

LEED and SUSTAINABILITY

[LEED®ing with Cold-Formed Steel](#) : Cold-formed steel products manufactured by Steel Framing Industry Association members help your project quality for up to 9 points under LEED® v4 for BD+C. This publication provides an overview of the credits available for cold-formed steel.

A more detailed explanation of the credits and points that apply to cold-formed steel are highlighted in the video presentation "[Cold-Formed Steel and LEED](#)" presented by Brandie Sebastian, Director of Life Cycle Assessment for the Steel Recycling Institute.

[Resilient Cold-Formed Steel](#) : Strong, noncombustible, ductile, recyclable, and durable. Cold-formed steel framing meets society's need for sustainable construction – and the worst the Mother Nature can bring to bear.

[Environmental Product Declaration \(EPD\) for Cold-Formed Steel Framing](#) EPDs are developed from a Life Cycle Assessment and can help designers earn credits under LEED v4. This EPD represents cold-formed steel (CFS) studs and track made from hot-dip galvanized steel, produced and manufactured in U.S. and Canada. The steel in the studs and track is produced at a mix of steel mill types in the U.S. and Canada, which use both the BOF (basic oxygen furnace) and EAF (electric arc furnace) route for steelmaking.

When Sound is Green

The International Building Code (IBC) and most other major model codes have long required some minimum acoustic performance from buildings. However, the recent emergence of "green" codes and standards is taking acoustic protection requirements to a higher level. Now, advocates for "green building" have broadened the definition of sustainable to include acoustic performance in buildings.

If the trend in green codes and standards begins to creep over into "regular" building codes, as is often the case, the construction industry will need to deliver better-performing hotels, schools, offices and similar buildings to boost their ability to keep out unwanted sounds. Cold-formed steel will face challenges like many other materials.

This new SFIA Issue Paper provides an overview of the momentum that is building behind the move toward more stringent acoustic performance requirements and suggestions on how to address the new challenges they present.

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