

The Sustain[®] calculator tool has been developed to meet the requirements of a number of leading standards relating to the environmental assessment of products and services.

These standards include:

- The GHG Protocol
- PAS 2050
- ISO 14067

The GHG Protocol and PAS 2050 are two distinctly separate standards but the requirements are very similar. They both require that accounting and reporting of the carbon impact of a product inventory shall follow the principles of relevance, accuracy, completeness, consistency, and transparency. The relation to the Sustain[®] tool being:

Relevance

'Ensure that the product GHG inventory accounting methodologies and report serves the decision-making needs of the intended user. Present information in the report in a way that is readily understandable by the intended users. Sustain[®] meets all these requirements.

Consistency

'Choose methodologies, data, and assumptions that allow for meaningful comparisons of a GHG inventory over time' – Sustain[®] uses a transparent and documented calculation methodology. All data comes from third party independent industry standard datasets, published LCA reports or Environmental Product Declarations. The assumptions are documented and identical for all assessments.

Accuracy

'Achieve sufficient accuracy to enable intended users to make decisions with reasonable assurance as to the reliability of the reported information.' The tool calculates the life cycle GHG impacts to a level of accuracy which allows users to make assured decisions between different alternatives.

Completeness

'Ensure that the inventory report covers all product life cycle GHG emissions and removals within the specified boundaries; disclose and justify any significant GHG emissions and removals that have been excluded.' Sustain[®] reports all GHG emissions and removals within the specified boundaries (as defined in the tool). There are no exclusions.

Transparency

'Address and document all relevant issues in a factual and coherent manner, based on a clear audit trail. Disclose any relevant assumptions and make appropriate references to the methodologies and data sources used in the inventory report. Clearly explain any estimates and avoid bias so that the report faithfully represents what it purports to represent' – Sustain[®] meets these requirements and this is explained in more detail in the user guide / documentation.

ISO 14067 Part 1 specifies principles, requirements and guidelines for the quantification and reporting of the carbon footprint of a product, in a manner consistent with International Standards on life cycle assessment (LCA) (ISO 14040 and ISO 14044).

The ISO 14067 standard applies to products and services across all sectors, from industry and engineering to agriculture and construction. It assesses the impact of the product or service throughout its life cycle, including:

- Raw materials
- Suppliers
- Design
- Manufacturing
- Transportation
- Consumer use
- Disposal or reuse

The Sustain® tool meets the requirements of the standard in that it:

1. Uses a life-cycle approach, presents results against a defined functional unit
2. Allows the user to adopt an iterative approach of continuous reassessment as needed when refining the study
3. Uses a scientific approach
4. Contains relevant data and appropriate methods for calculation
5. Includes all GHG emissions that contribute significantly to the system
6. Applies consistent assumptions, methods and data
7. Is coherent, accurate and transparent
8. Avoid double counting of GHG emissions

The Green House Gas Protocol Product Life Cycle Accounting and Reporting Standard Product Standard | GHG Protocol
PAS 2050:2011 Specification for the assessment of the life cycle greenhouse gas emissions of goods and services PAS 2050:2011 | 30 Sep 2011 | BSI Knowledge (bsigroup.com)
ISO 14067:2018 Greenhouse gases — Carbon footprint of products — Requirements and guidelines for quantification ISO 14067:2018