

Technical performance and principles of system design

Sustainability

Our mission is to develop innovative products and services that help customers build better spaces to live, work and play. In every kind of building - from home to work, from the local supermarket to the local hospital - we help to create partitions, provide comfort, protect against fire and insulate against sound.

With over 100 years' experience in plasterboard and ceiling solutions, we already have a multitude of high performance products and systems. However, we're pushing the boundaries in our current thinking and we have an ambitious innovation programme, driven by our customers, to deliver meaningful consumer benefits.

Useful reference documents covering international legislations and guidance

There are many building regulations and environmental assessment methods that apply to construction industry such as:

- Green Building Code
- Estidama Pearl Rating
- Al Safat
- The BRE Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

This document does not go into detail about each of these standards, however, other documents within our literature detail how our products and systems meet specific requirements. Guides include:

- Gypsum Recycling Brochure
- Gyproc Environmental Brochure
- LEED V4 Brochure
- The Hospitality Sector Brochure
- The Healthcare Sector Brochure
- The Educational Sector Brochure.

This section should be read in conjunction with our sustainable practices, available online at <http://www.gyproc.ae/sustainability>

Certifications

ISO 14001:2015 - Environmental Management Systems: Requirements with guidance for use

ISO 14001 specifies the requirements for an environmental management system (EMS). It applies to those environmental aspects which the organization has control over and which it can be expected to have an influence. The standard applies to management systems which a site or organization might employ, but does not directly relate to products. It is not a product certification system or label. The standard itself does not state specific environmental performance criteria; this is down to the site or organization to do.

ISO 9001:2015 - Quality Management Systems: Requirements

ISO 9001 is an internationally recognized and well established quality framework, currently used by more than 897,000 organizations in 170 countries worldwide and sets the standard for quality management systems. The business has continuous assessment visits every 6 months, and the latest certificate was issued under the revised ISO 9001:2015 in August 2019.

OHSAS 18001:2007 - Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems: Requirements

OHSAS 18001:2007 is an internationally recognized assessment specification for occupational Health and Safety management systems. It was developed by a selection of leading trade bodies, international standards and certification bodies to address a gap where no third-party certifiable international standard exists.

Health and Safety is our core value. Our aim is to always be injury-free. We passionately believe that our employees, and other stakeholders, should go home in the same condition as they arrived. We set the target of zero accidents at work for employees, visitors and contractors.

Our culture is one where safety is everyone's responsibility. Our people are encouraged to lead from within, through a program of employee engagement and safety awareness, which includes functional safety committees, safety initiative worker groups and leadership groups. The business uses tools such as SUSA (Safe and Unsafe Acts) discussions and SMAT (Safety Management Audit Tool) to highlight safety concerns and correct them.

Keeping employees fit, happy and healthy is crucial for us. Our in-house occupational health team provide periodic health surveillance and on-going assessments with lifestyle guidance.

Products not manufactured by Gyproc

As previously stated, the ISO and OHSAS standards are not product certifications. They certify the management systems of companies within the supply chain. All products that are merchandised (i.e. bought in and not manufactured by us) and all processes conducted by us, i.e. purchasing and logistics management, are covered by our certifications.

Gyproc's recycled raw materials

Recovered gypsum

Currently we recover and recycle waste plasterboard from our own processes and plasterboard from customers can be returned to us for recycling into new boards. The gypsum content is used within the production of new boards; and the paper content is either used off site as soil improver or disposed off via responsible route.

Plasterboard liner

The liner used to sandwich gypsum to make plasterboard is made from various grades of paper, all of which is 100% post-consumer recycled material.

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Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

Across the construction industry there are many claims made regarding the environmental performance of products, and as such, it can be hard for specifiers to get a genuine picture of how sustainable a solution really is. LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) considers the entire life cycle of a product solution throughout its lifetime. As part of the assessment, a comprehensive range of factors are considered, including the potential environmental effects of raw materials, the manufacturing process, logistics, installation, performance in use and finally the product at the end of its life. Please refer to illustration below.

An Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) is a verified document that reports on the environmental data of products based on an LCA, as well as other relevant information in accordance with international standards such as ISO 14025:2006 Type III Environmental Declarations and BS EN 15804: 2012 Sustainability of Construction Works. Environmental product declaration core rates for the product category of construction products. Information such as raw material use, energy use and efficiency, content of materials and chemical substances, emissions to air, soil and water and waste generation can be viewed in an EPD.

RAW MATERIALS

Gypsum, a sustainably extracted natural resource from quarries but also a by-product from power stations and a recycled waste from jobsites.

MANUFACTURING

A manufacturing process at low temperatures, with low emissions and measured water consumptions.

LOGISTICS

Local production in most countries we serve.

RECYCLING

Gypsum is 100% recyclable, indefinitely.

END-OF-LIFE

Easy to dismantle and recycle solutions.

BUILDING LIFETIME

Comfortable, efficient and healthy buildings.

INSTALLATION

Flexible and lightweight solutions. Limited waste generation on jobsite.

Life Cycle
approach

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The EPD results also enable us to understand at which stage our products have the greatest impact on the environment. We can therefore make better informed decisions on processes involved in the production of current and new products, as well as taking steps to minimize the environmental impact of our products across their lifecycle.

EPD's also provide clear evidence for environmental building certification schemes, meeting credit requirements in BREEAM or mandatory in LEED, for example.

We want to make the selection of sustainable solutions simpler for our customers. In order to do this, we have begun developing Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) for our product ranges. The independently verified EPD, which are the result of the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) process, are designed to give users information on the environmental performance of our products across numerous impact categories.

Our current completed EPDs are for:

- 12.5mm Gyproc Regular
- 12.5mm Gyproc Moisture Resistant H1
- 15mm Gyproc FireStop
- 12.5mm Gyproc SoundBloc
- 12.5mm Gyproc Habito
- 12.5mm Glasroc X

This is just the beginning of the journey. We are developing further EPD's for our solutions and these will be rolled out in due course. All current EPD's can be found on our website **www.gyproc.ae** and on the international EPD library **www.environded.com**

Our sister companies Rigips and Gyptone, located in France and Denmark have had assessments carried out on our perforated gypsum acoustic ceilings. Please contact the Gyproc Technical Team to get the EPD's for these products.

Useful links

Gyproc - sustainability

www.gyproc.ae/sustainability

www.saint-gobain-gyproc.com/sustainability

ESTIDAMA

www.dpm.gov.abudhabi/en/Urban-Planning/Estidama-Program

AI SA'FAT

www.web.alsaafat.ae

BREEAM

www.breeam.org

LEED

www.usgbc.org/leed