

Fletcher Building

LIFE CYCLE THINKING AT FLETCHER BUILDING

At Fletcher Building we recognise the importance of understanding the environmental impact of what we do. We use Life Cycle Thinking (LCT) and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to help us make the right decisions to improve our products and solutions.

LCT has been part of our strategy for many years. In 2019, we set the target to have LCAs for all the key products we manufacture principally through holding Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) for our products. These EPDs give transparent and robust information to our customers so they can make informed choices. The EPD information also helps us to find the hot-spots in our processes so we can make targeted improvement initiatives, and support our target to hold sustainability certifications for 75% of our revenue from products from our manufacturing businesses.

We have a near-term Science-based target to reduce carbon by 30% by 2030 (Scope 1 and 2), and net zero target by 2050 across all Scopes. Reducing our operational and supply chain emissions will translate into lower embodied carbon in our products, which in turn will reduce the life-cycle carbon emissions of our customers projects.



Fletcher Building is a significant manufacturer, retailer, home builder and partner on major construction and infrastructure projects. Spanning the full value chain, we operate diversified businesses across our core markets of New Zealand and Australia, from resource extraction, product manufacturing and distribution through to property development and infrastructure construction. We employ 14,700 people in New Zealand, Australia, and the South Pacific.

BENEFITS OF LCANZ MEMBERSHIP

Our LCANZ membership gives us access to a network of like-minded members that want to apply LCT and use LCA as robust tool for decision making.

The Summit, and the webinars that LCANZ organises show us tools and ways of thinking to continue to improve our practices, and we can show our stakeholders that we support a local organisation that is doing the right thing for NZ.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CONCERN

Climate change and GHG emissions are a key focus area for us. We have detailed decarbonisation roadmaps for each of our divisions and key businesses. We also include climate change risk and adaption within our wider business risk assessments and strategy. Other important areas of focus for us are waste reduction, moving our quarry business to net positive biodiversity by 2030, and increasing our focus on water reduction.

A key sustainability strategic goal is 'circular economy commitment across our businesses'. As a portfolio of businesses across the value chain, we are in a unique position to champion the circular economy and support others to take part. LCT and LCA are tools we can use to understand where our waste is generated and develop initiatives to avoid or minimise this waste.

The task of collating all the required data to do an LCA is challenging, and requires measuring all the manufacturing parameters needed. It can also be difficult to get sufficiently detailed information from suppliers. However, one of the reasons we support the move for more product manufacturers to complete LCAs is that this means more data will be available across the value chain, and this in turn will improve our customers ability to choose better products.



COMMUNICATING LCT AND LCA

LCAs give us robust and detailed technical information that allows us to develop clear and credible messaging without greenwashing. LCA and LCT knowledge is increasing in our sector, with architects and other building specifiers now asking for LCA documents such as EPDs as part of the information for their projects. We share our LCA documentation as part of our product communication with our customers.

Government initiatives like MBIE's Building for Climate Change (BfCC) program are helping to raise the profile of LCT and LCA in our sector. The next step is for the wider sector to better understand the concepts and to use them in all parts of the value chain. Education and training at all levels will be critical in the next few years.



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