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METHODOLOGY

BRE Global's Methodological Approaches to Internal Waste, Pre and Post Consumer Waste for EPD

Date: 19.10.2026
Issue: 01

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Methodological Approaches for Internal Scrap, Pre-Consumer Waste & Post-Consumer Waste

Type of waste used as an input	Definition	Methodological approach
1. Any production waste recovered internally	Re-utilization of materials such as rework, regrind, or scrap that is generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it, for example, scraps, trimmings, factory seconds, production rejects, and overruns. Can either be: 1. Looping within one product system 2. Using scrap from different product lines on the same manufacturer's site.	1. Scrap produced and used internally in the same product system is treated as closed-loop recycling. o Considered 'burden-free' (zero impact) o It cannot be considered as recycled content (according to ISO 14021). o It cannot be considered as use of secondary material within the same product system. 2. Cut-off approach. o Exits the producing system 'burden-free', and o It is reported as Material for Recycling. o Enters the system 'burden-free' (zero impact) and o It cannot be considered as recycled content (according to ISO 14021) and o It can be considered as Use of Secondary Material.
2. Any recovered pre-consumer waste	Materials that have not yet reached the end-user (consumer) are used on a different site, or by a different manufacturer, and were discarded, for example, during processing, manufacturing, or distribution.	Same-process reclamation: Scrap that is capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it (such as rework, regrind) shall not be considered recycled content and shall remain within the original product system (refer to type 1 above.)

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Type of waste used as an input	Definition	Methodological approach
	Note: Packaging waste from input materials is not considered pre-consumer but post-consumer waste (as the factory is the consumer in this case) – EN 15804 applies in terms of allocation to waste from A1-A3.	Cut-off: If materials are received for free (or negligible cost, i.e. less than 10% of the value of the comparable virgin material) a cut-off approach shall be taken; such secondary materials enter the product system "burden-free," meaning the environmental impacts of the initial production up until the end of waste state are reached are allocated to the first life cycle (the product system producing the recovered material), but any subsequent transport or re-processing after the end of waste state is reached (to enable the resulting secondary material to be used in the new product system) are accounted for. Economic allocation: If a cost is paid for the externally sourced pre-consumer scrap, economic allocation shall be used for these inputs, in which case the material shall be considered a co-product rather than a secondary material. If the information to enable economic allocation to be completed cannot be obtained, then a conservative approach will be taken of assuming virgin impacts in the system paying for the material.
3. Any Post-consumer waste inputs	Materials that have completed their intended life cycle and collected for recycling / reuse rather than being discarded into a landfill.	A cut-off approach:

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Type of waste used as an input	Definition	Methodological approach
		Post-consumer recycled and reused materials entering the product system are considered "burden-free," meaning the environmental impacts of the initial production and any recovery processes needed to achieve the end of waste state are allocated to the first life cycle, but any subsequent transports or re-processing after the end of waste state is reached, to enable the resulting secondary material to be used in the new product system are accounted for.

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