé, Argos discovered the following project-driven benefits:

- The means to differentiate itself within the marketplace and to access new markets through EPDs
- An approach to quantify the advantages of Argos' sustainable concretes
- Identification of a baseline of environmental performance and areas for further improvement





Creating Business Value Through Sustainability Metrics

Sustainability Metrics Consulting

Sustainability in business has become a core business concern and a driving factor in creating business value. PRé offers a range of consulting services, provided by a team of experts who will work with you to choose, create and deliver the right metrics for your sustainability goals.

PIONEERING Developing Innovative New Metrics For New Challenges

Societal and stakeholder expectations for implementing sustainability in business are becoming more demanding. Sometimes, off-the-shelf metrics cannot help you answer their questions. PRé has extensive experience in life-cycle-based metrics pioneering: implementing cutting-edge new product metrics and developing completely new, scientifically sound and robust metrics. PRé has been the driving force behind many ground-breaking initiatives like ReCiPe or the Handbook for Product Social Impact Assessment.

INTEGRATION Integrating Sustainability Metrics In Your Business

To create business value from sustainability, your business needs to integrate sustainability metrics across its business functions. You can't improve what you can't measure. PRé has the expertise required to help you choose the right metrics and to integrate sustainability into your day-to-day operations. PRé also supports you in increasing the efficiency of your LCA work and in empowering your LCA practitioners.

DELIVERY Expert LCA Knowledge To Measure Sustainability Performance

LCA has proven to be a robust and science-based way to measure and communicate your sustainability performance. PRé can review your LCA studies, deliver EPDs, footprints and other metrics, and provide you with completely new LCA studies to measure your impact. Our consultants are renowned for their expertise in specific topics, such as impact assessment, uncertainty, normalisation, toxicity, social sustainability and databases. PRé offers training courses and in-house training that build a solid knowledge base to help you conduct LCA studies yourself.

Get In Touch With PRé
We're always happy to discuss your sustainability challenges with you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our offices in the Netherlands and the US.

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We look forward to being your partner in putting the metrics behind sustainability.

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Those Who Have Gone Before – Market-leading Businesses That Are Creating Value From Sustainability Metrics

PRé has built a worldwide reputation as a leader on environmental and social impact assessment. We work with organisations and institutes such as the European Commission, European Space Agency, Heineken, BASF, Philips, L'Oréal and DSM.



About PRé

PRé has been a leading voice in sustainability metrics and life cycle thinking, since 1990, pioneering the field of product and supply chain sustainability metrics. We've developed some of the world's most widely recognised and applied environmental impact assessment methods, as well as the world's leading LCA software, SimaPro. From the very first, we have not only focused on developing the science of LCA, but also its application – helping companies create value by using state-of-the-art measuring, monitoring and analysis methodologies to improve their sustainability performance.

Find out more about what we can do for your organisation at www.pre-sustainability.com

