

**Steel Product Certification Requirements**

**Draft 1-0, 26th March 2020**

**Introduction**

This document is a first draft of the ResponsibleSteel requirements for the certification of products from ResponsibleSteel certified sites. It is intended to be applicable to the certification of any product produced at a site within the scope of the ResponsibleSteel Standard (v1-0). This would potentially include sites for the processing of raw materials for steelmaking, sites where steel is produced, as well as sites where steel products are finished after production (such as blanks for car doors, pipes, joists, etc). It would not however include sites where final products consisting of multiple elements are manufactured (such as cars).

This document includes draft requirements for:

A. Steel Product Claims;

B. Responsible Sourcing of Raw Materials;

C. GHG Emissions.

The three sections of the document comprise an integrated set of requirements for the certification of the products from ResponsibleSteel certified sites, complementing the previously approved standard for ResponsibleSteel site certification. Further development will take place through three separate working groups. However, throughout the development process members of all three working groups are encouraged to review and comment on the drafts being developed by the other groups, as well as their own. The ResponsibleSteel Secretariat will be responsible for ensuring that the work of all three groups is aligned as the drafting process moves forward. The final, integrated set of requirements for steel product certification will be submitted for ResponsibleSteel board and membership approval once the development process is completed.

This document is not confidential. Working Group members are welcome to share it and seek views and opinions from colleagues and other stakeholders. At this stage the document is not being circulated for a formal, public stakeholder consultation. A formal, public stakeholder consultation will take place in May on a subsequent draft, after the working groups have had the opportunity to review, comment and discuss this first draft, and after it has been revised to reflect those discussions.

**Next Steps:**

Working Group Members are requested to read and consider all three sections of the document, and submit their comments by email to the ResponsibleSteel Secretariat by **Friday 17th April**. Although working group members are expected to focus their comments on the sections covered by their own working group everyone is welcome (and even encouraged) to make comments on all sections, and all comments will be shared with members of all working groups.

Comments may be submitted as ‘track changes’ and/or annotated comments on this Document, and/or as more general comments on a covering note or email. **Please send your comments to George Deslandes** [**gdeslandes@responsiblesteel.org**](mailto:gdeslandes@responsiblesteel.org)**.**

Comments will be collated and circulated for review and on-line discussion by the working groups on Wednesday 22nd and 24th April. Working Group members will be advised how to join the meetings. There will be four sessions in total, with the first session on each day repeated, in order to cover most time zones as follows:

**22 April**

* Session 1a: 8:00am – 10:00am UK Summer Time: three separate working group meetings (GHG, Raw Materials, Steel Product Claims) to take place in parallel
* Session 1b: 5.00pm – 7.30pm UK Summer Time: three separate working group meetings taking place in parallel, starting with 30 minute resume of the earlier Session 1a discussion.

**23 April**

* No meeting. The Secretariat will prepare a revised draft aiming to address comments raised during the working group meetings on 22nd April and present this to members of all three working groups in joint session on Friday 24th April.

**24 April**

* Session 2a: 8:00am – 10:00am UK Summer Time: combined meeting for all three working groups in joint session
* Session 2b: 5.00pm – 7.30pm UK Summer Time: combined meeting for all three working groups in joint session, starting with 30 minute resume of the earlier Session 2a discussion.

The draft will then be further revised before being circulated for formal, public stakeholder consultation.

**Please send your comments to George Deslandes** [**gdeslandes@responsiblesteel.org**](mailto:gdeslandes@responsiblesteel.org)

**By 17th April 2020.**

1. **Steel Product Claims Framework**

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Fig. 1a Fig. 1b Data sheet Fig. 1c Differentiated labels

**Proposed framework**

The ResponsibleSteel product claims framework is designed: to meet the needs of downstream users for the responsible sourcing of steel; to create value for responsible businesses in the supply chain; and to drive and reward high levels of social and environmental performance.

In order for any steel product to be certified as “ResponsibleSteel certified steel” a threshold level of performance must be met in relation to BOTH the GHG emissions intensity of the crude steel used to make the steel product AND the level of performance achieved by the steel making site in relation to its sourcing of raw materials for the steel product. The specifications for these threshold levels of performance are to be determined by the GHG working group and the Raw Materials working groups respectively (see Sections B and C of this paper, for first draft proposals). Steel products from sites that achieve these minimum threshold levels of performance will be eligible to carry the ‘ResponsibleSteel certified steel’ label, as in Figure 1a.

ResponsibleSteel will also specify three (or potentially more) levels of performance that can be differentiated on product labels, in related product claims, and/or as the basis for downstream specifications, as illustrated in Figure 1c. The specific thresholds for these performance levels, and the way in which they combine performance in relation to GHG emissions intensity and raw material sourcing remain to be determined. Steel makers and their customers would be able to choose whether they wish to use the generic “ResponsibleSteel certified steel” product label/ claim without any further specification of the overall level of performance (as in figure a), OR a differentiated label/ claim depending on the level of performance achieved (as in figure 1c) as they wish and as best suits their company’s objectives and marketing strategies.

Any product that is sold or promoted as ResponsibleSteel certified must in addition be supported by a publicly accessible data sheet which gives the site’s current level of performance in relation to GHG emissions intensity and the sourcing of raw materials in a standardised format, illustrated by the data sheet in Figure 1b.

ResponsibleSteel will not require that steelmakers calculate or provide additional Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) data or Environmental Product Declarations, nor require that steelmakers follow specified standards for LCA and/or EPDs calculation if they choose to do so. However, if a steelmaker does calculate an LCA and/or EPD it would be required to base its calculation of GHG emissions on the same the same data as used to calculate the GHG emissions intensity of its crude steel production as required by the ResponsibleSteel standard.

**What this means for downstream buyers/ specifiers/ standards systems**

Downstream buyers and specifiers would be able to develop their own policies/ procedures/ specifications to source from RS member companies, from RS certified sites, or to source RS certified steel, as they wish. If they specify RS certified steel they could specify that as undifferentiated requirement that would be met by any steel product that meets the basic threshold level of performance, or they could specify different levels of performance (level 1, level 2 or level 3 in the illustration), or, they could choose to specify steel based on their own choice of performance levels in relation to GHG emissions intensity measurement of the crude steel, and/or in relation to the site’s performance in relation to raw material sourcing based on the data provided in the standardised data sheet. Claims would all be based on a ‘truth in advertising’ approach. Downstream buyers making claims would have to be able to back up their claims, in line with applicable trading standards and truth in advertising obligations.

Downstream standards systems would similarly be able to recognise steel product performance in whichever way best suits their own standard model and theory of change. They could specify “RS certified steel’ as a simple threshold level requirement, or recognise different levels of performance based on the ResponsibleSteel defined levels, or recognise different levels of performance based on actual data for GHG and/or raw material sourcing performance, as they prefer.

**Intent**

The intent of the proposed approach is to give maximum flexibility for buyers, specifiers and downstream standards systems, whilst ensuring that all ResponsibleSteel certified steel product claims are credible, and directly and transparently comparable on a like-for-like basis, irrespective of the country, company, site or type of steel product. The aim is to create as much demand as possible, in order to recognise and reward performance and drive change.

By specifying a minimum threshold level for both GHG emissions intensity and raw material performance the system gives confidence to buyers and other stakeholders that any steel product that is claimed to be ResponsibleSteel certified has achieved a credible threshold level of performance. It would not be possible to promote a steel product as being ‘ResponsibleSteel certified’ on the basis of its GHG emissions performance when the site’s sourcing of raw materials falls below the agreed basic threshold for social and environmental credibility. Nor would it be possible for a site to promote its steel as being ‘ResponsibleSteel certified’ on the basis that it has met basic requirements for sourcing, and yet has unacceptably high levels of GHG emissions.

The system would also avoid the risk of ‘dumbing down’ by reducing the potential to differentiate between steel that only just meets a basic threshold level of performance in relation to GHG emissions and raw material sourcing, and steel from sites that are achieving much higher levels of performance. A system that treats both minimum threshold and much higher levels of performance as being of equal value effectively disincentivises any improvement of performance beyond the minimum threshold required for certification. The proposed approach aims to avoid that risk.

1. **Responsible Sourcing of Raw Materials**

**Objective:**

ResponsibleSteel certified sites source their raw materials for steelmaking in a responsible manner.

**Background:**

Around 2 billion tonnes of iron ore, 1 billion tonnes of metallurgical coal and 575 million tonnes of scrap metal are used every year for steelmaking. In addition, 20% of all tin and tungsten, 60% of all nickel and zinc, 75% of chromium and 85% of manganese and vanadium are used for steel coatings and alloys. The raw materials for steelmaking at a single site may originate from 40 or more different mine sites and pass through several stages of processing, with potentially significant environmental and social impacts. The steel sector has great potential to contribute to a sustainable society through its influence on its supply chains.

The ResponsibleSteel Standard recognises that it is a major challenge for a steel company to manage impacts in its supply chain. The first step is a corporate commitment. This commitment must then be transmitted to a site’s suppliers, backed up by effective procurement procedures and practices. Progress can then be measured and reported.

The ResponsibleSteel Standard is based on the proposition that an effective system for the responsible sourcing of raw materials has to be in place and be fully operational before any claim can be made that steel containing that material is ‘ResponsibleSteel certified’. Once the system is fully operational and progress is being monitored and reported, claims can be made.

It is proposed that different levels of progress should be recognised through different levels of claims.

**Already included in the ResponsibleSteel Standard v1-0, approved November 2019 as Criterion 1.1:**

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| Criterion 1: Corporate Values and Commitments The site’s corporate owners have defined and documented the values and policies for responsible business conduct to which they are committed. |
| 1.1. The site’s corporate owners have defined and documented the values, policies and commitments that they require sites under their control to implement, including at least the following:  [a) to d)]  e) A responsible sourcing policy that includes a commitment to source raw materials from suppliers whose policies and practices support the implementation of the ResponsibleSteel principles and criteria as applicable to the sourcing of raw materials.  1.2. The values, policies and commitments to which the corporate owners are committed are effectively communicated to the site's workers, and are readily accessible to the public. |
| **Guidance:**  **Overarching policies, procedures, codes of conduct, etc.** may be set at the corporate owner or ‘group’ level, rather than separately by the individual sites seeking certification. In such cases, auditors will evaluate whether the policy, procedure, code of conduct, etc. is accessible, known, understood and effectively implemented at the site level. Sites must be able to demonstrate to their auditor that this is the case, but are not required to develop their own policies at the site level.  Publication of commitments in a company’s annual report or in a ‘corporate social responsibility’ report would be evidence of implementation of 1.1.1.  ISO 20400: (2017) Sustainable procurement – Guidance might help with the implementation of sustainable procurement practices. |

**Already included in the ResponsibleSteel Standard v1-0, approved November 2019 as Criterion 2.2:**

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| Criterion 2: Responsible Sourcing There are effective procedures in place to ensure that the responsible sourcing commitments of the site’s corporate owner are implemented for the site’s own procurement. |
| 2.1. There are effective procedures in place to implement the corporate owner’s policy commitment to responsible sourcing (see requirement 1.1.1.e) at the site. Procedures include at least the following elements:   1. The corporate owner’s commitment to responsible sourcing is communicated to the site’s tier 1 suppliers of key raw materials; 2. There are documented procurement specifications that implement the corporate owner’s commitment to responsible sourcing as applicable to the site; 3. Tier 1 suppliers of key raw materials to the site are required to document their own responsible sourcing commitments (if any) and to make these available to the personnel responsible for the site’s procurement.   2.2. The site has access to a listing of its tier 1 suppliers and to copies of their commitments to responsible conduct or responsible sourcing. If the supplier does not have such a commitment this is recorded.  2.3. Key performance indicators for the personnel responsible for the site’s procurement of raw materials have been specified and are aligned with the corporate owner’s commitment to responsible sourcing. |
| **Guidance:**  The requirements recognise that the responsible sourcing policy and procedures may be implemented at corporate or group level or by another department that may operate from an off-site location. The fundamental requirement is that the procedures must apply to the site’s procurement, must be effective, and can be audited as such.  The **site’s corporate sourcing policy** must, as a minimum, cover the sourcing of the key raw materials listed in Annex 2 where these materials are used by the site. The site’s corporate sourcing policy may apply beyond the tier 1 suppliers of key raw materials. Where this is the case, the site’s procedures should reflect this.  Where **tier 1 suppliers** do not have their own policy on responsible conduct or responsible sourcing, this would be recorded. This would not of itself be a non-compliance for the site. However, the absence of a responsible sourcing policy by a tier 1 supplier does not support the implementation of the corporate commitment required under 1.1.1.e, so the auditor would expect to see action being taken over time to discontinue sourcing from such suppliers.  Note that **additional requirements in relation to the site’s responsible sourcing** are being developed by ResponsibleSteel, in consultation with its members and other stakeholders, and will be finalised in 2020. Achieving these additional requirements will allow sites to make stronger claims about their performance and, in particular, about the steel produced at the site. ResponsibleSteel anticipates that downstream customers, civil society, financial institutions and other stakeholders will increasingly demand that steel companies achieve this higher level of performance. |

**Additional requirements for the certification of steel product**

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| Criterion 3: Raw material supply chain mapping There is an effective system in place to identify and record the sites of origin and processing of the raw materials used by the site for the production of ResponsibleSteel certified product. |
| 3.1. The site requires its Tier 1 suppliers of raw materials used for the production of any products within the scope of the site’s ResponsibleSteel product certification to provide:  a) a declaration of the site(s) of origin of raw material supplied, where the site of origin is known, or where the site of origin is not known to provide a declaration of the country(ies) of origin of the raw material supplied together with an explanation of the actions that have been taken to identify the sites of origin and the reasons why these efforts have failed;  b) a declaration of the site(s) where the raw material was processed before being supplied to the Tier 1 supplier, where the site of processing is known, or where the site of processing is not known to provide a declaration of the country(ies) in which the raw material was processed together with an explanation of the actions that have been taken to identify the sites of origin and the reasons why these efforts have failed;  3.2 The site maintains an accurate and up-to-date database of the raw materials supplied to the site by each of its Tier 1 suppliers over the previous 12-month period, together with the sites of origin and processing of the raw material where this is known, or of the countries of origin and processing of the raw material where the sites of origin or processing are not known.  3.3 For each category of raw material supplied in the previous 12-month period the database shows:  a) the total quantity of the material supplied;  b) the list of known sites of origin of the material;  c) the quantity of material whose site(s) of origin is known;  d) the list of countries of origin for material whose sites of origin are not known;  e) the list of known sites of processing of the material;  f) the quantity of material whose site(s) of processing is known;  g) the list of countries of processing for material whose sites of processing are not known.  3.4. The database of raw materials supplied to the site over the previous 12-month period shows that:  a) [At least 90%] of the site’s raw materials by volume are from known sites of origin;  b) [At least 90%] of the site’s processed raw materials by volume were processed at known processing sites.  3.5 The site maintains an accurate and up-to-date register of the known sites of origin and processing for the raw materials supplied to the site over the previous 12-month period. |
| **Guidance:**  (3.1) Material used for the production of certified products includes the key raw materials listed in Annex One, where products manufactured using these materials are within the scope of ResponsibleSteel certification. (3.1) The following materials are not considered to be raw materials, for the purpose of this criterion:   * refractory linings * oils and other materials used to maintain equipment * [other materials to be included for the avoidance of doubt…]   (3.1) The site of origin for a material originating from a mined source means the mine site of origin.  (3.1) The site of origin for material produced from post-consumer/ post-use scrap means the point at which the scrap is collected from consumers or from (for example a scrap yard or ship-breaking site).  Where material from several known sites is combined the combined material is considered to be from known sites, even though the quantity from each individual site of origin may not be known.  Where material may have been processed at one of several known processing sites, the material is considered to have been processed at known sites, even though the specific site of processing may not be known. |

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| Criterion 4: Responsible Sourcing and Due Diligence There is an effective system in place to determine the extent to which the raw materials used by the ResponsibleSteel certified site are sourced from suppliers whose policies and practices are aligned with the ResponsibleSteel principles and criteria, or, where this is not known, with the provisions of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct\*. |
| 4.1. The site maintains an accurate and up-to-date register of the social and environmental standard(s), if any, against which the known sites of origin or processing of the raw materials supplied to the site are independently verified, and, where applicable, the score or level of performance that has been achieved under the requirements of the applicable standard(s).  4.2. Where the social/ environmental performance of a known site of origin or processing has been verified under a standard system that has been assessed and recognised by ResponsibleSteel, the performance of the site in relation to each of the ResponsibleSteel principles is recorded as specified by the recognised standard system.  4.3 For any material supplied to the site in the previous 12-month period where the social/ environmental performance of the known site of origin or processing has not been verified under a standard system that has been assessed and recognised by ResponsibleSteel, or for which the site(s) of origin and/or processing are not known, the site can provide a publicly available description of the due diligence process that has been carried out to meet the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct* (2018), and, as applicable, the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High Risk Areas* (2016). |
| \*The *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct* (2018) (‘OECD Due Diligence Guidance’) was published and adopted by the OECD Council of Ministers in May 2018. The OECD Due Diligence Guidance is intended to be used in all sectors of the economy and by all companies, regardless of size, geographical location, or value chain position and covers human rights, employment and industrial relations, environment, combatting bribery, bribe solicitation and extortion, consumer interests and disclosure. The *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High Risk Areas* (2016) (‘OECD Conflict Minerals Guidance’) was published in April 2016 and covers human rights aspects only. Both documents are intended to elaborate on the due diligence responsibilities of companies under the *OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises* (‘MNE Guidelines’). The OECD Due Diligence Guidance supplements but does not replace the OECD Conflict Minerals Guidance.  **Guidance:**  (4.2) ResponsibleSteel is committed so far as its resources permit to assessing any standards system that seeks ResponsibleSteel recognition against publicly available criteria, and to publishing the results of such assessment so that they are available to public scrutiny. Draft assessment criteria are due to be published in June 2020 for stakeholder review and comment, and to be finalised at the same time as the finalisation of the ResponsibleSteel requirements for steel product certification. Assessment will take into consideration the ISEAL Credibility Principles, and the ISEAL Sustainability Benchmarking Good Practice Guide (2019), and is expected to cover a standards system’s: standards, assurance, dispute resolution, transparency & accessibility, level of demand/ market recognition.  ResponsibleSteel carried out pilot work with the Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) and the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) programme in 2018 and 2019, and expects to complete the assessment of both IRMA and MAC-TSM against the finalised assessment criteria by the end of 2020. Additional standards systems for raw material assurance will be assessed when requested and as resources allow. |

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| Criterion 5: Supply Chain Reporting The site reports publicly on the implementation of its responsible sourcing policy |
| 5.1. The site reports regularly to the public on its progress in achieving a responsible raw material supply chain including at least the following:  a) the site’s policies and targets for the responsible sourcing of raw materials;  b) the proportion by weight of each of the key raw materials supplied to the site in the previous 12-month period that were sourced from sites of origin that were assessed under a standards scheme recognised by ResponsibleSteel;  c) the volume of each of the key raw materials supplied to the site in the previous 12-month period that originated from unknown sites;  d) the volume of each of the key raw materials supplied to the site in the previous 12-month period that was processed at unknown sites;  e) the due diligence process that was carried out to ensure that the site’s supply of materials from unknown sites of origin or processing meets the specifications of the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct* (2018). |
| **Guidance:** |

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| Criterion 6: Responsible sourcing performance levels The site achieves the minimum threshold level of performance in relation to its supply chain mapping and its sourcing of raw materials, with higher levels of performance required to support higher level claims. |
| 6.1. **Level 1 (threshold)**: the site’s register of known sites of origin and processing of raw materials supplied over the previous 12-month period shows that:  a) [At least A%] of the known mine sites of origin for the raw materials supplied to the site, including [at least A%] of the site’s mined raw materials by volume have been independently assessed or certified under a standard system that is recognised by ResponsibleSteel.  b) [At least B%] of the known sites of processing for the raw materials supplied to the site have been certified by a ResponsibleSteel approved certification body as meeting the requirements of the ResponsibleSteel standard for site certification or an equivalent standard.  6.2. **Level 2**: the site’s register of known sites of origin and processing of raw materials supplied over the previous 12-month period shows that:  a) [At least C%] of the known mine sites of origin for the raw materials supplied to the site, including [at least C%] of the site’s mined raw materials by volume have been independently assessed or certified under a standard system that is recognised by ResponsibleSteel;  b) At least 50% of the certified mine sites listed under a) achieve a ResponsibleSteel recognised performance score of XXX or higher.  c) [At least D%] of the known sites of processing for the raw materials supplied to the site have been certified by a ResponsibleSteel approved certification body as meeting the requirements of the ResponsibleSteel standard for site certification or an equivalent standard.  6.3. **Level 3:** the site’s register of known sites of origin and processing of raw materials supplied over the previous 12-month period shows that:  a) [At least E%] of the known mine sites of origin for the raw materials supplied to the site, including [at least E%] of the site’s mined raw materials by volume have been independently assessed or certified under a standard system that is recognised by ResponsibleSteel;  b) At least 50% of the certified mine sites listed under a) achieve a ResponsibleSteel recognised performance score of XXX or higher.  c) [At least F%] of the known sites of processing for the raw materials supplied to the site have been certified by a ResponsibleSteel approved certification body as meeting the requirements of the ResponsibleSteel standard for site certification or an equivalent standard. |
| **Guidance:** |

**Extracts from existing ResponsibleSteel Glossary:**

**Governance, environmental and social risks:** the likelihood and severity of adverse impacts on the achievement of the governance, environmental and social requirements specified in the ResponsibleSteel Principles and Criteria.

**Key raw materials:** the materials listed in Annex One, identified by The Dragonfly Initiative on behalf of the World Steel Association as representing the most important material inputs to the steel industry.

**Raw materials:** The raw material inputs for steelmaking.

**Tier one suppliers of raw materials:** an organisation that is contracted by the site or its corporate owner to provide the site with raw materials for steelmaking.

**Annex One: Key raw materials for steelmaking**

List of the most important raw materials used for steelmaking as identified by The

Dragonfly Initiative for the World Steel Association (worldsteel).

• Aluminium (metallic)

• Charcoal

• Coal

• Metallurgical Coal

• Coke

• Cobalt

• Calcium (cored wire)

• Dolomite

• Ferro-Aluminium

• Ferro-Boron

• Ferro-Chromium

• Ferro-Manganese

• Ferro-Molybdenum

• Ferro-Nickel

• Ferro-Niobium

• Ferro-Phosphorous

• Ferro-Silicon

• Ferro-Titanium

• Ferro-Tungsten

• Ferro-Vanadium

• Graphite

• Iron ore

• Iron (pig)

• Limestone

• Magnesia

• Molybdic Oxide

• Silico-manganese

• Tin

• Zinc

1. **GHG Emissions**

**Objective:**

The objective of ResponsibleSteel Principle 8 for site certification is that, “The corporate owners of certified sites are committed to the global goals of the Paris Agreement, and both certified sites and their corporate owners are taking the actions needed to demonstrate this commitment.”

The objective of the additional requirements for the ResponsibleSteel certification of steel product is to allow downstream users of steel to maximise their contribution to the achievement of the Paris Goals through their steel specifying and purchasing decisions.

**Background:**

ResponsibleSteel Principle 8 for site certification requires steelmakers to demonstrate their commitment to the goals of the Paris Agreement through strategic planning, goal setting, and the measurement and reporting of progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These aspects forward-looking and are of fundamental importance if the sector is to attract the finance to support the transition to net zero steel production. However, some further challenges must be overcome to create an effective mechanism to allow downstream users of steel to differentiate between steel products on the basis of current day performance.

Firstly, a methodology is required to ensure that the GHG emissions for ResponsibleSteel certified steel products are calculated and declared on a like-for-like basis, irrespective of the raw materials used, the steel production technology, the country of production, or the level of finishing that has taken place. Differences in declared emissions must reflect real differences in emissions, and not be artefacts of the choice of measurement methodology.

Secondly, a mechanism is required that rewards real reductions in GHG emissions for the steel sector, rather than simply identifying products that use more or less scrap metal. The steel sector already utilises around 90% of available scrap metal – choosing products that contain more or less scrap will not generally have any significant impact on the sector’s GHG emissions. What is required is a mechanism that rewards low GHG steelmaking, irrespective of the proportion of scrap or iron ore used as the primary raw material.

The ResponsibleSteel requirements for steel product certification are designed to address these two challenges, and so create the basis for downstream users of steel to contribute to the achievement of the Paris Goals through their steel specifying and purchasing decisions, and to reward responsible steelmakers for their own commitment.

**NOTE:** The ResponsibleSteel Standard (v1-0) for site certification specifies five criteria, and is presented in full in Annex Two, for reference. It is a pre-requisite for ResponsibleSteel steel product certification that a site must meet all five of these criteria. For this reason the numbering of the Criteria below starts at Criterion 6.

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| **Criterion 6: Like-for-Like Reporting of GHG Emissions Intensity for Crude Steel** The site measures and reports the GHG emissions intensity of its crude steel production in accordance with the requirements of ISO 14404-1: 2017, 14404-2013 or 14404-3: 2017 and following any additional ResponsibleSteel guidance on implementation, as applicable. |
| 6.1. Direct GHG emissions are determined and recorded for all significant sources of emissions within the scope of the assessment, in accordance with the requirements of ISO 14404-1: 2017, 14404-2013 or 14404-3: 2017 as applicable.  6.2. The GHG emissions intensity (metric tonnes of CO2 equivalent/ metric tonne crude steel) for the crude steel produced within the scope of the assessment is calculated, recorded and verified in accordance with the requirements of ISO 14404-1: 2017, 14404-2013 or 14404-3: 2017 as applicable, and including the GHG emissions associated with materials imported to the site from outside the site’s boundary as determined in accordance with requirement 8.3.1.  6.3. Where the steelmaking site carries out energy intensive processing such as hot rolling or cold rolling downstream of the production of crude steel, the energy intensity for these facilities (energy use per metric tonne steel processed) is calculated and recorded in accordance with the requirements of a publicly available and approved legal provision or international standard. |
| **Guidance:**  Criterion 6 is based on the requirements that were included in Draft 4-1 of the ResponsibleSteel Standard in July 2019, and is intended as the starting point for further discussion. Alternative approaches that would achieve a globally consistent basis for measuring and reporting the GHG emission intensity of crude steel, in line with the specifications outlined in the ‘background’ description above will be considered by the GHG working group.  Reference to the requirements of ISO 14404 parts 1 to 3 is intended to ensure emissions for each tonne of steel are measured consistently and comparably across steel making sites in all countries and regions of the world, in alignment with the methodology developed by the World Steel Association, worldsteel, and already used as basis of the worldsteel Climate Action programme.  Steelmaking sites that use ISO 14404 as the basis for compliance with the requirements of Principle 8 would already comply with requirements 6.1 and 6.2, as drafted, and would only need to implement the additional requirement of 6.3.  **Glossary:**  **Direct GHG or CO2 emissions:** GHG emissions (CO2 equivalent) or CO2 emissions from production facilities within the site boundary. Direct emissions correspond to ‘scope 1’ emissions as referred to in the GHG Protocol.  **Upstream GHG emission:** GHG emissions from imported material related to outsourced steel production activities outside the site boundary and from imported electricity and steam into the boundary. Following ISO14404 this refers to CO2 emissions. (Adapted from ISO 14404:2017 Calculation method of carbon dioxide emission intensity from iron and steel production).  **Crude steel:** Steel in the first solid state after melting, suitable for further processing or for sale. Synonymous with raw steel (Adopted from worldsteel).  **Tonne (T):** A metric tonne, equivalent to 1,000 kilograms or 2,204.6 pounds or 1.1023 short ton (Adopted from worldsteel). |

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| **Criterion 7: Combined Crude Steel GHG Emissions Intensity Performance** The site’s crude steel GHG emissions intensity performance is less than the combined GHG emissions intensity performance threshold for the site. |
| 7.1. The site measures and records on a rolling basis:   * the quantity of end-of-life scrap steel used in its production of crude steel in the previous 12 months * the quantity of crude steel produced in the previous 12 months * the GHG emissions intensity of its production of crude steel over the previous 12 months, calculated in accordance with the requirements of Criterion 6.   7.2. **Level 1 (threshold):** The GHG emissions intensity of the site’s production of crude steel is less than the combined GHG emissions threshold calculated according to the formula:  *Combined GHG emissions intensity threshold = (scrap % x scrap emissions intensity reference figure) + ((1-scrap%) x iron ore emissions intensity reference figure)*  Where:  *scrap % = quantity of end-of-life scrap used / quantity of crude steel produced over the previous 12 months*  *scrap emissions intensity reference figure = [0.5 tonnes] CO2e/ tonne crude steel*  *iron ore emissions intensity reference figure = [2.0 tonnes] CO2e/ tonne crude steel* |
| **Guidance:**  The combined GHG emissions intensity threshold takes account proportion of scrap metal used to produce crude steel at the site over the previous 12-month period. The greater the proportion of scrap metal used, the lower the emissions intensity required to achieve the threshold level of performance. If 100% of the raw material for crude steel production is scrap, the threshold would be 0.5 tonnes CO2e/ tonne crude steel. If 100% of the raw material for crude steel production is steel from iron ore, the threshold would be 2.0 tonnes CO2e/ tonne crude steel.  Additional performance bands can be specified using the threshold as a reference, for example:  **Level 1 (threshold): the site’s GHG emissions are** <= combined GHG emissions intensity threshold  **Level 2:** **the site’s GHG emissions are** <= 75% of the combined GHG emissions intensity threshold  **Level 3:** **the site’s GHG emissions are** <= 50% of the combined GHG emissions intensity threshold  **Glossary**  **End-of-life scrap**: also known as ‘old’, ‘obsolete’ or ‘post-consumer’ scrap is scrap reclaimed from products at the end of product life, for example from junk vehicles, old appliances, machinery or demolished buildings (Reference: Bowyer J. et al. (2015) Understanding Steel Recovery and Recycling Rates and Limitations to Recycling, Dovetail Partners Inc. <https://www.dovetailinc.org/report_pdfs/2015/dovetailsteelrecycling0315.pdf>). |

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| **Criterion 8: Steel Product Data** Customers are provided with clear and consistent data about the GHG emissions intensity of the site’s steel products. |
| 8.1. The site commits to calculate and declare the total GHG emissions intensity for its final products in accordance with a publicly available and approved legal provision or international standard on request by a customer. If a declaration is made, the basis for such calculation, including any consideration of offsets or ‘credit GHG emissions’ is also available on request.  8.2 Key data about the GHG emissions of the crude steel in the product, as well as any additional data in relation to the total GHG emissions of the site’s final product (as determined in Criteria 6 and 8.5) are provided to customers on request on a standardised ResponsibleSteel data sheet. |
| **Guidance:**  **Credit CO2 emission:** CO2 emission that corresponds to exported material and electricity or steam. (Adopted from ISO 14404:2017 Calculation method of carbon dioxide emission intensity from iron and steel production)  (8.1) The total GHG emissions intensity for a final product will include any additional CO2 emissions associated with processing after the production of crude steel, for example, CO2 emissions associated with hot rolling. The figure for the final product may therefore be higher than the figure for total CO2 emissions reported under 6.1 for the site’s production of crude steel.  (8.1) This requirement would apply to all ResponsibleSteel certified sites. Note that the Guidance Notes for 8.3.1 and 8.3.2 already specify that, “where pig iron or steel (other than scrap metal) itself is imported to the site from upstream sites, the associated GHG emissions must be accounted for using primary data specific to the site of production and must not be based on generic or secondary sources of data. The site must ensure that GHG emissions associated with imported pig iron or steel are clearly and explicitly included in the calculations of GHG emissions and are included in the calculation of GHG emissions intensity in 8.3.3.”  (8.1) A number of international standards may be used to determine the steel product-specific emissions intensity, and it is not proposed to require that a specific standard must be used at this point. Examples of standards that may be considered for use include:  ISO 14040:2006 Environmental management -- Life cycle assessment -- Principles and framework  ISO 14044:2006 Environmental management -- Life cycle assessment -- Requirements and guidelines  ISO 20915:2018 Life cycle inventory calculation methodology for steel products may be used.  (8.2) The key data will be specified for the next draft of the standard, but would be expected to be based on the data listed under Criterion 8.5.1, as applicable to the site’s production of crude steel. |

**Annex Two:** **Principle 8. Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (ResponsibleSteel Standard v1-0)**

**Objective:**

The corporate owners of ResponsibleSteel certified sites are committed to the global goals of the Paris Agreement, and both certified sites and their corporate owners are taking the actions needed to demonstrate this commitment.

**Background:**

The United Nations refers to climate change caused by man-made emissions of greenhouse gases as the defining issue of our time, and its Sustainable Development Goal 13 urges countries to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Tackling climate change requires an unprecedented effort from all sectors of society. The steel industry, responsible for between 7% and 9% of direct greenhouse gas emissions from the global use of fossil fuel[[1]](#footnote-1), has a critical role and responsibility both in relation to the reduction of emissions associated with steelmaking, and in the supply of the materials that will be needed to achieve the transition to a zero carbon economy.

The ResponsibleSteel standard’s requirements are written to support the Paris Agreement of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which recognises the need for an effective and progressive response to the urgent threat of climate change on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge, and aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:

1. Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognising that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
2. Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and
3. Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

The standard requires that companies that wish to benefit from ResponsibleSteel certification of their sites must be able to demonstrate, at the corporate owner level, that they are committed to the goals of the Paris   
  
Agreement. The standard recognises that the public policy environment is critically important to steelmakers’ ability to implement change, and requires that companies identify and then engage to achieve the necessary policy changes. In line with the agreement’s reference to financial flows and climate-resilient development, the standard requires that such companies implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

At the site level, the standard requires that greenhouse gas emissions are measured, reported and disclosed, and that site-level targets for greenhouse gas emissions have been developed and are in line with corporate owner level goals.

This ResponsibleSteel standard does not attempt to apply a full life cycle approach. It does not, for example, consider the implications of the use of alloys or coatings that would limit or extend the lifetime of a steel product, or design aspects that would make it harder or easier to re-use or recycle steel products. Nor does the standard consider downstream ‘in use’ greenhouse gas emissions. ResponsibleSteel acknowledges the importance of these aspects, but considers that they should be addressed through complementary standards and tools. ResponsibleSteel is committed to supporting the development and use of complementary standards and tools in the future, in line with its mission to enhance the responsible sourcing, production, use and recycling of steel.

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| **Criterion 8.1: Corporate commitment to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement** The site’s corporate owner has defined and is implementing a long- and medium-term strategy to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to levels that are compatible with the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement, with an aspiration to achieve net-zero GHG emissions through work with policy makers and others. |
| 8.1.1. The site’s corporate owner ascribes publicly to a credible, long-term emissions reduction pathway for the steel industry as a whole that is compatible with the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement, and which includes:   1. Explicit projections of long-term steel consumption; 2. Explicit projections for the production and use of primary as well as recycled steel, and the associated GHG emissions; and 3. Explicit assumptions in relation to the public policy and other key conditions on which it is based.   8.1.2. The site’s corporate owner has defined and made public both a long-term emissions reduction pathway and a medium-term, quantitative, science-based GHG emissions target or set of targets for the corporation as a whole. The corporation's emissions reduction pathway and medium-term parget(s) are compatible with the long-term emissions reduction pathway it ascribes to for the steel industry, and the projections for the production of primary as well as recycled steel as applicable to its own portfolio of sites.  8.1.3. The site’s corporate owner has a credible, documented strategy for the achievement of its corporate level GHG emissions target(s), outlining the timeline for change across its portfolio of sites and identifying the conditions that would need to be in place for the successful implementation of the strategy, and the specific actions, including policy engagement, it is committed to take to help bring these conditions about.  8.1.4 The corporate owner reviews the implementation of its strategy on a regular basis, documents the findings of the review, and updates the strategy to take account of the review’s findings.  8.1.5 The review shows that the corporate owner is implementing its strategy effectively over time. |
| **Guidance:**  (8.1.1) An emissions reduction pathway for the steel industry that is compatible with the goals of the Paris Agreement is one which limits the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and supports efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.  (8.1.1) Long-term in this context means a time horizon of 15 to 35 years.  (8.1.2) Medium-term in this context means a time horizon between 5 and 15 years from the present time.  (8.1.1, 8.1.2) Medium- or long-term refers to the time measured from the start of the relevant implementation period. For example, a ten-year (medium-term) target set seven years ago is still valid even if it has only three years still to run. However, if a medium-term target expires during the period of validity of a certificate, this would create a non-conformity with the requirement of the standard unless it is replaced by an updated medium-term target.  (8.1.2) A science-based target (SBT) validated by the SBTi (Science Based Targets initiative) would be sufficient to meet the requirements of 8.1.2. Other quantitative, scientifically justified targets (or sets of targets, for example for separate processes) may also be recognised, as long as the ambition, quality and coverage of the target is comparable.  (8.1.3) Specific actions may also include investments at the corporate or site levels, building of pilot facilities to develop, test and scale up new technologies, proposition to seek funding through ‘green bonds’, general commitments to upgrade sites over a period of time, etc. |

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| **Criterion 8.2: Corporate Climate-Related Financial Disclosure** The site’s corporate owner is implementing the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). |
| 8.2.1. The site’s corporate owner has allocated responsibility for oversight of climate-related risk and opportunity to at least one board committee, with an understanding that material climate-related risks and opportunities that impact business strategy will need to be discussed at the full board level.  8.2.2. The site’s corporate owner has a documented commitment in place to implement the core recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) according to its four pillars - Governance, Strategy, Risk Management, and Metrics and Targets - in accordance with applicable TCFD guidance, within three years of the date of application for the site’s certification. |
| **Guidance:**  Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD): [Final Report: Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures, June 2017](https://www.fsb-tcfd.org/publications/final-recommendations-report/).  TCFD guidance: [Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures, June 2017.](https://www.fsb-tcfd.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/FINAL-TCFD-Annex-Amended-121517.pdf)  Implementation in accordance with applicable TCFD guidance requires that the corporate owner makes the recommended disclosures associated with the four core recommendations.  The ResponsibleSteel period of certification is three years. Sites owned by corporations which have not implemented the TCFD recommendations within three years of the date on which their first site applied for certification would not be issued with any further certificates. The failure would also jeopardise the maintenance of any other current site certifications of the corporate owner. |

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| **Criterion 8.3: Site-level GHG emissions measurement and intensity calculation** The site measures and records key aspects of its GHG emissions in accordance with a recognised international or regional standard. |
| 8.3.1. There is a system in place to estimate the total GHG emissions (CO2 e) associated with materials imported to the site from outside the site boundary.  8.3.2. The total direct GHG (CO2 e) or CO2 emissions for the site are measured, recorded and verified in accordance with the requirements of an applicable, recognised international and/or regional standard.  8.3.3. For sites that produce crude steel, the GHG emissions intensity for the crude steel produced (metric tonnes of CO2 e/ metric tonne crude steel) is calculated in accordance with the requirements of an applicable, recognised international and/or regional standard. |
| **Guidance:**  (8.3.1) The system to assess upstream emissions should include a screening of imported materials to identify those that may be associated with significant GHG emissions such as mined materials or hydrogen where relevant.  (8.3.1) As a minimum, the site must consider the GHG emissions associated with the materials listed in ISO 14404-1:2013 Table 2 and other materials that may be associated with significant GHG emissions. A material’s GHG emissions are not considered to be significant if there is evidence that they are likely to constitute less than 5% of the total GHG emissions associated with all of the materials imported to the site from outside the site boundary.  (8.3.1) The estimate may make use of emission factors such as those referenced in ISO14404 or from other secondary sources where no other reliable data are available. Where such secondary data or emission factors are used, these data must be referenced in the public report specified in 8.5.1 below. More resources should be committed to estimating the more significant sources of emissions, for example through the collection of emissions data from suppliers.  (8.3.1 - 8.3.2) In cases where pig iron or steel (other than scrap metal) itself is imported to the site from upstream sites, the associated GHG emissions must be accounted for using primary data specific to the site of production and must not be based on generic or secondary sources of data. The site must ensure that GHG emissions associated with imported pig iron or steel are clearly and explicitly included in the calculations of GHG emissions and are included in the calculation of GHG emissions intensity in 8.3.3.  (8.3.2) ResponsibleSteel currently recognises the following international or regional standards:   * The GHG Protocol and EN 19694 (parts as applicable) for measurement of GHG emissions by steelmaking and other sites. * ISO 14404 (parts as applicable) for the measurement of CO2 emissions by steelmaking sites, as applicable. |

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| **Criterion 8.4: Site-level GHG reduction targets and planning**  There is a medium-term GHG emissions target and plan for the site that is aligned with the achievement of the corporate owner’s corporate level GHG emissions target(s). |
| 8.4.1. There is a time-specific, medium-term target for the GHG emissions for the site or defined portfolio of sites that is at or below the trajectory required for the corporate owner to achieve its medium-term carbon emissions target for all of its sites, as specified under requirement 8.1.2.  For steelmaking sites, the target is defined in terms of the GHG emissions intensity of crude steel production (metric tonnes of CO2 equivalent/ metric tonne crude steel) calculated in accordance with the international or regional standard as specified in 8.3.3.  8.4.2 There is a time-specific, medium-term target to reduce the net GHG emissions associated with the site’s use of imported electricity, where the GHG emissions associated with the use of imported electricity are significant.  8.4.3. There are plans in place, approved by senior management, to achieve the site’s GHG emissions target(s) within the specified timelines as defined in 8.4.1 and 8.4.2. The plans include:   1. Time-specific milestones for each target from present through to the achievement of the medium-term target levels; 2. Explicit quantification of the site’s reduction of direct GHG (CO2 e) or CO2 emissions required to achieve the target(s) specified under 8.4.1.; 3. Specification of the international or regional standard that will be used to measure progress towards the target, and a description of the elements that are included or excluded from consideration (e.g. whether upstream scope 3 emissions are considered, and how any emissions associated with the site’s products, co-products, by-products or waste are to be taken into account); 4. Consideration of the technology, equipment, management system changes or other options to achieve the targets over time; 5. Consideration of the costs of installing any specified technology or equipment; 6. Consideration of the proposed mechanism for financing the proposed technology or equipment; 7. Consideration of external conditions that will need to be in place for the plan to be successfully implemented, or conditions that might prevent successful implementation.   8.4.4. Progress on the implementation of the plans is monitored and reported to the site’s board or equivalent oversight body on a regular basis, including an explanation of relevant issues such as changes to production in response to market conditions, closures for repairs or other significant factors, and the plans are updated if appropriate.  8.4.5 The site’s medium-term targets, as specified under requirements 8.4.1 and 8.4.2 and progress towards achieving these targets are reported publicly and on a regular basis. |
| **Guidance:**  (8.4.1) The site-level target must itself be below the average trajectory required to achieve the corporate owner’s overall corporate level target, OR, if this is not the case, the corporate owner must show that its whole portfolio of sites meets the requirements of 8.4.1 to 8.4.5, and so demonstrate that in combination its sites are on track to achieve its corporate level target.  (8.4.2) This requirement could be met, for example, through targets for: the purchase of electricity from low or zero carbon sources, carbon offsets, power purchase agreements, virtual power purchase agreements, or green tariffs paid in relation to the site's sourcing of electricity. GHG reductions achieved through the use of biofuels that do not meet recognised sustainability standards shall not be recognised as contributing to the achievement of the net GHG reduction targets associated with the use of imported electricity. Recognised sustainability standards for biofuels include the voluntary schemes recognised as meeting the sustainability criteria of the European Union’s Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (see list of approved Voluntary Schemes).  (8.4.2) Where a site introduces a new technology that has a major impact on reducing its direct emissions but results in an increase in the amount of imported electricity, the baseline for reducing net emissions for the imported electricity is set when the new technology is introduced.  (8.4.2) GHG emissions associated with imported electricity are considered significant if they represent more than 10% of the site’s total (direct and indirect) GHG emissions.  (8.4.2) Where imported electricity is generated from the use of the site’s own co- or by-products (e.g. process gases) whose GHG emissions have already been accounted for under 8.4.1, the GHG emissions for this imported electricity are considered to be zero for the purpose of calculating net GHG emissions under 8.4.2.  (8.4.2) Where offsets are used the offsets must be consistent with a specified, recognised international or national standard or regulation and must be publicly reported (see 8.5.1). The implication is that sites would have broad freedom to select their own approach to reducing net GHG emissions, and deciding what level of verification might be required to support their approach, so long as the approach is consistent with a recognised standard. Examples of recognised standards include:   * ART-TREES Standard, operational from 2020 under the emergent Forest Finance Facility; * The National Carbon Offset Standard in Australia   (8.4.2) Low-carbon energy procurement must be consistent with a specified, recognised international or national standard or regulation and must be publicly reported (see 8.5.1). Examples of recognised standards include:   * The quality criteria set in the GHG Protocol Scope 2 guidance; * The RE100 credible claims guidance.   (8.4.3) The content of the site’s plans are considered to be commercially confidential and shall not be disclosed by ResponsibleSteel or any auditors acting to verify compliance with the requirements of the ResponsibleSteel standard. The specified medium- to long-term targets and progress towards their achievement would, however, be reported.  (8.4.1, 8.4.2) the medium-term plan should cover activities planned for the following five to fifteen years, in accordance with the site’s financial and operational planning cycle. Longer term planning is also compatible with this guidance, so long as the time-specific milestones provide for effective monitoring in the medium term. |

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| **Criterion 8.5: Site-level GHG or CO2 emissions reporting and disclosure** Key aspects of the site’s GHG or CO2 emissions measurements are publicly reported on an annual basis. |
| 8.5.1. The following information is publicly reported on an annual basis:   1. The site’s estimate of the aggregated GHG emissions (CO2 e) for materials imported to the site from outside the site boundary, and an explanation of the basis for the estimate; 2. The GHG emissions (CO2 e) for heat and steam imported to the site from outside the site boundary; 3. The site’s total GHG emissions associated with its use of imported electricity; 4. Any arrangements to offset the site’s GHG emissions, including a description of the amount and nature of such offsets; 5. Any CO2 or GHG (CO2 e) emissions that are considered to be ‘credit emissions’ for the site; 6. The site’s total GHG (CO2 e) or CO2 emissions calculated in accordance with the requirements of Criterion 8.3. 7. The total GHG emissions intensity of the crude steel produced at the site (metric tonnes of CO2 e/ metric tonne crude steel), as determined in Criterion 8.3. 8. The basis for the site’s measurement of GHG emissions intensity, including:  * The international or regional standard(s) used; * An explanation of variations in figures reported using different measurement standards if more than one standard has been used by the site and different figures have been reported for different purposes; * An explanation of whether the reported figure for emissions intensity includes or excludes GHG emissions associated with raw materials imported to the site from outside the site boundary; * An explanation for the combination of GHG emissions measurements and CO2 emissions measurements, where applicable. |
| **Guidance:**  (8.5.1.a) The reporting of GHG emissions associated with the materials imported to the site from outside the site boundary must include an explanation of the basis for the calculation, including the use of emission factors or other secondary data where used. The requirement specifies that reporting is for the aggregated GHG emissions for raw materials, but the determination of this figure will necessarily require that data for the emissions associated with specific types (and, potentially, separate supplies) of raw material has been used to carry out the calculation.  The figure for aggregated GHG emissions of raw material should specify what materials have been included and excluded from the calculation.  (8.5.1.c) The site’s total GHG emissions associated with its use of imported electricity will be the product of the amount of imported electricity multiplied by its carbon intensity. The basis for the calculation will be reviewed by the auditing body, but for reasons of commercial confidentiality only the total GHG emissions need to be reported publicly.  (8.5.1.d) Reporting should include, for example, a description of the purchase of carbon offsets (including the source and quantity), power purchase agreements, virtual power purchase agreements, or green tariffs the site pays in relation to its sourcing of electricity.  This standard does not specify requirements in relation to the quality or verification of claimed offsets, but is intended to create a public record of such claims, as well as to provide an opportunity for certified sites to communicate their initiatives in this regard. |

**NOTE**

Criterion 8.6 on claims related to GHG emissions performance for the production of crude steel has been deleted from this edition of the ResponsibleSteel standard and will be considered again as part of the requirements for making claims about the steel produced at a certified site, with the requirements to be finalised in 2020.

1. Steel’s contribution to a low carbon future and climate resilient societies - worldsteel position paper © World Steel Association 2019 ISBN 978-2-930069-83-8 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)