



The built environment's journey to net zero

The built environment contributes around 40% of the UK's total carbon footprint, indicating how important the sector is to achieving net zero carbon emissions.

In order to reduce its environmental impact, the built environment needs to address embodied carbon, used during the whole life of a structure, as well as operational carbon, including energy used for heating, cooling and power. Energy efficiency retrofit focuses on the reduction of operational carbon, as 80% of the buildings that will be in use in 2050 have already been built. Standards play a vital role in enabling the sector's shift to net zero, covering lower-carbon products and materials, energy efficiency, alternative fuels and more sustainable methods of construction, operation, decommissioning and recycling.

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To reduce the sector's carbon emissions, changes are needed to the design, construction, operation and decommissioning of structures, along with retrofitting to improve the performance of existing building stock. Across the built environment, there are a number of standards that can help to provide you with the necessary best practice framework for success. Discover some of the key standards which can help your organization manage its carbon emissions.

Construction works

- BS EN 16627:2015**
Sustainability of construction works. Assessment of economic performance of buildings. Calculation methods.
- BS ISO 15392:2019**
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. General principles.
- BS ISO 20887:2020**
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. Design for disassembly and adaptability. Principles, requirements and guidance.
- BS ISO 21678:2020**
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. Indicators and benchmarks. Principles, requirements and guidelines.

BS EN 15643:2021
Sustainability of construction works. Framework for assessment of buildings and civil engineering works.

BS EN 16309:2014+A1:2014
Sustainability of construction works. Assessment of social performance of buildings. Calculation methodology.

PD CEN/TR 16970:2016
Sustainability of construction works. Guidance for the implementation of EN 15804.

PAS 8820:2016
Construction materials. Alkali-activated cementitious material and concrete.

BS EN 15942:2021
Sustainability of construction works. Environmental product declarations. Communication format business-to-business.

BS EN 15804:2012+A1:2013
Sustainability of construction works. Environmental product declarations. Core rules for the product category of construction products.

Building efficiency

- PAS 2035/2030:2019**
Retrofitting dwellings for improved energy efficiency.
- PAS 2038:2021**
Retrofitting non-domestic buildings for improved energy efficiency.
- BS EN 16798 series**
EPBD Energy Performance in Buildings Directive.
- BS 5250:2021**
Management of moisture in buildings. Code of practice.

BS ISO 16745-1:2017
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. Carbon metric of an existing building during use stage. Calculation, reporting and communication.

BS ISO 16745-2:2017
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. Carbon metric of an existing building during use stage. Verification.

BS 8895 series
Design for material efficiency in building projects.

BS 40101:2022
Building performance evaluation of occupied and operational buildings. Specification.

BS 8536:2022
Design, manufacture and construction for operability. Code of practice.

BS ISO 21931-2:2019
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. Framework for methods of assessment of the environmental, social and economic performance of construction works as a basis for sustainability assessment. Civil engineering works.

PD CEN/TR 17005:2016
Sustainability of construction works. Additional environmental impact categories and indicators. Background information and possibilities. Evaluation of the possibility of adding environmental impact categories and related indicators and calculation methods for the assessment of the environmental performance of buildings.

PD ISO/TS 12720:2014
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. Guidelines on the application of the general principles in ISO 15392.

PD ISO/TS 21929-2:2015
Sustainability in building construction. Sustainability indicators. Framework for the development of indicators for civil engineering works.

BS 9228:2021
Recycling of roads and other paved areas using bitumen emulsion, foamed bitumen or hydraulic material. Materials, production, installation and product type testing. Specification.

PD ISO/TR 21932:2013
Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works. A review of terminology.

PAS 4444:2020
Hydrogen-fired gas appliances.

