



Helping our customers understand carbon



“Understanding the embodied carbon of products is the first part of the journey towards understanding the whole life emissions of a project. We’re serious about managing and reducing the carbon footprint of our products and our business, and helping our customers to do the same.”

Emma Hines, Senior Manager - Sustainable Construction

Carbon reduction has become a top priority for our customers and clients in the last few years.

In addition to the UK’s commitment to reducing all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, many contractors are designing and building infrastructure in line with PAS 2080, BREEAM and ISO 14064. These are standards and schemes that are designed to drive low carbon construction through a number of specifications and requirements for projects.

Customers are increasingly specifying low carbon materials, asking carbon related questions in tenders and setting low carbon targets in project KPIs. Our bespoke carbon footprint tool helps to facilitate these requests. The tool enables us provide bespoke product carbon footprints to help our customers select the lowest carbon material for their application.

Our carbon calculator tool has been created in accordance with the methodologies set out in PAS 2050:2011 ‘Specification for the assessment of the life cycle greenhouse gas emissions of goods and services’ and the Asphalt Pavement Embodied Carbon Tool (asPECT v3.0). We use carbon emissions data from our annual energy performance reports, which includes individual Tarmac mineral extraction and manufacturing operations, and constituent product information provided by suppliers. Where supplier-specific information is unavailable, relevant information is sourced from trade bodies, the Inventory of Carbon and Energy (ICE) database or other LCA datasets.

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Calculating the CO2 footprint for a product helps to provide transparency to our customers and enables them to select the lowest carbon materials for their projects. We can compare the carbon footprints of alternative products and services to proactively help customers design out carbon prior to project commencement. This process includes educating them on the impact of using recycled and secondary materials, alternative mix designs and low carbon technologies.

Over the last five years we have generated approximately 10,000 carbon footprints across a range of our products. In 2020, despite the disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we produced 531 product carbon footprints including; 46 aggregate, 342 asphalt and 143 concrete.



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