Ready Mixed Concrete EPD Calculator

A web-based tool for instant, custom environmental footprint data on ready mixed concrete products

The service we’re offering

The Athena Institute has prepared an online tool to calculate the impacts of your concrete mixes. We customize the calculator with your plant’s specific energy use and supply chain. You simply enter details on the mixes you wish to consider and the calculator will allow you to do the following:

- Explore mix designs and see how they compare to industry average and NRMCA benchmarks.
- Identify environmental “hot spots” to help you improve any particular mix.
- Show customers the environmental footprint of custom mixes.
- Generate custom EPDs and LCA reports easily and inexpensively.
- Show design teams how a custom mix affects the LCA of a whole building.

Benefits to your company

- Help your customers earn LEED points.
- Find your “greenest” mix.
- Demonstrate your sustainability leadership.
- Credible results – our tool is consistent with all data, methods, standards and EPD rules in place for the concrete industry, and it is derived from our previous already-verified work for NRMCA.
Cost of the Service

The EPD Calculator is offered as a subscription service. Athena will periodically update the background data for the tool to ensure compliance with all the latest standards.

We will provide you with a custom fee based on the following general pricing scheme:

CUSTOM EPDS AND LCA REPORTS: The EPD Calculator generates results that can be used to complete EPDs and LCA reports. If you choose to have Athena prepare these technical documents and shepherd them through the review process, we will also set up the calculator to automatically generate updates to these reports based on the new mixes you select. The LCA/EPD preparation and on-demand service is offered for a one-time set up fee of $8,000 for the first plant plus $1,000 for each additional plant that is covered. This estimate assumes an EPD with up to 30 mix designs.

ADDITIONAL CUSTOMIZATION: For vertically-integrated operations, we can adjust background data to reflect your specific cement plant or aggregate quarry for an additional fee. EPDs that include more than 30 mixes may also be produced for an additional fee.
The LEED program has new credits that are driving product specifiers towards manufacturers that can help them earn points. “Building product disclosure and optimization – environmental product declarations” is a credit awarding points for EPDs. Project teams earn one point by collecting enough EPDs; company-specific EPDs are worth more than industry-average EPDs. Teams can earn a second point if enough installed products beat the LCA performance of their industry average.

“Building life cycle impact reduction, option 4, whole-building life-cycle assessment” is a credit for using LCA during building design to reduce the environmental impacts of the building as a whole. Adjusting concrete mixes is an effective way to achieve this credit, which is worth at least three points.

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