FLAGON® PVC

Environmental Product Declaration in accordance with ISO 14025

UN CPC CODE: 389
REGISTRATION NUMBER
EPDItaly: EPDITALY0077
ECO Platform: 00000975
REGISTRATION DATE 05/07/2019
REVISION DATE 05/07/2019 (V. 4)
REFERENCE YEAR 2017
VALID UNTIL 04/07/2024
GENERAL INFORMATION

EPD OWNER
Soprema s.r.l., Via industriale dell’Isola 3, 24040 Chignolo d’Isola (BG), Italy

PROGRAMME OPERATOR
EPDItaly, Via Gaetano De Castillia, 10 20124 - MILANO

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

PRODUCT CATEGORY RULES (PRCs)
• PCR ICMQ-001/15 – rev. 2.1

FUNCTIONAL UNIT
The functional unit is 1 m² of installed membrane (namely 1 m² produced multiplied by the membrane installation overlapping factor 1.12 (mechanically-fixed), 1.08 (fully-adhered and loose-laid)) for all waterproofing systems with flexible sheets for roofing, divided by the reference building service lifetime (90 years).

CONTACTS

For additional information relative to the activities of the Soprema s.r.l. or in regards to this environmental declaration, please contact: Roberto Baronio – rbaronio@soprema.it

TECHNICAL SUPPORT
by Life Cycle Engineering (www.lcengineering.eu)
Independent verification of the declaration and data, according to ISO 14025:2006

EPD process certification for EPD verification

Third party verifier: ICMQ

Accredited or approved by: ACCREDIA

EPDs within the same product category but from different programmes may not be comparable

EPD of construction products may not be comparable if they do not comply with EN 15804

REFERENCES

G.L. Baldo, M. Marino, S. Rossi; “Analisi del ciclo di vita LCA – Nuova edizione aggiornata”; Edizioni Ambiente; 2008

Regolamento del programma EPDItaly, v. 4.0 (03/06/2019)

PCR ICMQ-001/15 – rev. 2.1 “Prodotti da costruzione e servizi per costruzioni”

PCR 2014:12 v 1.0 “Flexible sheets for waterproofing - bitumen, plastic or rubber sheets for roof waterproofing”

Product Category Rules PCR 2007:08 v 3.1 “Electricity, steam and hot/cold water generation and distribution”

EN15804:2012 + A1:2013

ISO 14040:2006

ISO 14044:2017

ISO 14025:2010
THE COMPANY

Soprema is an independent group established in 1908 and now present in 90 countries worldwide. Thanks to its 59 production plants, Soprema successfully satisfies the construction sector needs, providing a wide range of waterproofing and insulation products. At present, Soprema is waterproofing membranes world leader.

Soprema is present in Italy since 2007. Here, under the brand of FLAG, it produces synthetic waterproofing membranes in PVC or TPO. Such products are ready to be employed in most residential and domestic sectors: roofing, underground and hydraulic works, both for internal and external purposes.

Since the beginnings in 1963, FLAG had a central role in the waterproofing membranes sector, becoming over the years a key player in the European market. Being part of Soprema Group allowed FLAG to penetrate the worldwide market.

On the basis of the end-use applications, many different waterproofing membranes typologies are available. Firstly, those products can be divided as reinforced and homogeneous membranes. The former, reinforced either with glass wool or polyester fleeces, is chiefly employed for industrial or domestic roofing. The latter instead are mainly used for hydraulic works and civil engineering.

Secondly, membranes can be either PVC- or TPO-based, with the former being the standard material for synthetic membranes and the latter (namely Thermoplastic Polyolefins) being introduced only since late ‘90s. In both cases, over the years Soprema achieved the experience to ensure the high standards of quality and laying time requested by modern constructions and works.

Recently, FLAG changed name Soprema s.r.l.
## SCOPE AND TYPE OF EPD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT STAGE</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE</th>
<th>USE STAGE</th>
<th>END OF LIFE STAGE</th>
<th>BENEFITS AND LOADS BEYOND THE SYSTEM BOUNDARIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raw material supply</td>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>Transport from the gate to the site</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>A4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

Global

### SOFTWARE

Simapro 9

### DATABASE

Ecoinvent 3.5, Plastics Europe

### FUNCTIONAL UNIT

1 m² roof waterproofing installed with flexible sheets for roofing, with a reference roof service life of 90 years. The membrane is supposed to be renewed every 30 years. Moreover, the former sheet is replaced with the new one, which goes on to the End of Life phase. However, both roof and membrane service life values are provided by PCR 2014:12 and used exclusively for calculations. They may not be representative of the actual service lifetimes. Service lifetime is also influenced by design and use conditions and regular maintenance according to the manufacturer's indications.

The LCA study includes all the processes (“cradle to grave” approach) according to EN15804 as presented in the table above.
PRODUCTS

Object of this EPD® are the following membranes, that differ in the installation method, thus in the end-use:

**FLAGON® PVC SR**

REINFORCED WITH POLYESTER NET, UV-RESISTANT.

INSTALLATION PROCESS

Suitable for flat or sloped roofing. The waterproofing system is mechanically fixed to the support, in order to prevent the wind from removing or damaging it. Such system must resist to atmospheric agents and UV rays, as well as to a moderate pedestrian use due to maintenance.

**FLAGON® PVC SV/SA-300**

(AVERAGE BETWEEN TWO PRODUCTS)

INSTALLATION PROCESS

Suitable for sub-flat (max 5% slope) roofing. On the basis of their final use (pedestrian zones, hanging gardens, parking lots, etc), the membranes are fixed with different materials. In any case, they must be protected from any potential damage their final use can cause them.

FLAGON® PVC membranes were initially used in the constructions sector. However, their range of applicability expanded considerably over time, serving now also as waterproofing membranes for roofing, both for external and internal uses.

General features of FLAGON® PVC are high degradation and atmospheric conditions resistance, high mechanical resistance, flexibility at low temperatures. In addition, they are rotproof, insensible to hot-cold cycles and resistant to roots growing and microorganisms attacks. They are also hot air-weldable and glueable, thus fostering flame-free construction-sites. However, there are products which are characterised by some peculiar features, being for instance UV-resistant or fireproof.

In addition, a wide range of colours (RAL list) are available upon request.
SPECIFICATION OF THE PRODUCT

In the table, components used for the membranes production are shown. Among the wide range of thicknesses each Flagon® membrane is produced, only membranes 1.5 mm-thick are studied in this work. In addition, since each membrane is available in a wide range of colours, the study was performed on an average-colour membrane.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RAW MATERIAL</th>
<th>Flagon® SR</th>
<th>Flagon® SV/SA-300*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PVC</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additives and charges</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinforcing material</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polypropylene non-woven fabric</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Average between two product families including SV, SA-300
PRODUCTION PROCESS

FLAGON® SA-300 is produced in Chignolo d’Isola’s plant Line 1, while FLAGON® SR and SV in Line 2, which is almost entirely devoted to those membranes production. The scheme below shows the synthetic membranes manufacturing process, characteristic of both production lines. A single-layer homogeneous membrane is obtained, whose thickness is regulated by calender and co-extrusion die control devices.

A non-woven fabrics-coupling is possible for line 1 products (such as FLAGON® SA-300). The exclusive production method created by FLAG allows the direct co-extrusion on both reinforcing material sides, so as to achieve its complete embedment, peculiar feature of all reinforced FLAGON® PVC membranes (such as FLAGON® SR). The co-extrusion allows also the manufacturing of FLAGON® PVC membranes in a two-tone version: production of monolayer membranes with different chemical-physical properties on the two sides (signal-layer technique). This system permits the immediate recognition of potential membrane damages (holes or lacerations), since the underlying dark colour would appear.

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EXTRUSION CHAMBER LOADING

EACH CHAMBER LOADED WITH THE RAW MATERIALS MIXTURE, BY MEANS OF A HOPPER

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CO-EXTRUSION

MIXTURE HEATED AND COMPRESSED BY SCREW, THEN FORCED TO A CO-EXTRUSION DIE, WHERE THE EXTRUDERS CONVERGE

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LAMINATING

USING A CALENDER, THE DESIRED THICKNESS IS OBTAINED
# FLAGON® SR

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>A2</th>
<th>A3</th>
<th>A4</th>
<th>A5</th>
<th>B4</th>
<th>C2</th>
<th>C4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GWP</td>
<td>kg CO₂ eq</td>
<td>5.99E-02</td>
<td>1.71E-03</td>
<td>4.28E-03</td>
<td>3.82E-03</td>
<td>2.59E-03</td>
<td>1.45E-01</td>
<td>6.35E-04</td>
<td>4.32E-03</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODP</td>
<td>kg CFC-11 eq</td>
<td>2.34E-08</td>
<td>3.22E-10</td>
<td>5.31E-11</td>
<td>7.19E-10</td>
<td>1.89E-11</td>
<td>4.89E-08</td>
<td>1.19E-10</td>
<td>2.65E-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP</td>
<td>kg SO₂ eq</td>
<td>1.87E-04</td>
<td>7.44E-06</td>
<td>9.14E-06</td>
<td>1.79E-05</td>
<td>1.38E-06</td>
<td>4.46E-04</td>
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<td>1.66E-06</td>
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<tr>
<td>EP</td>
<td>kg PO₄³⁻ eq</td>
<td>5.54E-05</td>
<td>1.51E-06</td>
<td>8.69E-07</td>
<td>3.61E-06</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ADPe</td>
<td>kg Sb eq</td>
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<td>3.41E-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADPF</td>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>1.45E+00</td>
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<td>3.19E+00</td>
<td>8.99E-03</td>
<td>2.74E-03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CAPTION:**

GWP: 1E+01 is equal to 1 x 10¹ = 10 kg CO₂eq/m²/ year

**GWP** Global Warming Potential  
**ODP** Ozone Depletion Potential  
**AP** Acidification Potential  
**EP** Eutrophication Potential  
**POCP** Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential  
**ADPe** Abiotic Depletion Potential - Non fossil resources (elements)  
**ADPF** Abiotic Depletion Potential - Fossil fuels
## USE OF RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>A2</th>
<th>A3</th>
<th>A4</th>
<th>A5</th>
<th>B4</th>
<th>C2</th>
<th>C4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERE</td>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>9.81E-02</td>
<td>6.38E-05</td>
<td>6.60E-04</td>
<td>1.43E-04</td>
<td>3.03E-04</td>
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<td>1.50E-04</td>
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<tr>
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<td>MJ</td>
<td>1.49E-02</td>
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<td>1.87E-03</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERT</td>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>1.13E-01</td>
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<tr>
<td>PENRE</td>
<td>MJ</td>
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<td>PENRM</td>
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<tr>
<td>PENRT</td>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>1.58E+00</td>
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<td>6.97E-02</td>
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<td>5.10E-03</td>
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<td>9.04E-03</td>
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<tr>
<td>SM</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSF</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
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<tr>
<td>FW</td>
<td>m³</td>
<td>1.86E-03</td>
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<td>2.91E-06</td>
<td>3.74E-03</td>
<td>4.26E-07</td>
<td>6.58E-07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Abbreviations:**
- PERE: Renewable energy (carrier)
- PERM: Renewable energy (feedstock)
- PERT: Renewable energy (total)
- PENRE: Non-renewable energy (carrier)
- PENRM: Non-renewable energy (feedstock)
- PENRT: Non-renewable energy (total)
- SM: Use of secondary materials
- RSF: Use of renewable secondary fuels
- NRSF: Use of non-renewable secondary fuels
- FW: Use of Net Fresh Water
## FLAGON® SR

### OUTPUT FLOWS AND WASTE PRODUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>A2</th>
<th>A3</th>
<th>A4</th>
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<th>B4</th>
<th>C2</th>
<th>C4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRU</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFR</td>
<td>kg</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
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<td>EE*</td>
<td>MJ</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Since EE is equal to zero there is no need to specify thermal and electrical energy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>A2</th>
<th>A3</th>
<th>A4</th>
<th>A5</th>
<th>B4</th>
<th>C2</th>
<th>C4</th>
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<tr>
<td>HWV</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHWD</td>
<td>kg</td>
<td>4.87E-04</td>
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<td>6.73E-02</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWD</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>5.61E-07</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CRU: Components For Re-Use  
MFR: Material For Recycling  
MER: Materials For Energy Recovery  
EE: Exported Energy  
HWV: Hazardous Waste Disposed  
NHWD: Non-Hazardous Waste Disposed  
RWD: Radioactive Waste Disposed
## FLAGON® SV/SA-300

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>PRODUCT STAGE</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWP</td>
<td>kg CO₂ eq</td>
<td>5.38E-02</td>
<td>1.64E-03</td>
<td>4.08E-03</td>
<td>3.32E-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODP</td>
<td>kg CFC-11</td>
<td>1.36E-08</td>
<td>3.10E-10</td>
<td>4.31E-11</td>
<td>6.16E-10</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ADPF</td>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>1.31E+00</td>
<td>2.34E-02</td>
<td>5.93E-02</td>
<td>4.71E-02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAPTION:
GWP: 1E+01 is equal to 1 x 10¹ = 1 x 10 = 10 kg CO₂eq/m²/ year

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## USE OF RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERE</td>
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<td>PENRM</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SM</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSF</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSRF</td>
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<tr>
<td>FW</td>
<td>m³</td>
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<td>1.11E-06</td>
<td>9.57E-06</td>
<td>2.32E-06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**
- PERE: Renewable energy (carrier)
- PERM: Renewable energy (feedstock)
- PERT: Renewable energy (total)
- PENRE: Non-renewable energy (carrier)
- PENRM: Non-renewable energy (feedstock)
- PENRT: Non-renewable energy (total)
- SM: Use of secondary materials
- RSF: Use of renewable secondary fuels
- NSRF: Use of non-renewable secondary fuels
- FW: Use of Net Fresh Water
# FLAGON® SV/SA-300

## OUTPUT FLOWS AND WASTE PRODUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>PRODUCT STAGE</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE</th>
<th>USE STAGE</th>
<th>END OF LIFE STAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>A3</td>
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<td>A5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRU</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>EE*</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Since EE is equal to zero there is no need to specify thermal and electrical energy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT CATEGORY</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>PRODUCT STAGE</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>A4</td>
<td>A5</td>
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<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
<td>0.00E+00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **CRU** Components For Re-Use
- **MFR** Material For Recycling
- **MER** Materials For Energy Recovery
- **EE** Exported Energy
- **HWD** Hazardous Waste Disposed
- **NHWD** Non-Hazardous Waste Disposed
- **RWD** Radioactive Waste Disposed
CALCULATION RULES

LCA METHODOLOGY

CUT-OFF RULES

LCA model has been processed considering all main input/output associated with core process in accordance with the threshold valued stated in PCR ICMQ 001/15 rev. 2.1 (ch. 6.3.5), namely the sum of the excluded material flows to the core module shall not exceed 1% of mass and energy.

Hence, the following aspects were considered negligible:

- Production of packaging for the raw materials input process, except for PE packaging film;
- Drill electricity consumption related to mechanical installation;
- Water emissions from core process.
**Allocation**

Allocation occurs anytime a system is producing more than a single output. In this case it is necessary to choose a technique to properly split the environmental burdens among the output flows; international standards ISO 14044 and PCR ICMQ 001/15 rev. 2.1 provide guidelines about how to deal with this issue, that have been implemented in this project as well.

Soprema produces several product types that are not object of the study. Therefore, it is important to establish an allocation method based on physical variables to split input and output flows to the multi-products: allocation by square-meter of membrane produced has been chosen as most representative tool for the system understudy.

**Transportations**

Impacts calculations related to transports in SimaPro are performed according to the EcoInvent model.

All the transports is assumed by truck or by ship.

For Module A2, since no specific data are available, 500 km is used as average value (provided by Soprema) for raw materials transportation from suppliers to the plant. For module A4, specific information are provided, such as quantity transported and destination per each trip.
CALCULATION RULES

PRODUCT STAGE

A1
UPSTREAM
Process

- RAW MATERIALS SUPPLY
- GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY FROM NATIONAL GRID
- NG SUPPLY FOR INTERNAL CHP SYSTEM

A2+A3
CORE
Process

- RAW MATERIALS TRANSPORT TO PLANT 500 KM BY TRUCK (A2);
- MANUFACTURING PROCESS;
- ELECTRICITY AND HEAT GENERATION FROM CHP SYSTEM;
- WATER USAGE;
- EMISSIONS TO AIR;
- MANUFACTURING PROCESS WASTE TREATMENT, CONSIDERING ALSO WASTE TRANSPORT (50 KM BY TRUCK)

CHIGNOLO D’ISOLA POWER PLANT (CHP SYSTEM)

According to the diagnoses and data-gatherings performed by Soprema on Chignolo d’Isola plant, one kWh of electricity per square meter of final product is modelled as 66% supplied by national grid (considered in A1 module) and 34% produced internally by the CHP system (considered in A3 module).

Soprema Power Plant is based on a combined cycle technology (electricity and thermal). The most relevant issue concerning CHP technology is how to allocate the environmental impact due to fuel combustion, since a multi-output is present. The approach suggested by PCR 2007:08 was chosen for this project. A dedicated emission factor is computed for both heat and power, according to the amount of produced energy for each class. The result of CHP modelling is a specific emission factor for both electrical and thermal energy, namely the quantity of methane to be burned to produce 1 kWh of energy carrier. This latter parameter is strictly related to CHP system efficiency.
CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE

A4
MEMBRANES TRANSPORTATION TO END USERS, BY TRUCK AND/OR SHIP

FLAGON® SR

1150 km

FLAGON® SV/SA-300

993 km

109 km

730 km

The distances mentioned above are average values, weighted on the quantity transported.
CALCULATION RULES

A1
UPSTREAM Process

A2+A3
CORE Process

A4
TRANSPORT to end users

CONSTRUCTION PROCESS STAGE

A5
EACH INSTALLATION METHOD IS CHARACTERISED BY SPECIFIC MATERIAL CONSUMPTIONS, SHOWN IN TABLES BELOW. HOWEVER, THEY SHARE THE WELDING MACHINE ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION OF 0.020 kWh/m².
FLAGON® PVC | ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION

A5
INSTALLATION
Process

B4
USE
Stage

C2+C4
END OF LIFE
Stage

FLAGON® SR
MECHANICAL FIXING

0.0075 kg/m²
NAILS

120 mm
OVERLAP

FLAGON® SV/SA-300
LOOSE LAYING

82 kg/m²
GRAVEL

80 mm
OVERLAP

0.020 kWh/m²
ELECTRICITY

0.020 kWh/m²
ELECTRICITY
CALCULATION RULES

USE STAGE

B4

According to PCR2014:12 rules, two replacements are considered in this study. (Replacement module includes all the previous stages doubled (A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5))
**END OF LIFE STAGE**

**C2+C4**
OUT-OF-SERVICE MEMBRANES
TRANSPORTATION TO TREATMENT SITES
(50 KM BY TRUCK)

END-OF-LIFE TREATMENT SCENARIOS

- **FLAGON® SR**
- **FLAGON® SV/SA-300**

100% SANITARY LANDFILL

*The only environmental impact due to recycling process is the waste transportation to the recycling site*