

Environmental Product Declaration

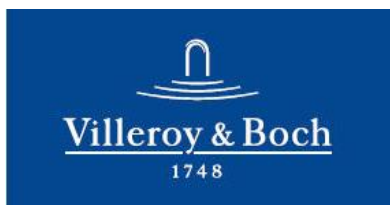


In accordance with ISO 14025 and EN 15804:2012+A2:2019 for:

Average Ceramic Product

from

Villeroy and Boch AG.
Saaruferstraße, 66693 Mettlach (Germany)



Programme:

Programme operator:

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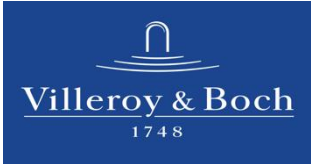
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General information

Programme information

Programme:	The International EPD® System
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CEN standard EN 15804 serves as the Core Product Category Rules (PCR)	
Product category rules (PCR): <i>Construction products, 2019:14, version 1.0</i>	
PCR review was conducted by: Martin Erlandsson, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute, martin.erlandsson@ivl.se	
Independent third-party verification of the declaration and data, according to ISO 14025:2006: ☐ EPD process certification ☒ EPD verification	
Third party verifier: Manfred Russ <i>Senior Sustainability Consultant Quantis</i> <i>Accredited Verifier</i> <i>International EPD® System</i> <i>E-Mail: Manfred.russ@quantis-intl.com</i>	
Procedure for follow-up of data during EPD validity involves third party verifier: ☒ Yes ☐ No	
	Owner of the declaration Villeroy & Boch AG Saaruferstraße, 66693 Mettlach (Germany) https://www.villeroyboch-group.com/
	EPD prepared by ERM LTD. Exchequer court, 33 St Mary Axe, Lime Street, London EC3A 8AA www.erm.com

The EPD owner has the sole ownership, liability, and responsibility for the EPD.

EPDs within the same product category but from different programmes may not be comparable. EPDs of construction products may not be comparable if they do not comply with EN 15804. For further information about comparability, see EN 15804 and ISO 14025.

Company information

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Description of the organisation:

This EPD study on 'Sanitary Ceramics,' specifically focussing on average ceramic sanitary products was commissioned by Villeroy & Boch (V&B), one of the largest providers of "Bathroom and Wellness and Tableware" related products in Europe. With its head office based in Germany (Saarferstraße, 66693 Mettlach) V&B is a major manufacturer of ceramics with 13 manufacturing facilities in Europe. Its products are sold in around 125 countries.

Product-related or management system-related certifications:

DIN EN ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System

DIN EN ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management System

DIN EN ISO 50001 :2015 – Energy Management System

Name and location of production site(s):

Villeroy & Boch S.A.S., Avenue du 11 Novembre, F-82400 Valence d'Agen, France

Villeroy & Boch AG sanitary factory Mettlach, Britterstraße 1, 66689 Mettlach, Germany

Villeroy & Boch Magyarország Kft., Erzsébeti út. 7, HU-6800 Hódmezővásárhely, Hungary

Mondial SA, Str. Timișorii, Nr. 149-151, RO-305500 Lugoj, Jud. Timiș, Romania

Villeroy & Boch (Thailand) Co. Ltd., 58 Moo 6 Nogplamoe, Nongkhae, Saraburi, 18140, Thailand

Product information

Product name:

Average sanitary ceramic product

Product identification:

Table 1: Technical construction data – representative dimensions for each product category

Category	Dimension	Unit
Washbasins	800*450*170	mm
Bidets	540*360*400	mm
Toilets	600*360*400	mm
Urinals	600*300*350	mm
Kitchen Sinks	1000*510*225	mm
Cisterns	390*165*300	mm

UN CPC Code:

37210 Ceramic sinks, baths, water closet pans, flushing cisterns and similar sanitary fixtures

Product description:

This report describes the environmental impact of the ceramic component of a range of products, including baths, wash basins, WCs, urinals, etc made by Villeroy & Boch ('V&B'). These products all undergo the same manufacturing process and will therefore have equivalent impacts per kg of product, regardless of the actual end-use application.

V&B manufacture sanitary ceramic products at five locations as noted in name and locations of production sites. All these sites are used to supply products for the European market. The results presented in this report are the weighted average products from these five production locations.

Table 2 shows the weighted production volumes from each manufacturing site for 2019.

Table 2: Weighted contribution of ceramic from the 5 production sites.

Country	Total Production (Tonnes)	Weighted Contribution (%)
France	5,526	8.87
Germany	10,436	16.75
Hungary	18,353	29.45
Romania	15,884	25.49
Thailand	12,124	19.45
Total	62,323	100.00

Table 3 indicates the typical composition of sanitary ceramic products made by V&B.

Table 3: Typical composition of sanitary ceramic products

Material	Content
Clay and Chamotte	48%
Kaolin	14%
Feldspar	24%
Quartz	4%
Zirconia	2%
Chalk/ limestone	2%
Others	1%
Recycling (internally recycled fired scrap)	5%

Packaging

No packaging has been modelled for the final product.

Recycled material:

The production site in Valence d'Agén, France, uses some scrap material sourced from V&B's other operations in Chateauroux.

LCA information

Functional unit / declared unit:

The declared unit quantifies and describes the product and is used as the basis for reporting results. This EPD relates to an average sanitary ceramic product sold in the European market.

The declared unit for the study is:

“1 kg average sanitary ceramic product, excluding packaging and additional fittings (eg valves, screws, taps, etc).”

Reference service life:

This is a ‘cradle-to-gate study with modules C and D (A1-A3+C+D)’ study so steps A4-5 and B1 – B7 are not included. As such, declaration of the reference service life (RSL) is not applicable.

Time representativeness:

LCA calculations were subject to client-specific data from 2019 and based on one-year averaged data. Supply of products from each V&B manufacturing site is relatively stable, there are no large scale changes in supply location from year to year.

Geographic representativeness:

The upstream supply chain has been modelled based on production from the specific various V&B manufacturing sites used to manufacture ceramic sanitary ware products for the EU market. It has been assumed that the product will be sold in the EU and the end of life stage will also take place in the EU.

Databases and LCA software used

All primary data used was based on the manufacturer’s specific data inventory. Modelling was carried out using GaBi software (version 9.5.2.49). Background life cycle inventory data were primarily sourced from the GaBi 2020 databases, supplemented with data from ecoinvent v3.6, where this was deemed more representative. Country specific data for fuels and energy were used where possible. For raw materials it was more challenging to find country-specific data; if this could not be obtained, European average data were used where available. If the country specific data was not available, the most representative dataset from another location was used.

Description of system boundaries:

System boundary: cradle-to-gate study (A1-A3+C+D).

The LCA addresses the environmental aspects and potential environmental impacts from the point at which raw materials are extracted from the environmental through to final production of the ceramic product. The end of life stage is also considered, from removal of the used ceramic product through to the final disposal along with and the benefits and loads beyond the system boundary.

Life cycle stage descriptions are shown in Table 4 and Figure 1.

Table 4: Description of the system boundary according to the PCR

Life cycle stage	Individual stages	Module	Use	Geography	Specific data	Variation – sites
Product stage	Raw material	A1	X	DE,FR,HU, RO,TH	V&B manufacturing data (accounting for raw materials, energy and waste which is >90% of total)	GWP-GHG Min: -25% Max: +29% compared to average
	Transport	A2	X	GLO		
	Manufacturing	A3	X	EU-28		
Construction process stage	Transport	A4	MND	EU-28		
	Construction Installation	A5	MND	EU-28		
Use stage	Use	B1	MND	EU-28	-	-
	Maintenance	B2	MND	EU-28	-	-
	Repair	B3	MND	EU-28	-	-
	Replacement	B4	MND	EU-28	-	-
	Refurbishment	B5	MND	EU-28	-	-
	Operational energy use	B6	MND	EU-28	-	-
	Operational water use	B7	MND	EU-28	-	-
End of life stage	De-construction & demolition	C1	X	GLO	-	-
	Transport	C2	X	GLO	-	-
	Waste processing	C3	X	GLO	-	-
	Disposal	C4	X	EU-28	-	-
Resource recovery stage	Reuse-Recovery-Recycling-potential	D	X	GLO	-	-

X = declared modules, MND = module not declared, Note country abbreviations: DE (Germany), FR (France), GLO (Global), HU (Hungary), RO (Romania) & TH (Thailand)

The system boundaries considered in this study are presented in Figure 1 and include A1, A2, A3, C1, C2, C3, C4 and D from above:

The diagram illustrates the production process for ceramic tiles, categorized into three stages and influenced by external factors.

Energy supply systems (Left side, yellow bar) provide energy to the process.

Extracted resources (Top side, blue bar) provide raw materials to the process.

To environment: air, land & water (Bottom side, green bar) represent the environmental impact of the process.

Input from other product systems (Right side, orange bar) provide additional inputs to the process.

Process Flow:

- Stage 1:** Raw Material Input & Storage (T) leads to Ceramic Glaze Preparation and Ceramic Mass Preparation.
- Stage 2:** Moulding, Drying, and Glazing.
- Stage 3:** Firing and Transit Packaging.

The process involves multiple countries (France, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Thailand) contributing to the production of **Average Ceramic**, which then undergoes **End of life** (T).

T = transport

Table 5: Components inclusion/ exclusion

Included	Excluded
▪ Raw material acquisition ▪ Processing of raw materials ▪ Transport of raw materials to V&B manufacturing sites ▪ Energy used in production at manufacturing facilities ▪ Assembly of finished product ▪ Transport and disposal/recycling of wastes ▪ Transportation of components to assembly site	▪ Production, transportation and disposal of the packaging used for raw materials ▪ Construction activities, capital equipment and infrastructure ▪ Human labor, employee commute and business travel

The production process includes the following steps:

For 'mass' preparation (comprising the material bulk of the ceramic product) the hard materials (feldspar, quartz and internally crushed, fired sanitary ware) are ground with water while the clays are separately dissolved in water with stirrers. Both suspensions are then mixed together with kaolin and conveyed through sieves and filters to a vessel, where the liquid fresh mass ('casting slip') is mixed with recycled mass from the production process. After a few days of rest the slip can be processed in the production facilities.

In case of glaze preparation (providing the surface coating of the product), the raw materials are ground together with water and, if necessary, desired colour bodies and mixed with recycled glaze from the production. After filtration and the addition of levelling agents, the glaze can be used in the glazing area.

Gypsum casting

In the plaster casting process, a plaster mould is filled with casting slip. Due to the capillary force of the absorbent material plaster, water is removed from the slurry to yield a thicker, more uniform, homogeneous material. This process can take 70-90 minutes depending on environmental conditions and the consistency of the casting compound. When the desired thickness is reached, the plaster mould is removed. The remaining slip is emptied and it is left to dry for approximately 60 minutes.

High pressure casting

During the moulding process, a high pressure system removes a large part of the water from the slurry in the porous plastic mould. After a certain amount of standing time, any residual slurry that is not required is returned to the working tank, then the blank of the sanitary article is released from the die-casting mould with the help of water and air. The moulds are then rinsed with water and air to prevent the capillaries from clogging.

After demoulding, the blanks ('green bodies') are processed by hand. The casting seams are deburred and the assembly, flushing and overflow holes are formed with special tools. Uneven areas are then smoothed out with the help of different sponges and water. Defective parts are removed from the process and made available to the mass preparation for recycling.

Drying

The blanks are dried before firing. During the drying process the moisture in the blank is reduced to a minimum. Integrated measuring and testing methods are used to detect defects in the articles at an early stage, to remove irreparable parts from the process and, if necessary, to recycle them back into the mass preparation stage.

Firing

The glazed blanks are placed on kiln cars with refractory base (fireclay). The supporting surface of the tunnel kiln car is coated with a release agent, which prevents the ceramic parts from sticking to the surface. The blanks are then fired in a gas-powered tunnel kiln.

Waste disposal:

The ceramic manufacturing processes generates process wastewater that is sent to a municipal waste water process. Additionally there is a minimal amount of scrap that is either internally or externally recycled or sent to landfill.

End of life scenario

It has been assumed that, at end of life, the ceramic product would be manually dismantled from where it has been installed during the use stage. Hence no burdens have been allocated to module C1.

It is considered very unlikely that post-consumer ceramic ware would be recycled due to the low value and high mass of the product, and to the limited locations where recycling could actually take place. Therefore it has been assumed that no recycling takes place at end of life but that the ceramic product is all sent to landfill, 50 km from where the product was installed.

Ceramic is inert in landfill (not producing landfill gas that can be burnt to produce electricity). As such, no potential benefits or loads beyond the system boundary have been modelled in module D.

Data Quality

Data collection followed the guidance provided in ISO 14044:2006, clause 4.3.2. All producer-specific data are from 2019 and are based on one-year averaged data.

ERM collected site-specific data from V&B's operations using structured questionnaires. The data received were cross-checked for completeness and plausibility using mass balances and stoichiometry, as well as internal and external benchmarking.

All background data were obtained from the databases contained within the Gabi 9.5.2.49 software: most data were sourced from the Gabi 2020 database from Sphera, supplemented with data from ecoinvent v3.6. Datasets from these databases have been used worldwide for several years in LCA models of many critically reviewed studies in industrial and scientific applications. All data were sourced from 2016-2019.

Cut-off criteria

EN 15804 requires that where there are data gaps or insufficient input data for a unit process, the cut-off criteria shall be 1% of renewable and non-renewable primary energy usage and 1% of the total mass of this unit process. The total neglected flows from a product stage must be no more than 5% of product inputs by mass or 5% of primary energy contribution.

All emissions and their environmental impact contributing greater than 1% to the total must be recorded.

In this assessment, all information gathered from data collection for the production of the WC has been modelled, i.e. all raw materials used, the electrical energy and other fuels used, use of ancillary materials and all direct production waste. Transport data on input and output flows have also considered.

Assumptions and Limitations

This EPD does not assess the installation and use stages associated with the life cycle of the ceramic product. The end of life has been modelled based on what is currently the most likely scenario, but this may not be representative of the end of life of a newly installed product that would be disposed of some years in the future, eg if recycling of post-consumer ceramics were to become more widespread. Packaging of the finished product has also not been considered.

Allocation

Most scrap generated during production of the ceramic components is internally recycled. A small amount is sent for external recycling. No impacts have been allocated to this scrap, all burdens associated with the production process have been assigned to the main ceramic product.

LCA Additional Technical Information

The results shown in this EPD are an average across five different production locations, which all produce ceramic sanitary ware for the European market. Each production location was assessed

individually and the weighted average results are presented. The environmental impact results table includes the co-efficient of variation (CV)—the ratio of the standard deviation to the mean—which is a measure of the dispersion of results among each site. The CV has been calculated based on 1 kg ceramic production from each site (ie not weighted by production volume). The higher the CV the greater the variation in results observed across the different production locations.

Further Information

Additional information on sanitary ware ceramic products can be found at www.villeroy-boch.com

Environmental Information

Potential environmental impact

	A1	A2	A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	TOTAL	Co-efficient of variation
GWP - total [kg CO2 eq.]	2.22E+00	1.96E-01	1.17E-01	0.00E+00	1.41E-02	0.00E+00	1.47E-02	0.00E+00	2.57E+00	0.28
GWP - fossil [kg CO2 eq.]	2.21E+00	1.94E-01	1.08E-01	0.00E+00	1.40E-02	0.00E+00	1.51E-02	0.00E+00	2.54E+00	0.28
GWP – biogenic [kg CO2 eq.]	8.76E-03	9.56E-04	9.32E-03	0.00E+00	-1.80E-05	0.00E+00	-4.39E-04	0.00E+00	1.86E-02	0.46
GWP - luluc [kg CO2 eq.]	1.33E-03	1.38E-03	4.22E-05	0.00E+00	1.15E-04	0.00E+00	4.44E-05	0.00E+00	2.92E-03	0.50
ODP [kg CFC-11 eq.]	1.99E-08	2.19E-17	2.59E-16	0.00E+00	1.80E-18	0.00E+00	5.87E-17	0.00E+00	1.99E-08	0.67
AP [Mole of H+ eq.]	2.95E-03	3.16E-04	2.48E-04	0.00E+00	1.26E-05	0.00E+00	1.08E-04	0.00E+00	3.63E-03	0.43
EP - freshwater [kg P eq.]	3.33E-05	5.02E-07	8.07E-06	0.00E+00	4.18E-08	0.00E+00	2.54E-08	0.00E+00	4.19E-05	0.66
EP - marine [kg N eq.]	1.07E-03	1.05E-04	1.38E-04	0.00E+00	3.64E-06	0.00E+00	2.80E-05	0.00E+00	1.34E-03	0.48
EP - terrestic [Mole of N eq.]	1.16E-02	1.20E-03	1.18E-03	0.00E+00	4.50E-05	0.00E+00	3.07E-04	0.00E+00	1.43E-02	0.49
POCP [kg NMVOC eq.]	2.94E-03	2.87E-04	2.85E-04	0.00E+00	1.05E-05	0.00E+00	8.47E-05	0.00E+00	3.61E-03	0.48
ADPF [MJ]	3.75E+01	2.28E+00	3.09E-01	0.00E+00	1.87E-01	0.00E+00	2.01E-01	0.00E+00	4.05E+01	0.24
ADPE [kg Sb eq.]	2.32E-06	1.29E-08	3.77E-09	0.00E+00	1.07E-09	0.00E+00	1.43E-09	0.00E+00	2.34E-06	0.55
WDP [m³ world equiv.]	1.08E-01	1.47E-03	1.21E-02	0.00E+00	1.22E-04	0.00E+00	1.62E-03	0.00E+00	1.23E-01	0.53

Caption: GWP - total = global warming potential; GWP - fossil = global warming potential (fossil fuel only); GWP - biogenic = global warming potential (biogenic); GWP - luluc = global warming potential (land use only); ODP = ozone depletion; AP = acidification terrestrial and freshwater; EP - freshwater = eutrophication potential (freshwater); EP - marine = eutrophication potential (marine); EP- terrestic = eutrophication potential (terrestrial); POCP = photochemical ozone formation; ADPE = abiotic depletion potential (element), ADPF = abiotic depletion potential (fossil) WDP = water scarcity.

Potential environmental impact – GWP-GHG based on EN 15804:2012+A1:2013 (previous version of the standard)

	A1	A2	A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	Total
GWP-GHG	2.17E+00	1.92E-01	1.16E-01	0.00E+00	1.37E-02	0.00E+00	1.43E-02	0.00E+00	2.51E+00

Use of resources

	A1	A2	A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	TOTAL
PERE [MJ]	2.80E+00	1.26E-01	8.24E-02	0.00E+00	1.05E-02	0.00E+00	2.70E-02	0.00E+00	3.05E+00
PERM [MJ]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
PERT [MJ]	2.80E+00	1.26E-01	8.24E-02	0.00E+00	1.05E-02	0.00E+00	2.70E-02	0.00E+00	3.05E+00
PENRE [MJ]	3.75E+01	2.29E+00	3.09E-01	0.00E+00	1.88E-01	0.00E+00	2.01E-01	0.00E+00	4.05E+01
PENRM [MJ]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
PENRT [MJ]	3.75E+01	2.29E+00	3.09E-01	0.00E+00	1.88E-01	0.00E+00	2.01E-01	0.00E+00	4.05E+01
SM [kg]	1.17E-02	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	1.17E-02
RSF [MJ]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
NRSF [MJ]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
FW [m3]	5.05E-03	1.44E-04	3.25E-04	0.00E+00	1.20E-05	0.00E+00	4.95E-05	0.00E+00	5.58E-03

Caption: PERE = Use of renewable primary energy excluding renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PERM = Use of renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PERT = Total use of renewable primary energy resources; PENRE = Use of non-renewable primary energy excluding non-renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PENRM = Use of non-renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PENRT = Total use of non-renewable primary energy resources; SM = Use of secondary material; RSF = Use of renewable secondary fuels; NRSF = Use of non-renewable secondary fuels; FW = Use of net fresh water

Waste production and output flows

	A1	A2	A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	TOTAL
HWD [kg]	7.39E-09	1.14E-10	5.91E-11	0.00E+00	9.45E-12	0.00E+00	2.13E-11	0.00E+00	7.59E-09
NHWD [kg]	2.04E-02	3.38E-04	5.05E-01	0.00E+00	2.79E-05	0.00E+00	1.00E+00	0.00E+00	1.53E+00
RWD [kg]	8.69E-04	2.77E-06	1.81E-05	0.00E+00	2.27E-07	0.00E+00	2.10E-06	0.00E+00	8.92E-04
CRU [kg]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
MER [kg]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
MFR [kg]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	4.18E-02	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	4.18E-02
EEE [MJ]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
EET [MJ]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00

Caption: HWD = Hazardous waste disposed; NHWD = Non-hazardous waste disposed; RWD = Radioactive waste disposed; CRU = Components for re-use; MFR = Materials for recycling; MER = Materials for energy recovery; EEE = Exported electrical energy; EET = Exported thermal energy

Information on biogenic carbon content

	A1	A2	A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	TOTAL
Biogenic carbon content in product [kg]	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Biogenic carbon content in packaging [kg]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

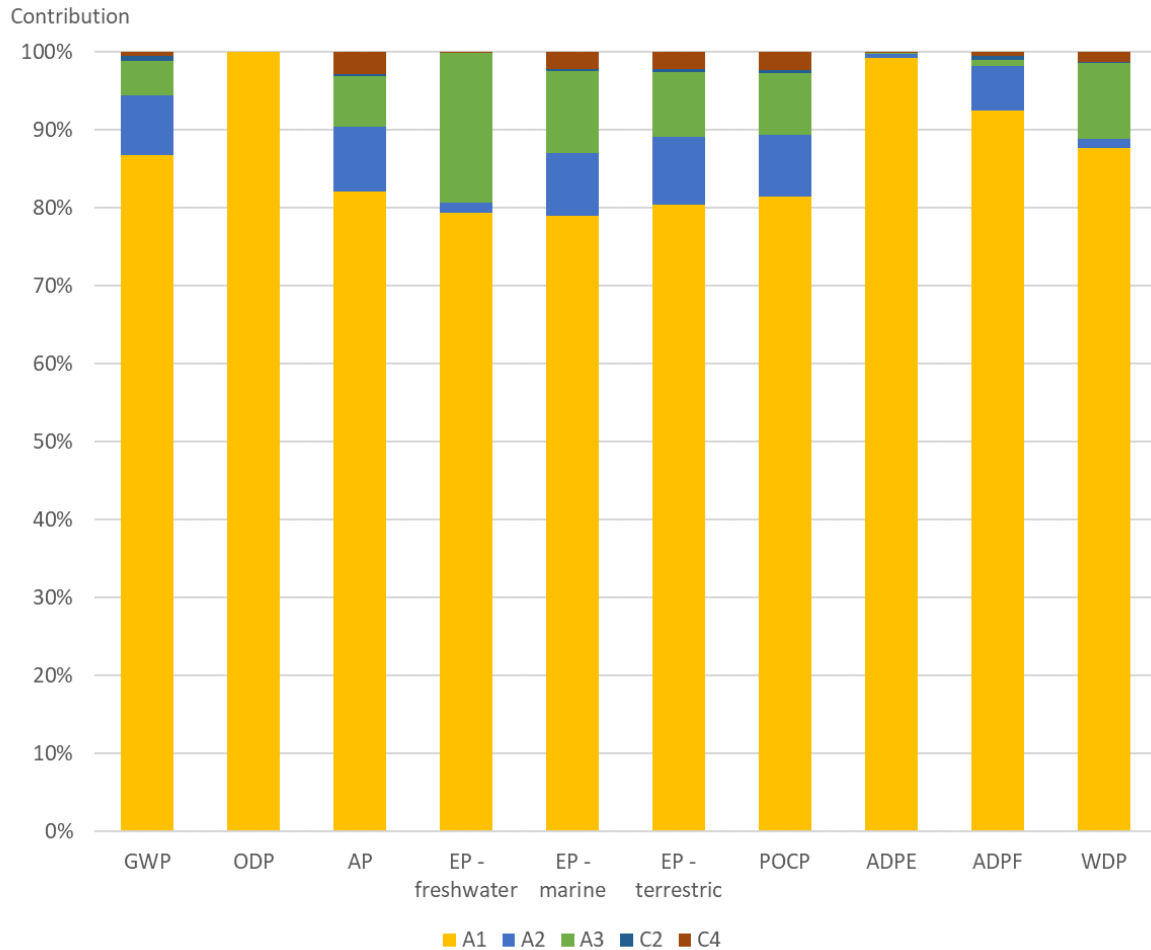
Other environmental indicators

	A1	A2	A3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	TOTAL
PM [Disease incidences]	3.69E-08	3.21E-09	1.44E-09	0.00E+00	7.95E-11	0.00E+00	1.34E-09	0.00E+00	4.30E-08
IR [kBq U235 eq.]	1.23E-01	3.96E-04	2.69E-03	0.00E+00	3.25E-05	0.00E+00	2.21E-04	0.00E+00	1.27E-01
ETF-fw [CTUe]	1.37E+02	1.65E+00	6.04E-01	0.00E+00	1.35E-01	0.00E+00	1.14E-01	0.00E+00	1.40E+02
HTP-c [CTUh]	3.81E-10	3.33E-11	2.38E-11	0.00E+00	2.73E-12	0.00E+00	1.69E-11	0.00E+00	4.57E-10
HTP-nc [CTUh]	2.12E-08	1.74E-09	1.50E-09	0.00E+00	1.41E-10	0.00E+00	1.86E-09	0.00E+00	2.65E-08
SQP [Pt]	3.22E+00	7.72E-01	9.39E-02	0.00E+00	6.43E-02	0.00E+00	4.05E-02	0.00E+00	2.35E+00

Caption: PM = Particulate matter emissions; IR = Ionizing radiation, human health; ETF-fw = Eco-toxicity (freshwater); HTP-c = Human toxicity, cancer effects; HTP-nc = Human toxicity, non-cancer effects, SQP = Soil quality potential/ Land use related impacts

Interpretation

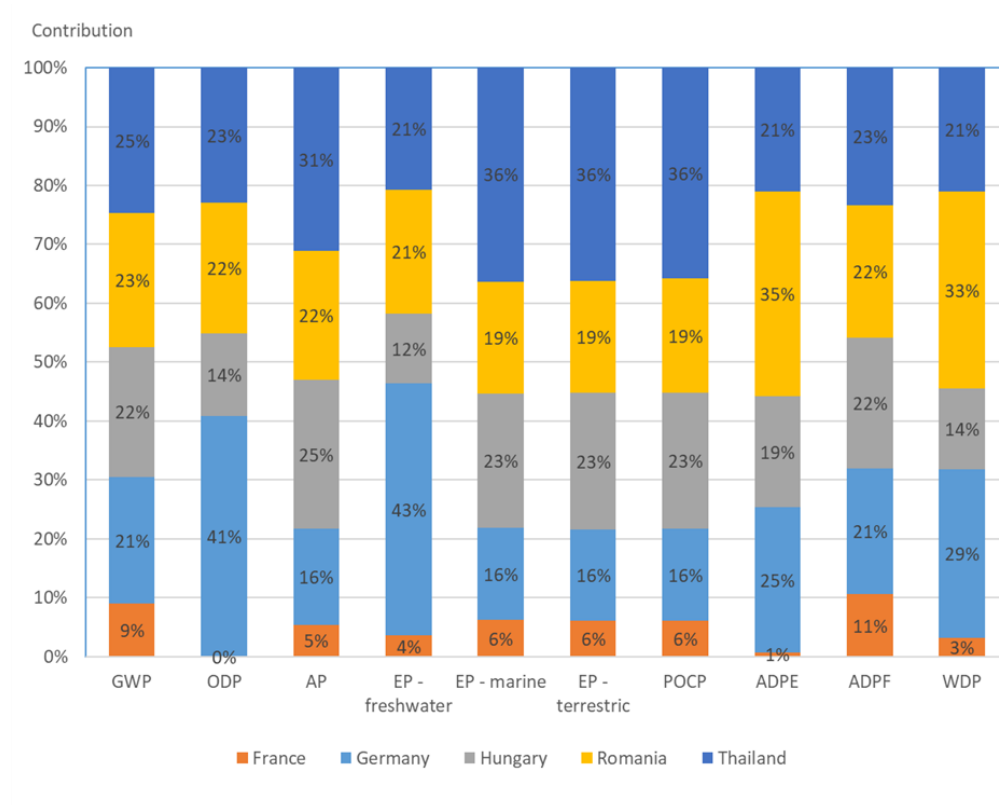
Figure 2: Contribution of modules (A1, A2, A3, C2 and C4) to environmental impact categories for sanitary ceramic products



The results in Figure 2 show that module A1 (raw material supply) is the dominant contributor to the majority of environmental impact categories, accounting for almost more than 80% of burdens for every impact category. Burdens associated with module A2 are the next most significant, but to a much lesser extent than A1, and is negligible for several impact categories. Similarly, Module A3, also has a reasonable contribution to some impact categories but a minor contribution in others.

Modules associated with end of life have a negligible contribution to the overall life cycle burdens.

Figure 3: Contribution of individual manufacturing facilities to environmental impact categories for sanitary ceramic products



The results from Figure 3 show that Hungary and Thailand tend to account for the largest contributions to the total impact. This is due to a combination of factors including production volume (Hungary is the biggest producer), production efficiency (significantly more waste is generated in Thailand than in other locations), raw material and fuel mix.

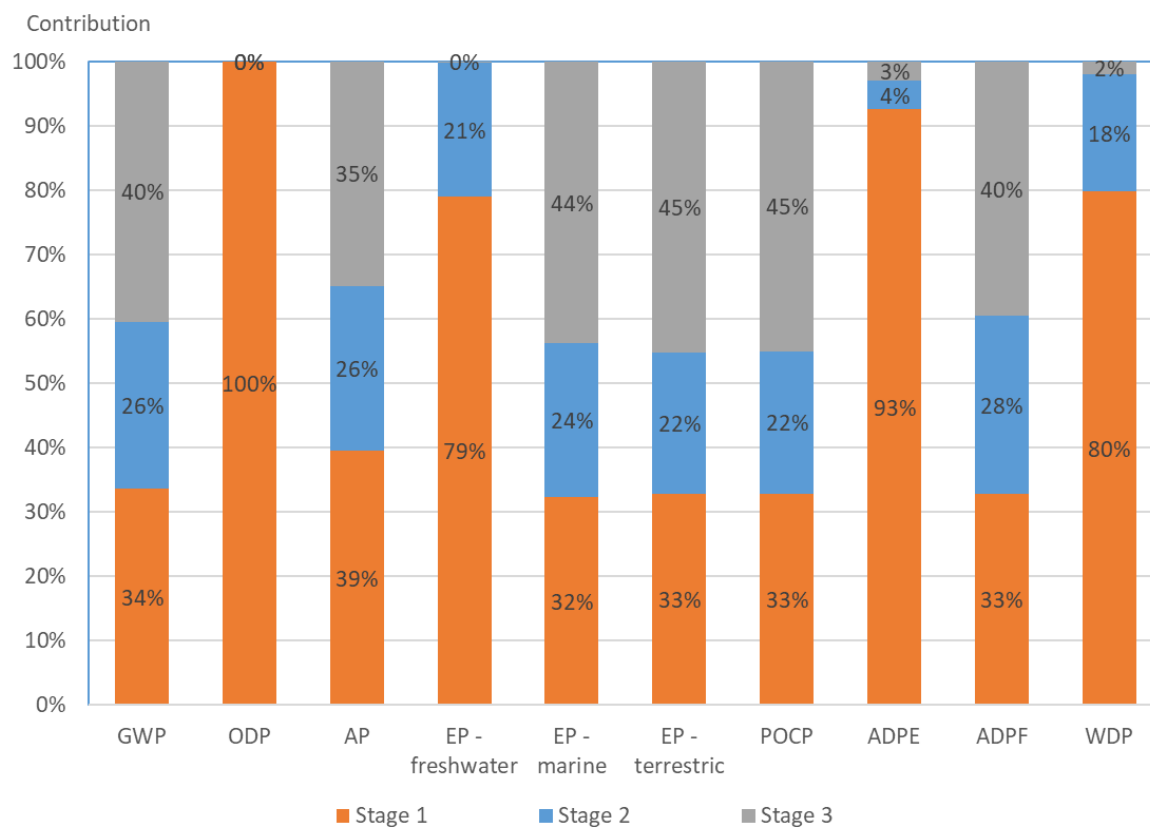
The co-efficient of variation has been reported alongside the EPD results for the environmental impact categories. The degree of difference in co-efficient of variation varies greatly depending on the metric assessed. For some, such as climate change and use of fossil resources, the different production sites are reasonably well-aligned, while for others, such as freshwater eutrophication and use of metal and mineral resources, the differences are much greater. These differences are due to a number of factors including fuel mix, country-specific electricity grid mix, particular selection of raw materials, loss rates during manufacturing, etc.

The high relative burdens associated with ozone depletion, freshwater eutrophication and water scarcity in Germany are due to outsized contributions from production of zirconium silicate and barium carbonate minerals. The larger than expected burdens for marine and terrestrial eutrophication and photochemical ozone formation in Thailand is mainly due to the high electricity usage and the specific grid mix in this region. The high contribution to mineral and metal resource depletion in Romania is mostly due to burdens associated with frit production.

Overall, compared to production volumes from each site, it can be seen that ceramic manufactured in Thailand generally has proportionally higher burdens than expected for most impact categories. German production also has higher burdens for some indicators. In contrast, production in Romania and France shows lower relative impacts for most categories.

Figure 4 shows the contribution to the total impact from A1-3 from each production stage (stage 1 = raw materials preparation, stage 2 = casting and drying, stage 3 = firing). For most impact categories there is a relatively even split between each stage, but ODP, EP (freshwater), ADPE and WDP are all dominated by impacts associated with raw material acquisition).

Figure 4: Contribution of individual processing stages to environmental impact categories for sanitary ceramic products



References

General Programme Instructions of the International EPD® System. Version 3.01.

BS EN 15804:2012+A2:2019 - Sustainability of construction works. Environmental product declarations. Core rules for the product category of construction products

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NBR ISO 14020 - Environmental labels and declarations - General Principles, 2002

ISO 14025 - Environmental labels and declarations - Type III environmental declarations - Principles and procedures, 2006

NBR ISO 14040 - Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Principles and framework, 2009

NBR ISO 14044 - Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Requirements and guidelines, 2009

Product Category Rule (PCR 2019:14): “Construction products”, International EPD® System, 2019

Environmental Product Declaration



Of multiple products based on average results

In accordance with ISO 14025:2006 and EN 15804:2012+A2:2019/AC:2021 for:

Villeroy & Boch / Gustavsberg Thermoplast Toilet Seats

from

Villeroy & Boch AG



Programme:

Programme operator:

EPD registration number:

Publication date:

Valid until:

The International EPD® System, www.environdec.com

EPD International AB

EPD-IES-0007692:001

2025-06-02

2028-06-21

An EPD should provide current information and may be updated if conditions change. The stated validity is therefore subject to the continued registration and publication at www.environdec.com



General information

Programme information

Programme:	The International EPD® System
Address:	EPD International AB Box 210 60 SE-100 31 Stockholm Sweden
Website:	www.environdec.com
E-mail:	info@environdec.com

Accountabilities for PCR, LCA and independent, third-party verification
Product Category Rules (PCR)
CEN standard EN 15804 serves as the Core Product Category Rules (PCR) Product Category Rules (PCR): PCR 2019:14 Construction products (EN 15804:A2) (version 1.3.4)
Product Category Rules (PCR): Construction Products 2019:14, Version 1.3.4 and EN 15804:2012+A2:2019 Sustainability of Construction Works
PCR review was conducted by: The Technical Committee on the International EPD® System. Contact via www.environdec.com info@environdec.com
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
LCA accountability: Alexander Kyriakidis, AFRY, www.afry.com
Third-party verification
Independent third-party verification of the declaration and data, according to ISO 14025:2006, via: ☒ EPD verification by individual verifier Third-party verifier: Katrin Molina-Besch, Miljögiraff Approved by: The International EPD® System Procedure for follow-up of data during EPD validity involves third party verifier: ☐ Yes ☒ No

The EPD owner has the sole ownership, liability, and responsibility for the EPD.

EPDs within the same product category but registered in different EPD programmes, or not compliant with EN 15804, may not be comparable. For two EPDs to be comparable, they must be based on the same PCR (including the same version number) or be based on fully-aligned PCRs or versions of PCRs; cover products with identical functions, technical performances and use (e.g. identical declared/functional units); have equivalent system boundaries and descriptions of data; apply equivalent data quality requirements, methods of data collection, and allocation methods; apply identical cut-off rules and impact assessment methods (including the same version of characterisation factors); have equivalent content declarations; and be valid at the time of comparison. For further information about comparability, see EN 15804 and ISO 14025.

Company information

Owner of the EPD:

Villeroy & Boch AG
Saaruferstraße
66693 Mettlach (Germany)
<https://www.villeroyboch-group.com/> [\[villeroyboch-group.com\]](https://www.villeroyboch-group.com/)

Contact:

Mattias Virsgård

Description of the organisation:

Since its foundation in 1748, the ceramic producer has developed into an international lifestyle brand. Like very few other premium brands, Villeroy & Boch is deeply rooted in European culture. And, in the way that only a great brand can do, it has understood how to preserve its identity while still moving with the times.

Villeroy & Boch produces innovative and stylish products to enhance people's lives, provide continuous inspiration and open up new horizons for truly personalised interior design.

Product-related or management system-related certifications:

Production facilities:
DIN EN ISO 9001

Villeroy & Boch AG organization:

SS-EN ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System
SS-EN ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management System
SS-EN ISO 45001:2018 – Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems
SS-EN ISO 50001:2018 – Energy Management System

Name and location of production site(s):

Rohrdorf, Germany
Sevlievo, Bulgaria
Kunshan, China

Product information

Product name:

Thermoplast Toilet Seats

Product list

Brand Villeroy & Boch
8M28S101 O.novo

Brand Gustavsberg
9M646101 Gustavsberg/Saval
9M649901 Nordic
9M648101 Saval
9M246101 Nautic

And others for Villeroy & Boch group, produced in the same material in the same production site.

Product identification:

Toilet seat set made of thermoplast material (PP)

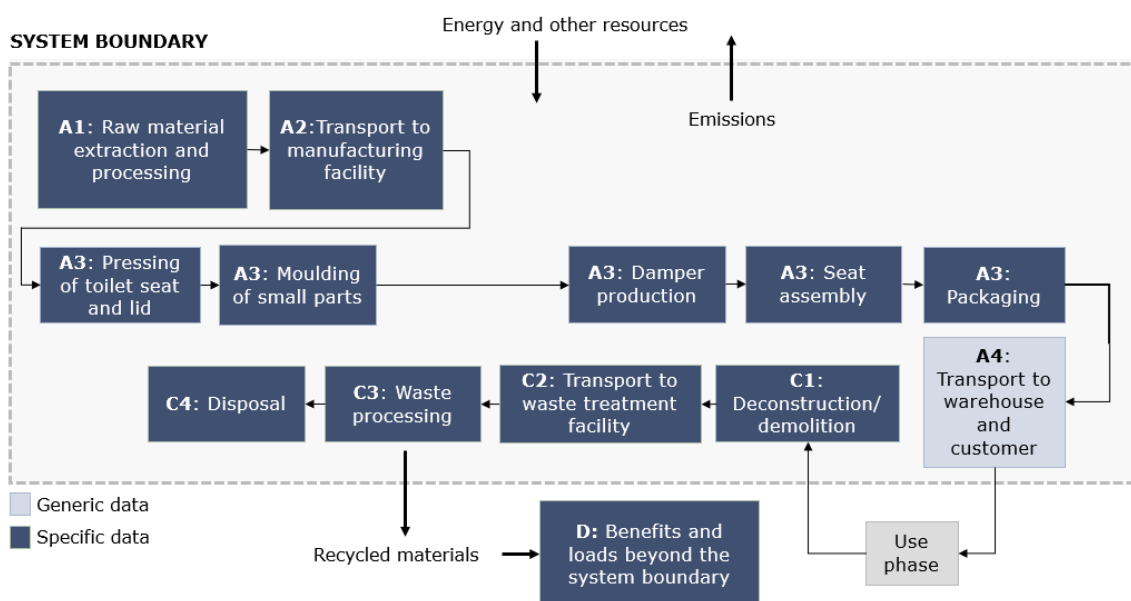
Product description:

Villeroy & Boch & Gustavsberg toilet seats are the perfect, custom-fit solution for each toilets. Their quick assembly and easy-clean benefits speak for themselves, and their designs create a harmonic unit with the ceramic bowl.

UN CPC code:

3693 - Baths, wash-basins, lavatory pans and covers, flushing cisterns and similar sanitary ware, of plastics.

Production diagram:



LCA information

Declared unit:

1 piece average Toilet seat set made of thermoplast material (PP) (1.10 kg).

Reference service life:

RSL is not considered in the LCA. PP WC seats have an average lifespan of 3 years.

Time representativeness:

Production data was collected for the year 2022.

Database(s) and LCA software used:

LCA for Experts (Version 10.7) and Sphera LCA content (Content Version 2023.1).

For module A4 only: SimaPro 9.6.1 and Ecoinvent 3.10.

Environmental impact was assessed according to EN 15804:2012+A2:2019 using EF 3.1 characterization factors

LCA scenarios:

In module A5, the waste treatment of the packaging materials is modelled. Cardboard is recycled and polyethylene foil is incinerated. For waste treatment in module C3, incineration is modelled for plastic components and recycling for metal components. Loads and benefits resulting from recycling and incineration in modules A5 and C3 are assigned to module D. For transports to waste treatment, a distance of 100 km is assumed.

Description of system boundaries:

Cradle to gate with options, modules A1–A5, C1–C4 and module D.

Cut-off criteria:

Infrastructure, capital goods and personnel-related processes were excluded. Nucleating agent was cut-off (0.75% of mass of product). It is assumed that the cut-off criterion on mass inputs and primary energy at the unit process level (1%) and at the information module level (5%) are met.

Allocation:

Energy was allocated between Thermoplast and other toilet seats (Duroplast) based on the number of seats produced at each site.

Assumptions:

As Thermoplast toilet seats are predominantly sold with plastic hinges, a plastic hinge was modelled.

Modules declared, geographical scope, share of specific data (in GWP-GHG results) and data variation (in GWP-GHG results):

	Product stage			Constru ction process stage		Use stage							End of life stage				Reso urce recov ery stage
	Raw material supply	Transport	Manufacturing	Transport	Construction installation	Use	Maintenance	Repair	Replacement	Refurbishment	Operational energy use	Operational water use	De-construction demolition	Transport	Waste processing	Disposal	Reuse-Recovery-Recycling- potential
Module	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	B 5	B 6	B 7	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Modules declared	X	X	X	X	X	N D	N D	N D	N D	N D	N D	N D	X	X	X	X	X
Geography	DE, BG, CN	DE, BG, CN	DE, BG, CN	EU R	EU R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	E U R	E U R	E U R	E U R	-
Specific data used	-19% to +44% for GWP-GHG indicator						-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variation – products	-1% to +109% for GWP-GHG indicator compared to declared average						-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Variability in the LCIA results is mainly due to the different weights of the products. In general, the lighter the product, the lower the LCIA results. The weight of the unpackaged product varies between 1.4 and 3.5 kg.

A1: Raw Material

This stage includes raw material extraction and production of bought components.

A2: Transport

This stage includes transportation of raw materials to production sites and of components to final site of assembly.

A3: Manufacturing

This stage includes resource use in the manufacturing facility in Vårgårda such as use of energy. It also includes treatment of waste generated from the manufacturing processes. The manufacturing includes casting, chrome plating, assembling, and packing. Data from the full year of 2022 have been used in the calculations.

Site electricity mixes were the following (GWP-GHG/kWh):

- Germany: Green electricity (3 g)
- Bulgaria: Residual electricity mix (441 g)
- China: Electricity mix (811 g)

A4

This stage includes the transportation of the finished product to its installation location. 1000 km transportation is assumed.

A5

This stage includes the installation of the product, materials needed and waste generated as an result of installation.

C1: Deconstruction

No impacts are assumed to be associated with the deconstruction phase.

C2: Waste Transport

Includes the transportation of the discarded product to a waste treatment facility. 100 km transportation is assumed.

C3: Waste Processing

This stage includes sorting of waste.

C4: Waste disposal

This stage includes waste disposal processes, such as landfill or incineration. Incineration is assumed for plastics, with metals assumed to have a recycling rate of 90%

D: Benefits and loads outside the system boundary

This stage includes benefits and burdens associated with recovery/recycling that affects future life cycles. For this product it includes benefits from the recycling of brass and metals, as well as energy recovery from waste incineration

Content information

Product components	Weight, kg	Post-consumer material, weight-%	Biogenic material, weight-% and kg C/kg
Thermoplast (polypropylene)	1.027	0%	0
Injection Molding (polyethylene - ethylene vinyl acetate, pigment)	0.043	0%	0
Other (polyamide)	0.030	0%	0
TOTAL	1.1	0%	0
Packaging materials	Weight, kg	Weight-% (versus the product)	Weight biogenic carbon, kg C/kg
Polyethylene foil	0.017	1.5%	-
Cardboard box	0.272	24.7%	0.112
TOTAL	0.29	26.2%	0.112

No substances that appear in the REACH Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) are present or used in the product.

Results of the environmental performance indicators

Mandatory impact category indicators according to EN 15804

Results per functional or declared unit									
Indicator	Unit	A1-A3	A4	A5	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
GWP-total	kg CO ₂ eq.	3.18E+00	1.33E+00	4.67E-01	0.00E+00	1.08E-02	3.34E+00	0.00E+00	-1.54E+00
GWP-fossil	kg CO ₂ eq.	3.59E+00	1.33E+00	5.61E-02	0.00E+00	1.07E-02	3.34E+00	0.00E+00	-1.54E+00
GWP-biogenic	kg CO ₂ eq.	-4.11E-01	9.86E-04	4.11E-01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
GWP-luluc	kg CO ₂ eq.	1.91E-03	4.34E+00	2.63E-05	0.00E+00	9.77E-05	3.13E-06	0.00E+00	-9.91E-05
ODP	kg CFC 11 eq.	1.99E-11	2.58E-08	2.89E-15	0.00E+00	1.37E-15	1.69E-13	0.00E+00	-1.19E-11
AP	mol H ⁺ eq.	7.76E-03	2.70E-03	1.74E-05	0.00E+00	4.18E-05	4.56E-04	0.00E+00	-1.91E-03
EP-freshwater	kg P eq.	1.19E-05	8.78E-05	1.10E-08	0.00E+00	3.86E-08	4.18E-08	0.00E+00	-2.47E-06
EP-marine	kg N eq.	2.28E-03	6.48E-04	6.81E-06	0.00E+00	1.94E-05	1.35E-04	0.00E+00	-5.58E-04
EP-terrestrial	mol N eq.	2.37E-02	7.00E-03	8.86E-05	0.00E+00	2.18E-04	2.27E-03	0.00E+00	-5.97E-03
POCP	kg NMVOC eq.	7.06E-03	4.49E-03	1.43E-05	0.00E+00	3.79E-05	3.74E-04	0.00E+00	-1.55E-03
ADP-minerals&metals*	kg Sb eq.	5.35E-07	4.22E-06	2.10E-10	0.00E+00	6.95E-10	1.51E-09	0.00E+00	-1.09E-07
ADP-fossil*	MJ	1.04E+02	1.52E+00	4.49E-02	0.00E+00	1.44E-01	4.34E-01	0.00E+00	-2.81E+01
WDP*	m ³	3.51E-01	7.68E-02	4.94E-03	0.00E+00	1.27E-04	3.12E-01	0.00E+00	-1.45E-01
Acronyms	GWP-fossil = Global Warming Potential fossil fuels; GWP-biogenic = Global Warming Potential biogenic; GWP-luluc = Global Warming Potential land use and land use change; ODP = Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer; AP = Acidification potential, Accumulated Exceedance; EP-freshwater = Eutrophication potential, fraction of nutrients reaching freshwater end compartment; EP-marine = Eutrophication potential, fraction of nutrients reaching marine end compartment; EP-terrestrial = Eutrophication potential, Accumulated Exceedance; POCP = Formation potential of tropospheric ozone; ADP-minerals&metals = Abiotic depletion potential for non-fossil resources; ADP-fossil = Abiotic depletion for fossil resources potential; WDP = Water (user) deprivation potential, deprivation-weighted water consumption								

* Disclaimer: The results of this environmental impact indicator shall be used with care as the uncertainties of these results are high or as there is limited experience with the indicator.

Additional mandatory and voluntary impact category indicators

Results per functional or declared unit									
Indicator	Unit	A1-A3	A4	A5	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
GWP-GHG ¹	kg CO ₂ eq.	3.59E+00	1.33E+00	5.61E-02	0.00E+00	1.07E-02	3.34E+00	0.00E+00	-1.54E+00

In order to calculate the results for module A1-A3 for a toilet seat with another weight, the following formula can be applied:
Average Thermoplast toilet seat GWP-GHG emissions in kg CO₂e = 1.67 + Product weight (without packaging) in kg * 1.75

Resource use indicators

Results per functional or declared unit									
Indicator	Unit	A1-A3	A4	A5	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
PERE	MJ	1.14E+01	7.16E-01	4.57E+00	0.00E+00	1.05E-02	1.08E-01	0.00E+00	-8.16E+00
PERM	MJ	4.57E+00	0.00E+00	4.57E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
PERT	MJ	1.60E+01	7.16E-01	4.42E-03	0.00E+00	1.05E-02	1.08E-01	0.00E+00	-8.16E+00
PENRE	MJ	5.89E+01	9.82E+00	7.95E-01	0.00E+00	1.44E-01	4.48E+01	0.00E+00	-2.81E+01
PENRM	MJ	4.52E+01	0.00E+00	-7.50E-01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	4.44E+01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
PENRT	MJ	1.04E+02	9.82E+00	4.51E-02	0.00E+00	1.44E-01	4.35E-01	0.00E+00	-2.81E+01
SM	kg	2.42E-01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
RSF	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
NRSF	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
FW	m ³	2.26E-02	7.84E-04	1.18E-04	0.00E+00	1.15E-05	7.31E-03	0.00E+00	-6.62E-03
Acronyms	PERE = Use of renewable primary energy excluding renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PERM = Use of renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PERT = Total use of renewable primary energy resources; PENRE = Use of non-renewable primary energy excluding non-renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PENRM = Use of non-renewable primary energy resources used as raw materials; PENRT = Total use of non-renewable primary energy re-sources; SM = Use of secondary material; RSF = Use of renewable secondary fuels; NRSF = Use of non-renewable secondary fuels; FW = Use of net fresh water								

¹ This indicator accounts for all greenhouse gases except biogenic carbon dioxide uptake and emissions and biogenic carbon stored in the product. As such, the indicator is identical to GWP-total except that the CF for biogenic CO₂ is set to zero.

Waste indicators

Results per functional or declared unit									
Indicator	Unit	A1-A3	A4	A5	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Hazardous waste disposed	kg	9.06E-08	0.00E+00	2.62E-13	0.00E+00	4.47E-13	1.45E-11	0.00E+00	-1.49E-09
Non-hazardous waste disposed	kg	3.89E-02	0.00E+00	2.17E-04	0.00E+00	2.20E-05	1.52E-02	0.00E+00	-1.39E-02
Radioactive waste disposed	kg	4.60E-03	0.00E+00	4.53E-07	0.00E+00	2.70E-07	2.45E-05	0.00E+00	-2.16E-03

Output flow indicators

Results per functional or declared unit									
Indicator	Unit	A1-A3	A4	A5	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Components for re-use	kg	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Material for recycling	kg	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	2.72E-01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Materials for energy recovery	kg	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	1.70E-02	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	1.10E+00	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Exported energy, electricity	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	1.14E-01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	7.09E+00	0.00E+00	7.20E+00
Exported energy, thermal	MJ	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	2.02E-01	0.00E+00	0.00E+00	1.28E+01	0.00E+00	1.30E+01

The estimated impact results are only relative statements, which do not indicate the endpoints of the impact categories, exceeding threshold values, safety margins and/or risks. The results of the end-of-life stage (module C) should be considered when using the results of the production stage (modules A1-A4).

Other environmental performance indicators

Additional environmental information

- the existence of a quality or environmental management system or any type of organised environmental activity, and
- information on where interested parties may find more details about the organisation's environmental work.

Additional environmental information can also include information on carbon offset, carbon storage and delayed emissions, or on release of dangerous substances to indoor air, soil and water during the use stage.

References

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EPD International (2023): PCR 2019:14. Construction products 2019:14. Version 1.3.4.

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Ecoinvent v.3. Wernet, G., Bauer, C., Steubing, B., Reinhard, J., Moreno-Ruiz, E., and Weidema, B. (2016): The ecoinvent database version 3 (part I): overview and methodology. The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, [online] 21(9), pp.1218–1230. Available at: <<http://link.springer.com/10.1007/s11367-016-1087-8>>

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Kyriakidis, A. (2025): Life Cycle Assessment of Villeroy-Boch toilet seats

SimaPro. SimaPro LCA Package, Pré Consultants, the Netherlands, www.pre-sustainability.com

