

Welcome!

SEAW State January Virtual Meeting



NET-ZERO EMBODIED CARBON STRUCTURES: THE SE 2050 COMMITMENT

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AGENDA

- SE 2050 Overview
 - Importance of SE 2050
 - Program Requirements
 - First Steps of Committing
 - Embodied Carbon Action Plan (ECAP)
 - Yearly Requirements
 - Database
 - Overview of Database
 - Tools Available for Reporting
 - Uploading Data
 - Resources
- Embodied Carbon Reduction Strategies
- Q&A

2

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Learn the purpose, goals, and requirements for joining the SE 2050 Commitment.
2. Learn about the SE 2050 database, how to upload data, and what tools are available for structural engineers to measure embodied carbon/global warming potential.
3. Learn about the resources available to structural engineers on se2050.org.
4. Learn different tactics to reduce the embodied carbon on structural framing systems.

SE 2050 OVERVIEW



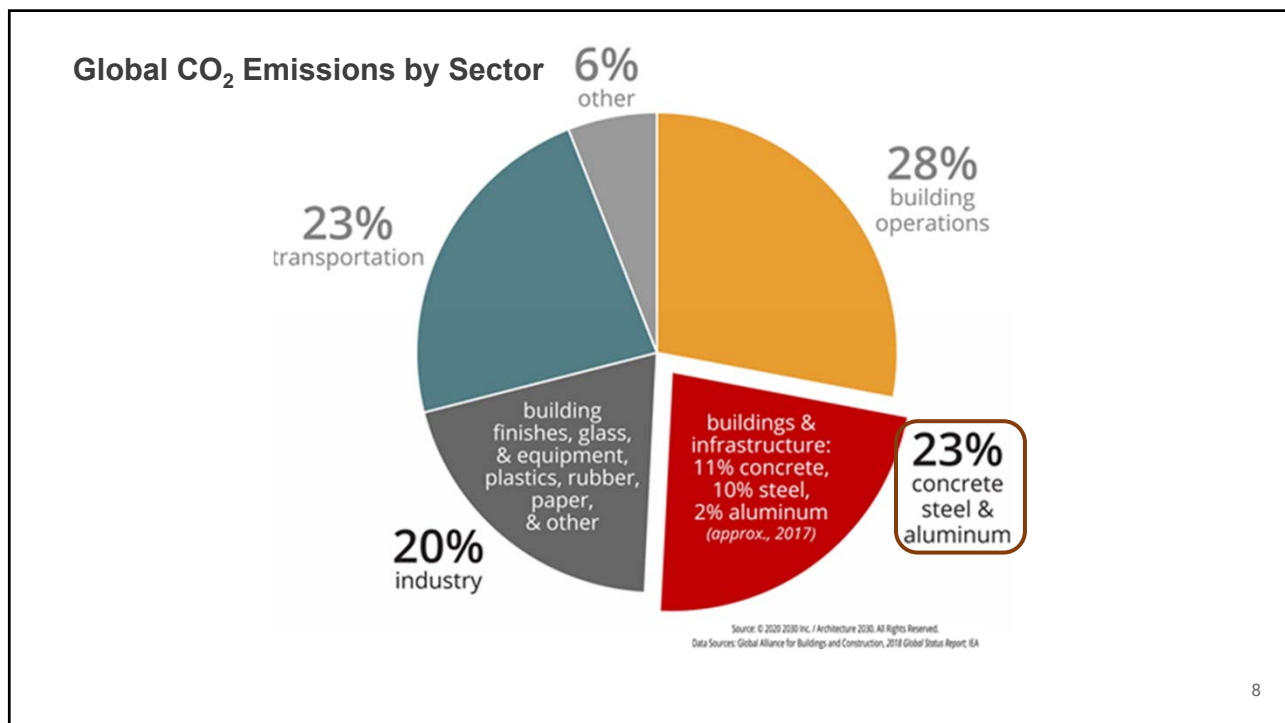
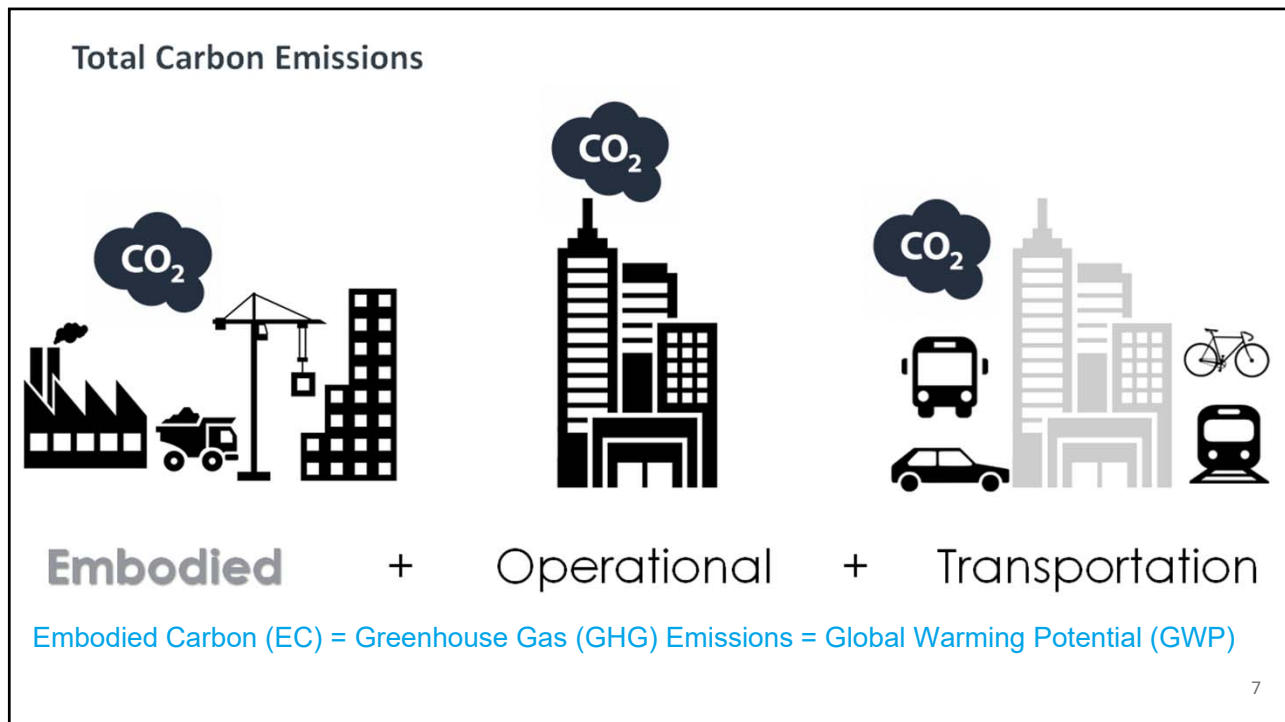
EXTRactions FROM NATURE

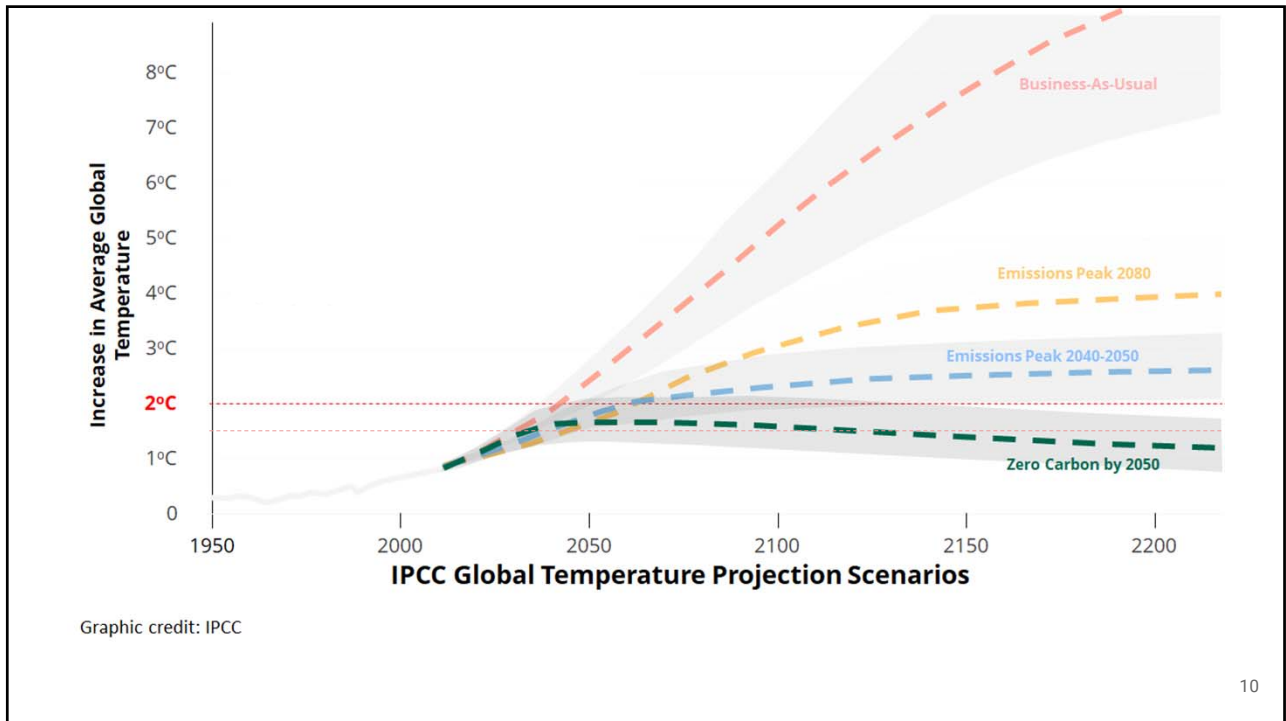
EMISSIONS TO NATURE

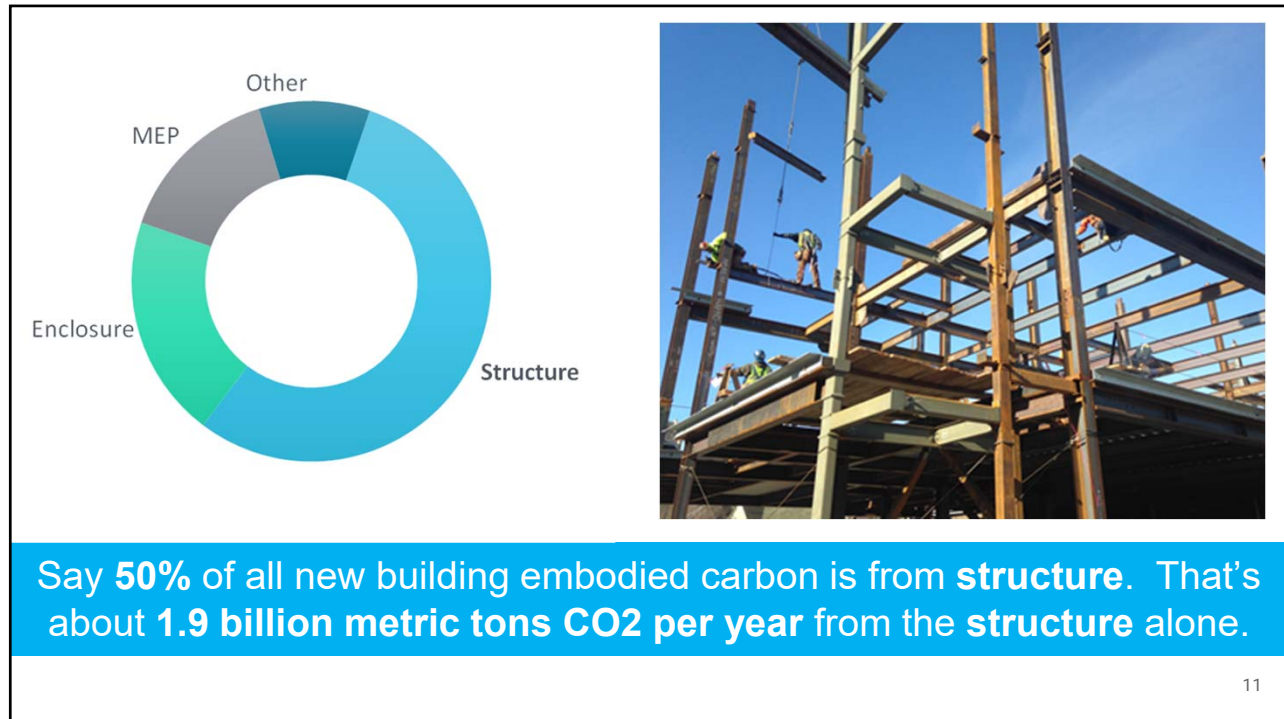
CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENT

- Raw material extraction
- Production
- Fabrication
- Shipping
- Construction and maintenance
- Demolition and disposal

6



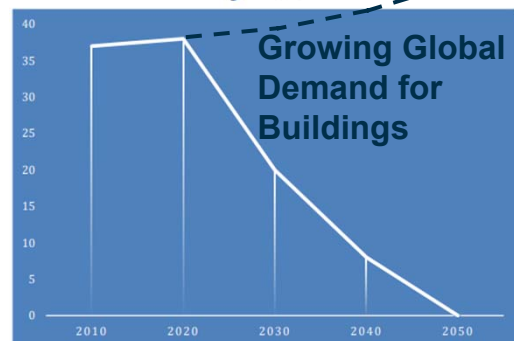




ACHIEVING NET-ZERO EMBODIED CARBON

- White Paper published in March 2020
- This paper addresses the first question many engineers ask about eliminating embodied carbon in construction:
- ***How is that even possible?***

Achieving Net Zero Embodied Carbon in Structural Materials by 2050

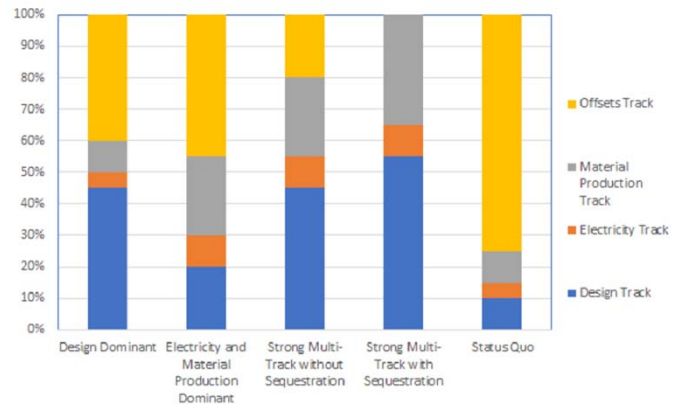


<https://seisustainability.files.wordpress.com/2020/05/how-to-get-to-zero-200525.pdf>

ACHIEVING NET-ZERO EMBODIED CARBON

Four Tracks:

1. Design improvements implemented by engineers and architects.
2. Greening the electrical grid.
3. Improving material production.
4. Carbon offsets.



May be combined in different proportions.



**STRUCTURAL
ENGINEERING
INSTITUTE**



www.SE2050.org

PROGRAM STATS – SIGNATORY FIRMS



Firms
Committed

71



Projects Submitted
to Database (Public)

48+



ECAPs
Received

41

PLAN

1

Embodied carbon action plan

Office action plan including
supporting staff education
efforts and internal SMQ and
GWP tracking



IMPLEMENT

2

Implementation and accountability

Engage in sustainable goals of
projects, specify low carbon
impact materials and
understand the GWP of each
project using the LCA methods



SHARE

3

Data sharing and tracking

Share GWP and SMQ data of
structural systems for
benchmark establishment and
development of annual
reduction targets

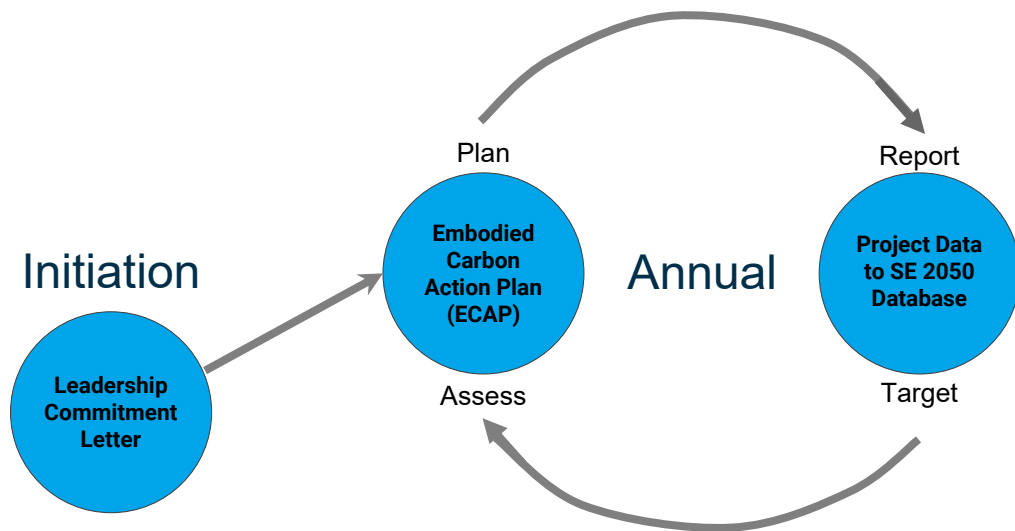
SE 2050 Commitment Program

Asks structural engineers and structural engineering firms to accelerate the embodied carbon reduction in structural systems and materials through three main activities.

Education, advocacy, accountability, firm culture

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

HOW IT WORKS



SUMMARY OF SE 2050 COMMITMENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Due at the time a firm commits

- Commitment Letter from firm leadership
- Internal announcement of firm's commitment & sharing of resources from the SE 2050 website
- Nominate an internal embodied carbon champion
- Public announcement of firm's commitment
- High-resolution logo of firm

2. Within six months

- Submit firm's Embodied Carbon Action Plan (ECAP)

SUMMARY OF SE 2050 COMMITMENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (CONT.)

3. Due within one year

- Submit project data to SE 2050 database
- Present or host an "Embodied Carbon 101" webinar/presentation
- Complete electives as selected in ECAP

4. Due each returning year

- Submit updated ECAP
- Updated internal embodied carbon champion (if desired)

EMBODIED CARBON ACTION PLAN (ECAP)

	KNOWLEDGE SHARING	DATA
INTERNAL	<p>Education</p> <p>Building Understanding</p>	<p>Reporting</p> <p>Measuring to Manage</p>
EXTERNAL	<p>Reduction</p> <p>Strategies Making an Impact</p>	<p>Advocacy</p> <p>Building a culture of change</p>

ECAP – EDUCATION

- Designate Firmwide Embodied Carbon Champion
- Narrative of Education Plan
- Embodied Carbon 101 Presentation/Webinar



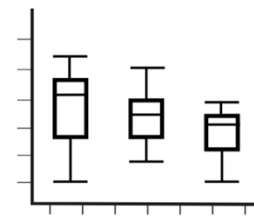
ECAP – REPORTING

- Initial Reporting Minimums to Database

2x number of firm offices

but does not need to exceed more than

5 Projects



ECAP – REDUCTION STRATEGIES

- Set a Goal and Report on Progress
- Discuss what strategies worked, and what didn't



ECAP – ADVOCACY

- Share your commitment
- Educate clients
- Engage in groups like CLF



ECAP – ACCOUNTABILITY

ANNUAL Updates to ECAP
PUBLISHED on SE 2050 Website

Firm Name	Embodied Carbon Champion	Submitted ECAPs	Start Year	Next ECAP due	Next Data due
Ai-Alt Structural Engineering	Alvin Tabar	-	2021	2022-01	2022-07
Armstrong-Douglass Partners	Scott Douglass	2021 Submitted	2021	2022-07	2022-01
Arup (North America)	Frances Yang	2021 Submitted	2020	2022-06	2021-12
Aspect Structural Engineers	Ross Jardine	2021 Submitted	2021	2022-08	2022-02
Black Box Engineering	David Bueno	-	2021	2022-02	2022-08
Buehler	Ryan Miller	2021 Submitted	2021	2023-01	2022-07

ECAP – HOW TO START?

- Review other firm's ECAP's
- Reference website: <https://se2050.org/ecap/>
- Use Googleform on website

Thornton Tomasetti
Embodied Carbon Action Plan

FCS Structural Solutions
Embodied Carbon Action Plan (ECAP)
Published May 2021

SE 2050
Embodied Carbon Action Plan
2021

GS
Embodied Carbon Action Plan
2021-2022

MEYER BORGMAN JOHNSON
Embodied Carbon Action Plan
2021-2022

SE 2050 ECAP Submission Form
The name and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form
Not meganstringer@gmail.com? [Switch account](#)
* Required

Email *

Name *

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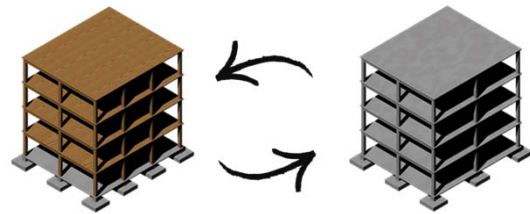
SE 2050 DATABASE

WHY A DATABASE?

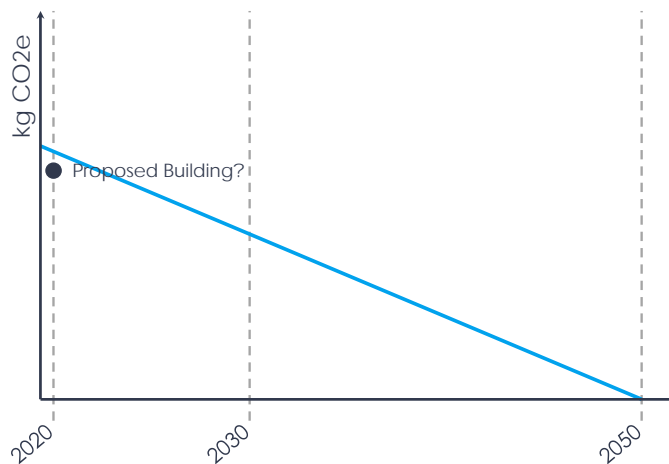
Embodied Carbon Data
using As-Designed and Reference building

Current approach (e.g., as used by green building rating systems):

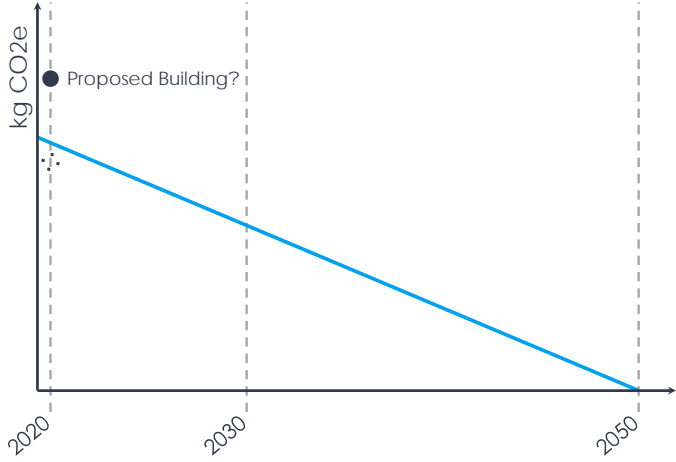
Comparative Structural System LCA
using As-Designed and Reference building



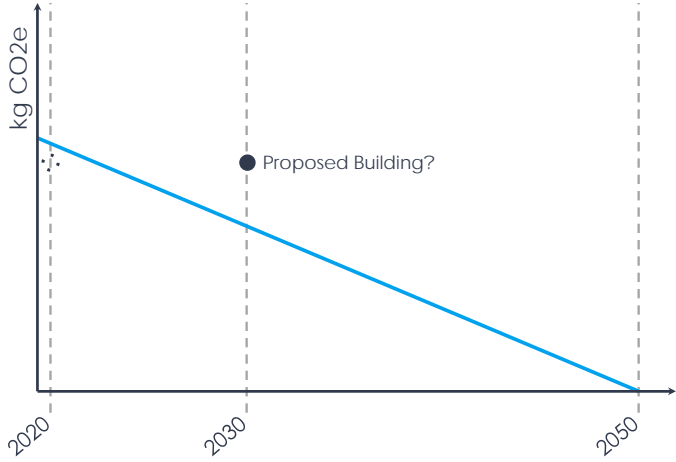
EMBODIED CARBON TARGETS



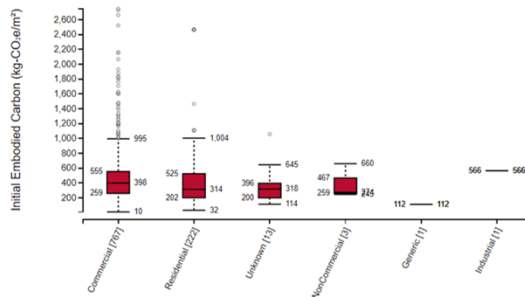
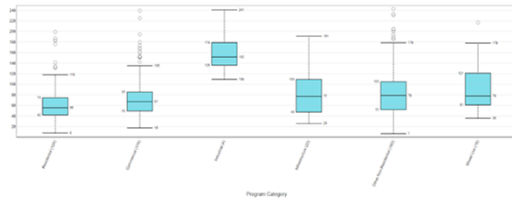
EMBODIED CARBON TARGETS (CONT.)



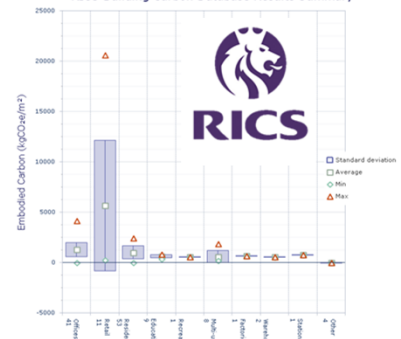
EMBODIED CARBON TARGETS (CONT.)



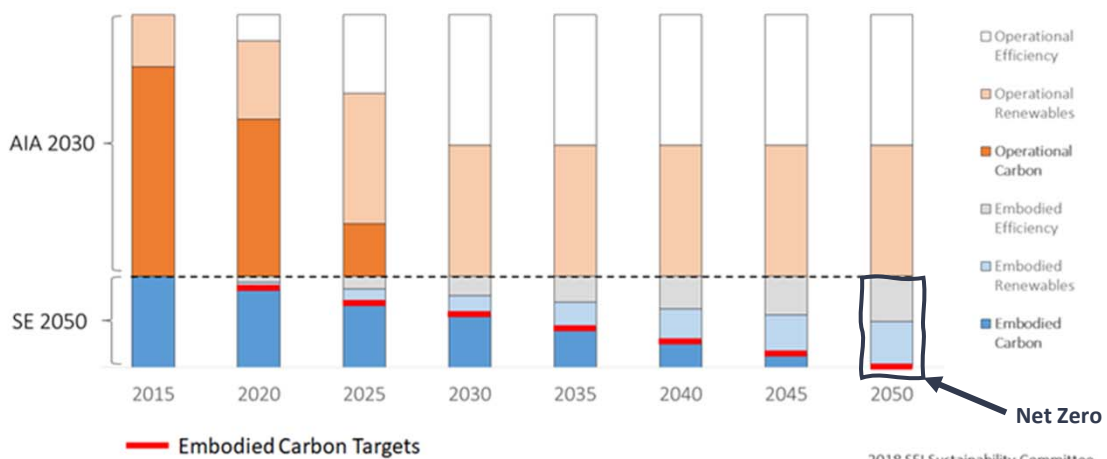
BETA DATABASE PRECEDENTS



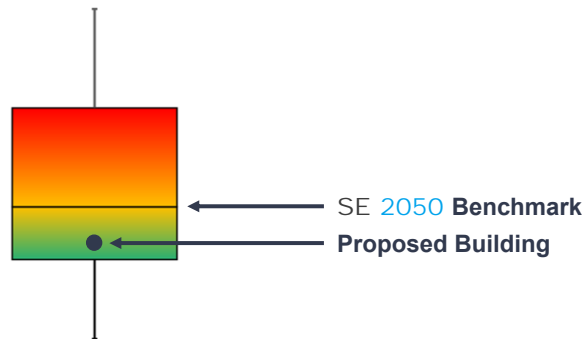
RICS Building Carbon Database Results Summary



SE 2050 + AIA 2030



EMBODIED CARBON BENCHMARKS



SE 2050 BETA DATABASE

Priorities:

Familiarize structural firms with embodied carbon reporting

Collect GWP results at minimum

Increase visibility of need for embodied carbon benchmarks

WHAT DATA IS COLLECTED?

Structural System Descriptors, including:

- Risk category
- Seismic design category
- Typical floor live load
- Typical column grid
- Primary gravity, lateral systems
- Allowable bearing pressure

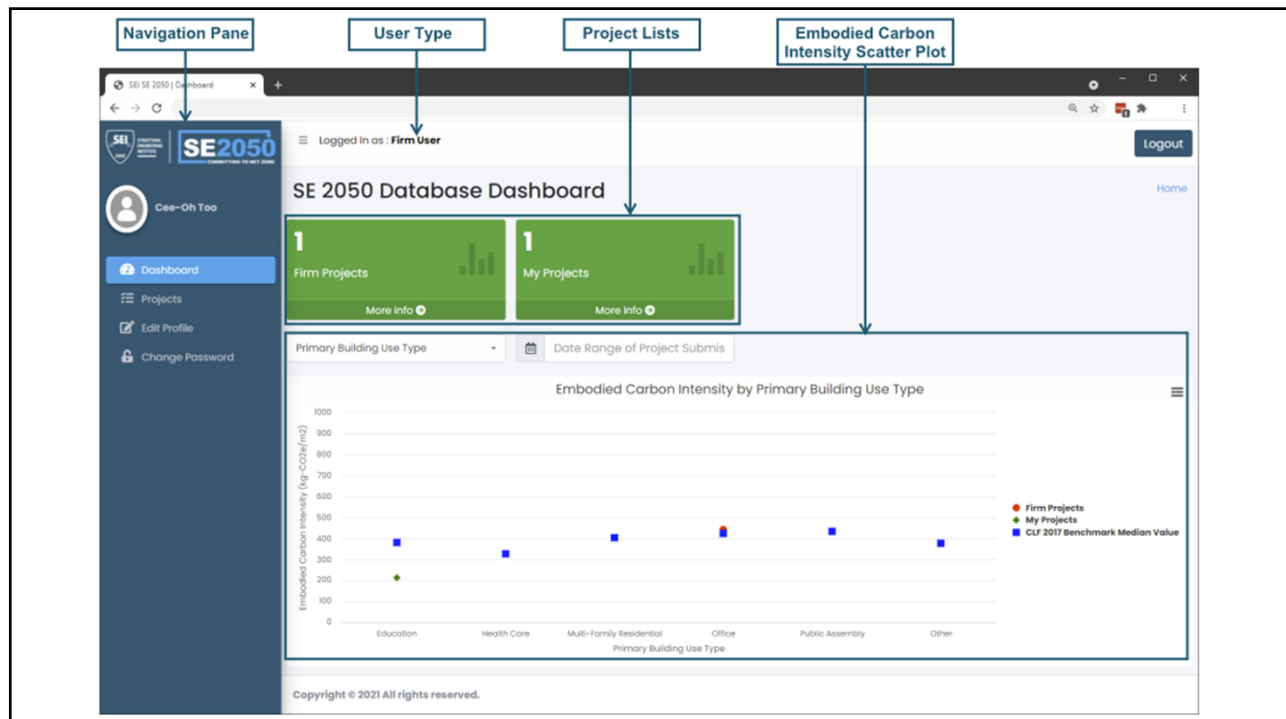
Project Descriptors, including:

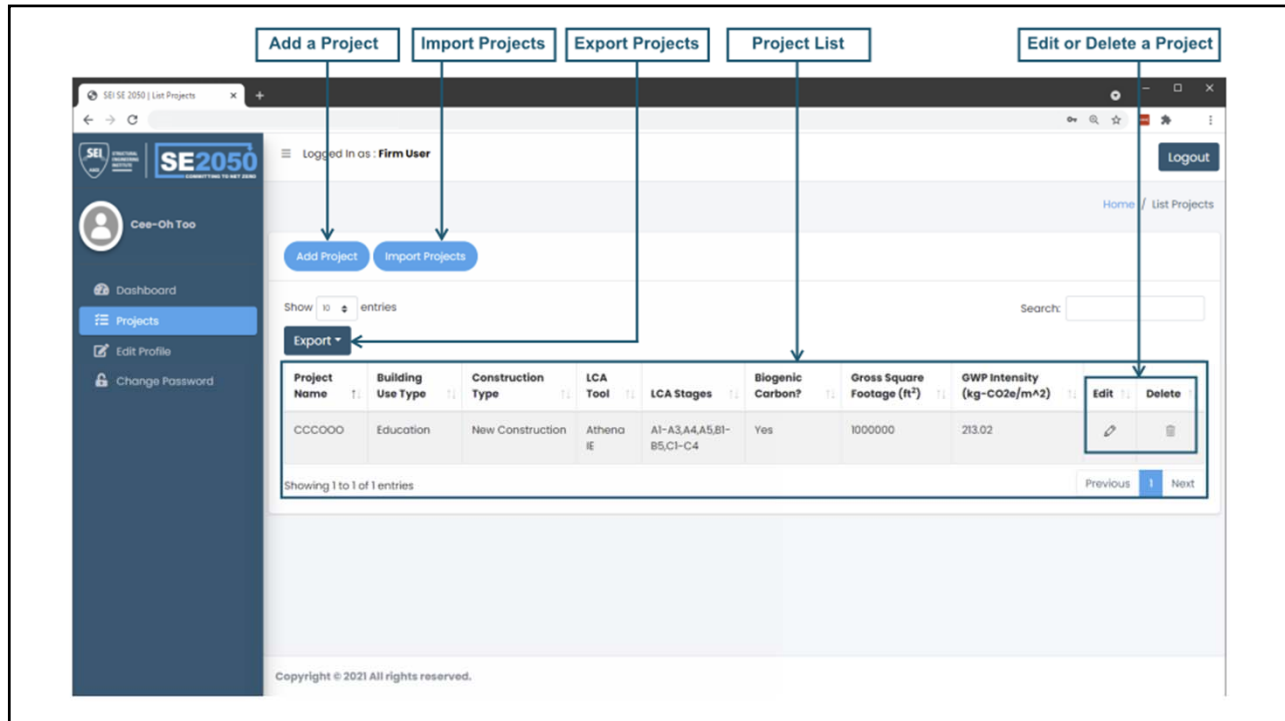
- Building use type
- Project phase
- Expected building life
- Gross square footage

LCA Data, including:

- LCA tool used
- LCA stages included
- Biogenic carbon
- Components included
- GWP results

Embodied Carbon Intensity
kg-CO₂e/m²





LCA/PRODUCT TOOLS AVAILABLE TO REPORT DATA

1. Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) Tool

- Utilizes a methodology to measure the environmental impacts of a building, product, or process over its full life cycle.
- Measure beyond Product Stage (A1-A3). Stages included in LCA vary from product to product.

2. Product Tool

- Limited scope
- Typically measure Product Stage only (A1-A3)

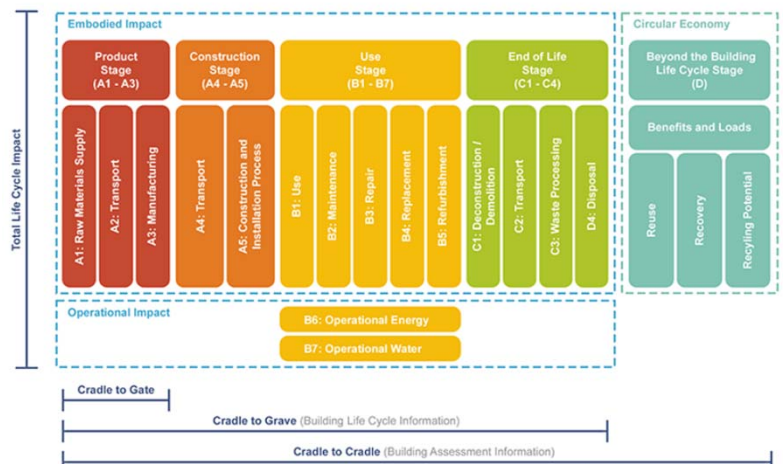


Image from browning day

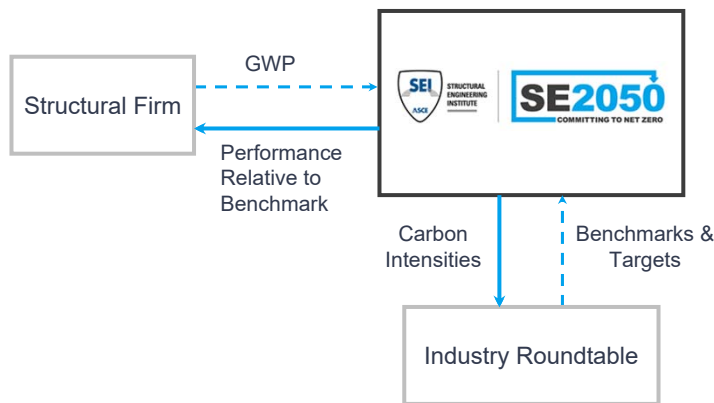
LCA/PRODUCT TOOLS AVAILABLE TO REPORT DATA (CONT.)

Tool	LCA Phases Considered		Data Source			Metrics Considered		Revit Integration
	A1 - A3	All	Industry Average EPDs	Product Specific EPDs	Generic Materials from EPDs & LCI Data	GWP Only	GWP & Other Environmental Impacts	
Tally		X			X		X	X
Athena IE		X			X		X	
Beacon	X		X			X		X
ECOM	X		X			X		
The EC3 Tool	X		X	X		X		
One Click LCA		X			X		X	X

Table Abbreviations:

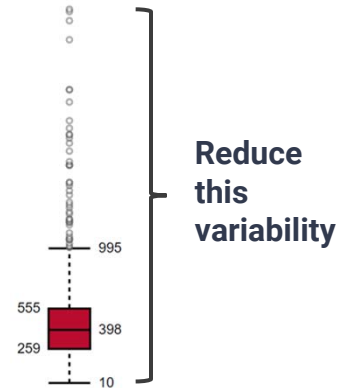
- EPD: Environmental Product Declaration
- GWP: Global Warming Potential
- LCA: Life Cycle Assessment
- LCI: Life Cycle Inventory

SE 2050 DATABASE: STAKEHOLDER INTERACTION

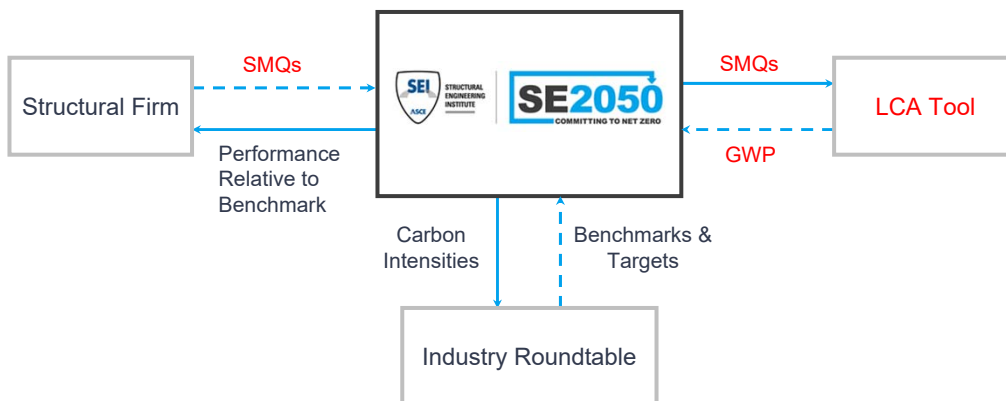


SE 2050 DATABASE: FUTURE?

- Collect structural material quantities ("SMQs")
- Focus on reducing data variability
- Establish industry benchmarks and targets using aggregated data



SE 2050 DATABASE: FUTURE?



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:



A project has a total of 100 concrete trucks delivered to site.

The project has achieved a 20% carbon reduction in the concrete mix.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Approximately how many New York to Los Angeles flights would need to be avoided by one person in order to achieve the same carbon savings as the project?

- A) 5 flights
- B) 10 flights
- C) 25 flights
- D) 50 flights

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Approximately how many New York to Los Angeles flights would need to be avoided by one person in order to achieve the same carbon savings as the project?

- A) 5 flights
- B) 10 flights
- C) 25 flights
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RESOURCES

TWO-WAY STREET COMMITMENT

- Our ask of the Profession
- We Commit to Providing Resources and Support to the Profession



SE 2050 RESOURCES

Embodied Carbon




Structural Materials



Strategies





EMBODIED CARBON INTENSITY DIAGRAMS

Check out diagrams of structural material quantities and embodied carbon intensities for typical structural framing schemes to assess where you are against a baseline.

[View Diagrams](#)

Tools and Data




Case Studies



U.S. Green Rating Systems





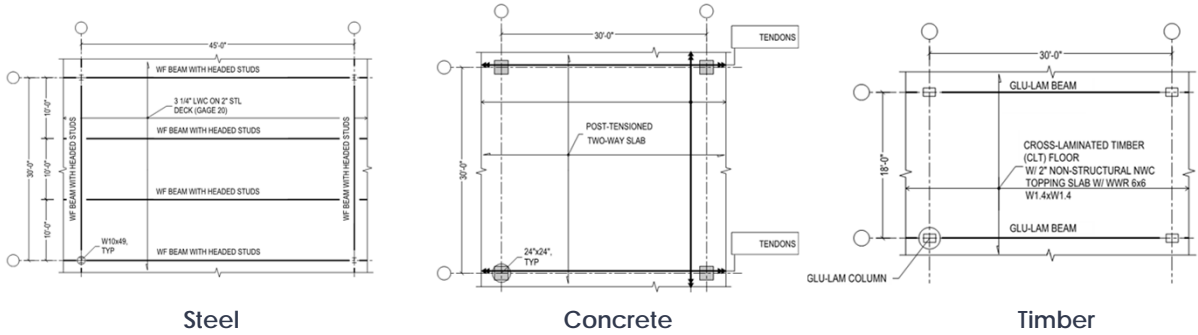
ECOM

ECOM is a simple embodied carbon estimator to calculate the approximate (E)mbodied (C)arbon (O)rders of (M)agnitude based on your structural material quantities.

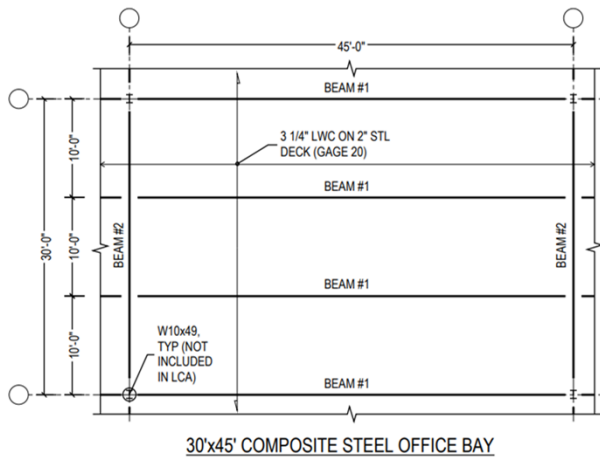
[Calculate Now](#)

EMBODIED CARBON INTENSITY DIAGRAMS (ECID)

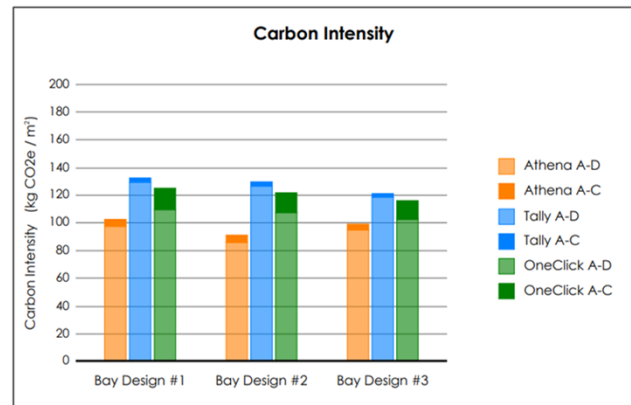
Intent: Start to establish fluency in EC metric



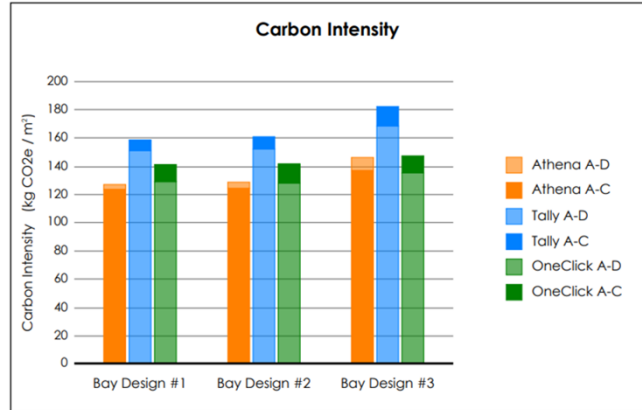
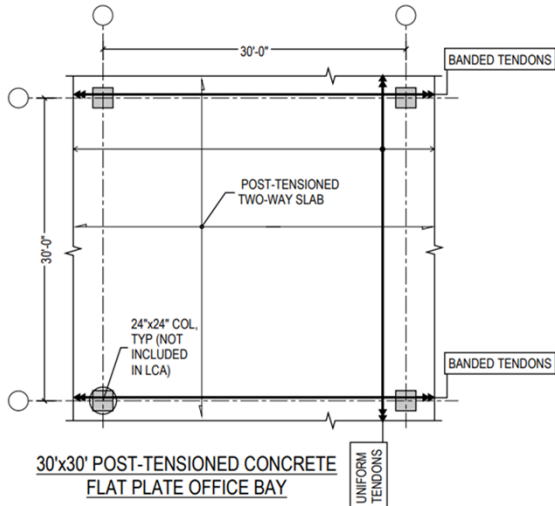
COMPOSITE STEEL OFFICE ECID



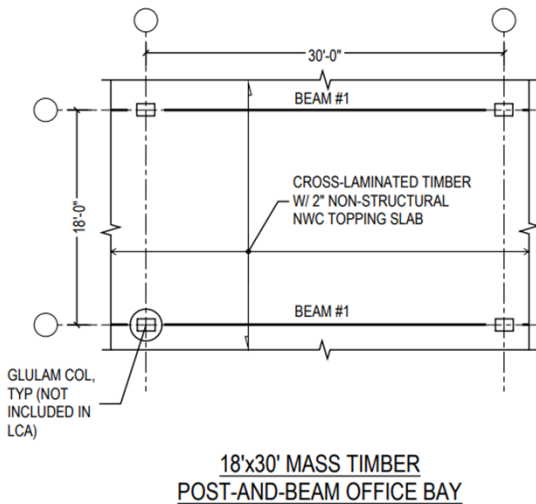
30'x45' COMPOSITE STEEL OFFICE BAY



CONCRETE POST-TENSIONED FLAT PLATE OFFICE ECID



MASS TIMBER (CLT) OFFICE ECID



INCLUDED IN LCA:

MASS TIMBER

(1) BEAM #1 24F-V4 (DF) - 8.75"x31.5" TO 10.25"x30"
CLT V2 OR E1 (SPF) - 5-PLY (6.90") TO 7-PLY (7.56")

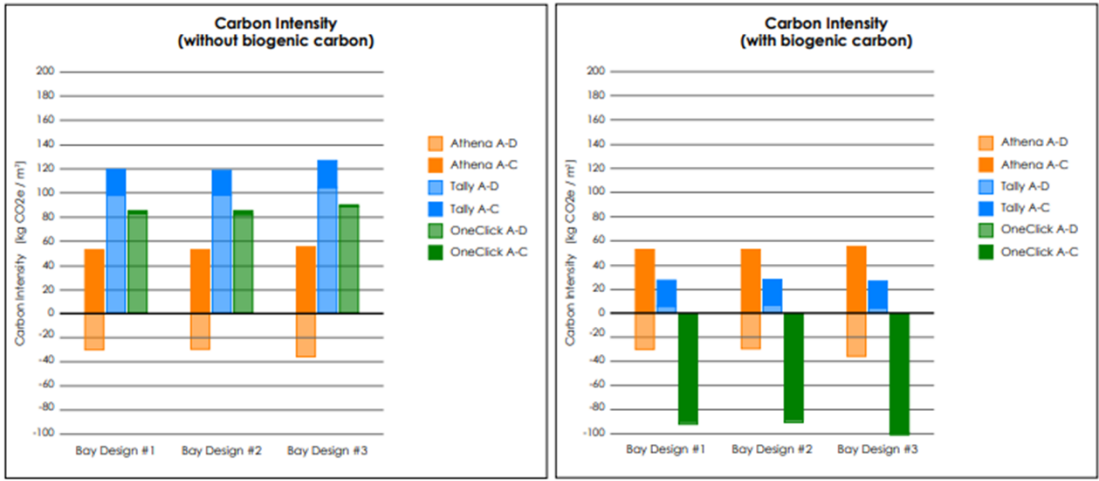
(1) STEEL BEAM-COL CONNECTION 125 TO 200 LBS

CONCRETE TOPPING

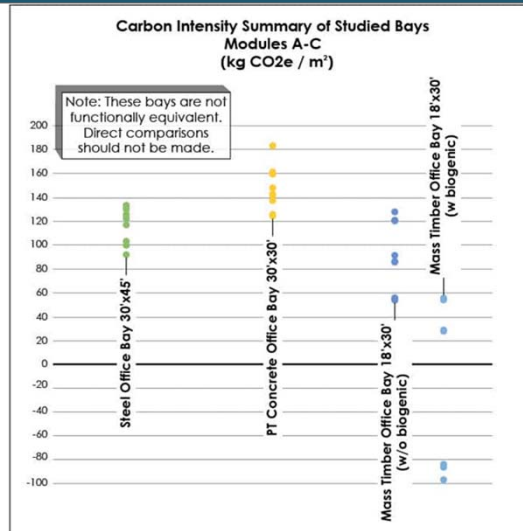
3,000 PSI NORMALWEIGHT, 20-29% SCMs

WWR 6x6 W1.4xW1.4

MASS TIMBER (CLT) OFFICE ECID (CONT.)



EMBODIED CARBON INTENSITY DIAGRAM SUMMARY



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Estimate the embodied carbon in the floor framing

- 3 Tons CO₂e
- 30 Tons CO₂e
- **300 Tons CO₂e**
- 3,000 Tons CO₂e

PROJECT'S MATERIAL QUANTITIES

Item	Quantity
3,500 Psi Concrete	455 Cubic Yards
Rebar	1.25 Tons
Metal Deck	34 Tons
Shear Studs	1 Ton
Welded Wire Reinforcement	4.25 Tons
Steel Shapes	83 Tons
Deck Closure	2.25 Tons

SE 2050 – ECOM - INPUT

Material	Structural Component	Quantity	Unit	Total weight (kg)	Total weight (kg)	% of Total
Concrete	4000 PSI	2	Cubic Yards	0	0	0%
	4000 PSI	405	Cubic Yards	221903.06	93126.05	23%
	4000 PSI	Input quantity here	Cubic Yards			0%
	4000 PSI	Input quantity here	Cubic Yards			0%
	4000 PSI	Input quantity here	Cubic Yards			0%
	4000 PSI	Input quantity here	Cubic Yards			0%
	4000 PSI	Input quantity here	Cubic Yards			0%
Steel Reinforcement	Rebar	1.21	Tons	8399.8	1074.05	0.4%
	Welded Wire Reinforcement	4.25	Tons	6325	8174.0	1.4%
Masonry	Post Forming	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Formal Masonry	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Masonry Brick	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Masonry Chert	Input quantity here	Cubic Yards			0%
Steel	Metal Deck	Input quantity here	Sq. Yards			0%
	Steel Deck	34	None	8030	1535.7	26.7%
	Steel Deck	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Steel Deck	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Steel Deck	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Steel Deck	Input quantity here	None			0%
	Steel Deck	Input quantity here	None			0%
Timber	Softwood Lumber	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%
	Softwood Plywood	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%
	OSB	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%
	OSB	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%
	OSB	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%
	OSB	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%
	OSB	Input quantity here	Cubic Feet			0%

Embodied Carbon Area	
Total Area (ft²)	29,000
Total Area (m²)	2,694.1

Steel Reinforcement	Rebar	1.21	Tons
	Welded Wire Reinforcement	4.25	Tons
	Post Tensioning	Input quantity here	Tons

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Which assemblies are responsible for at least 25% of the embodied carbon in floor framing? (Choose all that apply)

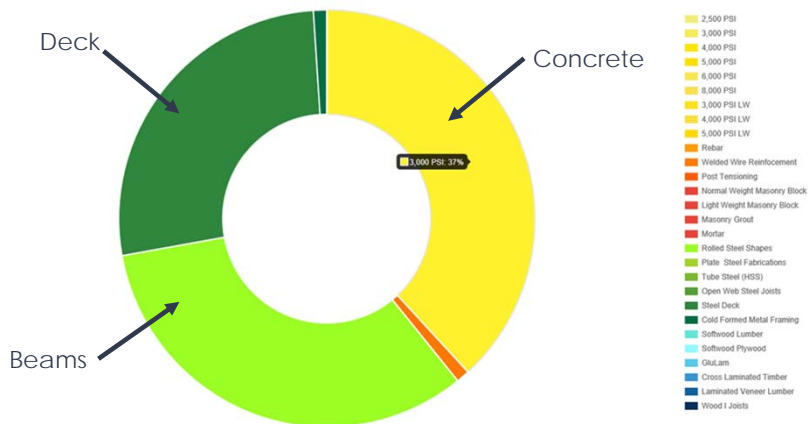
- Steel Beams
- Steel Deck
- Rebar
- Concrete

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Which assemblies are responsible for at least 25% of the embodied carbon in floor framing? (Choose all that apply)

- Steel Beams
- Steel Deck
- Rebar
- Concrete

SE 2050 – ECOM OUTPUT



Embodied Carbon Totals	
Total Impact (lb CO ₂ e)	602,573
Total Impact (kg CO ₂ e)	273,322

Embodied Carbon Intensities	
Intensity (lb CO ₂ e/ ft ²)	20.78
Intensity (kg CO ₂ e/ m ²)	101.45

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE - CONTEXT

The embodied carbon in the floor is roughly equivalent to driving....

- >500 Miles?
- >5,000 Miles?
- >50,000 Miles?
- >500,000 Miles?



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE - CONTEXT

The embodied carbon in the floor is roughly equivalent to driving....

- >500 Miles?
- >5,000 Miles?
- >50,000 Miles?
- >500,000 Miles?



FUTURE SE 2050 RESOURCES

In Development:

- Case Studies of Structural System WBLCAs Using LCA Tools for Designers
- Updates to ECOM
- LCA Guidelines for Structural Engineers
- More Embodied Carbon Intensity Diagrams!

EMBODIED CARBON REDUCTION STRATEGIES

REDUCTION STRATEGIES FOR ALL MATERIALS & DESIGNS

- Update Specifications and General Notes
- Ask Suppliers to Provide EPDs
- Be Material Efficient
 - Use Less!
 - Voided slabs, castellated beams, composite construction etc.
 - High Strength Materials



REDUCTION STRATEGIES FOR ALL MATERIALS & DESIGNS (CONT.)

- Re-use
- Design for Deconstruction
- Design for Adaptability
- Consider Resilience
- Start with Geometry



REDUCTION STRATEGIES - MATERIAL SPECIFIC

Steel

- Consider Thermal Bridging
- Specify Recycled Steel Sections and Sections from EAF vs. BOF

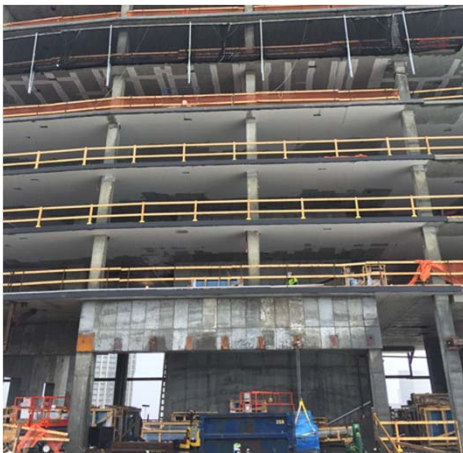
Concrete

- Performance Based Specifications
- Specify Cement Replacement
- Consider including GWP limits

Wood

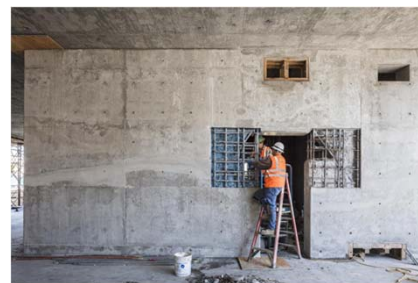
- Advanced Framing Techniques
- Utilize Mass Timber in lieu of Concrete or Steel

DESIGN NUANCES



Transfer Beam

LOCATION	MIN. STRENGTH @ 28 DAYS PSI	MAX. AGGREGATE SIZE INCHES	MAX. SLUMP INCHES	MIN. REQUIRED CEMENT REPLACEMENT	MAX. WEIGHT PCF
FOUNDATION	SEE NOTE 1	1-1/2	6	50%	150
MISC. CURBS, PADS	4000	-	6	30%	150
OFFICE BUILDING SHEAR WALLS	SEE NOTE 3	3/4	SEE NOTE 2	30%	150
GARAGE SHEAR WALLS	SEE NOTE 4	3/4	6	30%	150
SITE WALLS	4000	1-1/2	6	30%	150
FLOOR SLABS, BEAMS, CRASH WALLS	6000	3/4	6	20%	150
CONC. OVER MTL. DECK	4000	1/2	6	30%	120
COLUMNS	6000	3/4	SEE NOTE 2	30%	150



Concrete Mixes



Are you ready to join the movement?

<https://se2050.org/sign-up/>

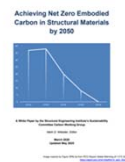
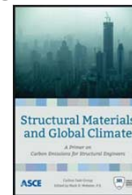
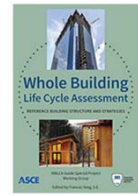
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WHAT CAN I DO?

- Have your firm join the SE 2050 Commitment Program
- Educate yourself on embodied carbon, reduction strategies, and LCAs
- Ask to be included in a project's sustainability meetings and design charrettes
- When writing a proposal, ask if any fee should be included for LCAs or attendance at sustainability charrettes
- If a project is targeting a green rating system certification, encourage the client or architect to pursue credits regarding embodied carbon measuring and reductions
- Employ embodied carbon reduction strategies on projects
- Advocate within industry and to your clients!

RESOURCES

- Reference Materials:
 - “Sustainability Guidelines for the Structural Engineer”
 - “Whole Building Life Cycle Assessment – Reference Building Structure and Strategies”
 - “Structural Materials and Global Climate”
 - “Achieving Net Zero Embodied Carbon in Structural Materials by 2050”
- Web Resources:
 - www.SE2050.org
 - www.seisustainability.org
 - <https://carbonleadershipforum.org/>



QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!