



Recycled Aluminum Window and Curtainwall Framing

Architects' creativity is set free by the adaptability of thermal barrier extruded aluminum, supporting sustainable design goals, from low thermal transmittance, to glare-free daylighting, to natural ventilation.

All of Wausau's products are fabricated using aluminum extrusions exclusively from secondary billet, that contain at least 70% total recycled content.



WAUSAU
WINDOW AND WALL
SYSTEMS

The U.S. Green Building Council LEED® Rating System™ for Building Design and Construction, Versions 4.0 and 4.1 are clear in requirements for credits related to recycled content.

In MR Credit: Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Sourcing of Raw Materials, Option 2. Leadership Extraction Practices, recycled content is the sum of post-consumer plus one-half of pre-consumer recycled content.

LEED v4.1 clarifies that the recycled content value of a manufactured assembly is determined by weight. This becomes important when determining the recycled content of window and curtainwall systems, versus individual components such as framing or glass. For example, one typical project's factory-glazed window system was found to contain, by weight:

- ▶ 23% Aluminum extrusions
- ▶ 69% Insulating glass
- ▶ 3% Steel anchors and reinforcing
- ▶ 3% Aluminum sheet trim
- ▶ 2% Hardware, paint, elastomers, etc.

The recycled fraction as a weighted average for all materials is then applied to the assembly cost to assess the value of all materials in a given building project applying for LEED certification.

The General Contractor's AIA or CSI Schedule of Values is the only acceptable basis for cost determination. Since exterior envelope products can be subcontracted to several different firms, this final, cost-based calculation is done by the project's LEED Accredited Professional (LEED-AP), not by building product manufacturers.

Wausau's aluminum extrusions are sourced at several vendors, and weighted averages based on annual purchases are used to calculate recycled content percentage. See the table below for details.

Warranty provisions for window assemblies, finishing (both painting and anodizing), durability, and structural integrity are unaffected by the use of secondary billet that is free of contaminants, meeting Aluminum Association alloy content limits.

Understanding Recycled Content



Wausau's Recycled Aluminum Extrusion Content <small>as of JAN 2019</small>			
LEED® "Combined" Content	Total Recycled Content	Pre-Consumer (Post-Industrial)	Post-Consumer
42%	71%	58%	13%
<small>Specific projects' recycled content depends on extrusion source(s)</small>			

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Download comprehensive details, specifications and product performance information



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