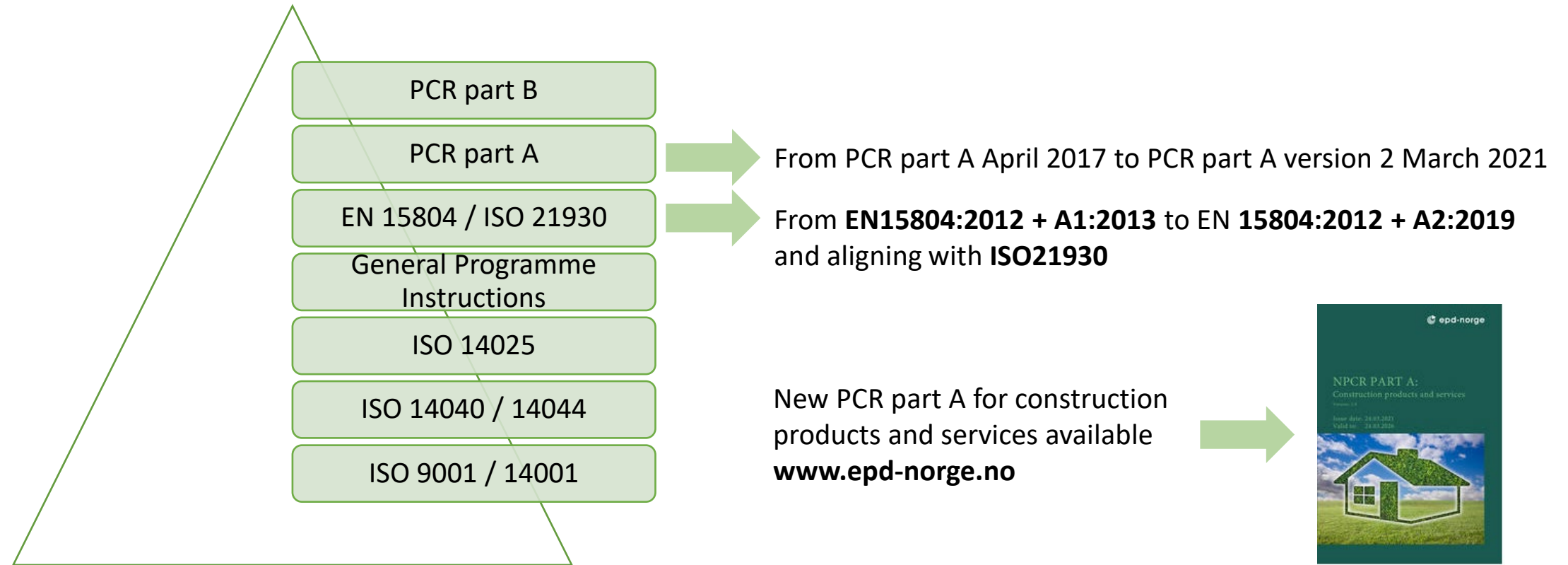


Consequences of EN 15804:A2 to Product Category Rules (PCR) for construction products

The Norwegian EPD Foundation

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PCR for construction products



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Rationale for the new amendment (A2:2019)

- LCA methodology is continuously being developed and improved, so standards and guidelines must be updated regularly
- One important development since 2012: The pilot phase of the European Union's Product Environmental Footprint (PEF)
- Some of the main methodological elements of EN 15804 have been harmonized with PEF, to ensure they give similar results:
 - Indicators to declare and the methods used
 - Data quality assessment in the LCA report
 - Certain quality factors of the PEF method for end-of-life allocation, circular footprint formula can be used in A2 to define differences in quality between primary and secondary resources

Main differences between A2 and A1

- In A2 it is most often required to include end-of-life (module C) and its consequences outside the product system (module D)
 - In A1, a manufacturer could declare module A, only, with one exception: if it's an intermediate product which later is incorporated in a construction product and can't be separated at end-of-life, or is no longer physically or chemically recognizable and which does not contain any biogenic carbon – e.g. concrete
- A2 requires more environmental impact indicators to be declared, and with other characterization methods than in A1 (in A1, the indicators were based on CML)
 - Most often, EPD results based on A2 will therefore not be comparable with EPD results based on A1
 - But additional indicators are possible. For example, in PCR part A version 2. March 2021 we require an additional GWP indicator, GWP-GHG, which is the same GWP indicator as in A1 (almost, the difference is that CFs are from IPCC 2013 instead of IPCC 2007)
- A2 requires declaration of some extra additional information compared to A1
 - The biogenic content of the product and its packaging
 - Eutrophication is now divided into three separate indicators

Main differences between A2 and A1

- In A2, the LCA report must include more information:
 - More extensive data quality assessment
 - Results of the remaining six environmental impact indicators of PEF must be declared
 - PCR part A version 2. March 2021 recommends these to be declared in the EPD as well, to facilitate using EPDs of upstream products as input to other EPDs
 - E.g. please include the Toxicity indicators based on USEtox, but ONLY declare them in the LCA report as they have been deemed not to be as robust as the other indicators

Further information of importance

- The A2 document shows changes made compared to A1 – please read the document for further information on differences.
- PCR part A April 2017 is currently valid until end of 2021 – but this may change depending on demands of the industry.
- We recommend to primary use A2 and PCR part A version 2. March 2021
- But, as the demands in public procurement, certification schemes, etc., may take some time to be updated, it can be relevant to issue EPDs both following A1 and A2 under a transition period
- Already registered and published EPD based on A1 are valid under their 5-year validity period – but it can be a good idea to update and reverify them based on A2, as a response to market demands
- PCR part A version 2. March 2021 specifies which further rules to align with to also harmonize with ISO 21930

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