European metals alliance for recyclable & sustainable buildings

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# Reconciling recycling at production stage and end of life stage in EN 15804: the case of metal construction products

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**Abstract.** With the current political focus on resource efficiency and circular economy, the consideration of all recycling aspects in LCA is becoming increasingly important, especially for metal products which are already recycled for many decades. For such purpose, a complementary module, the so-called Module D, was developed in EN15804 to report the additional environmental aspects resulting from the end of life stage. The metal industry and many LCA practitioners have already used this module for many years. This module D as well as module C (end of life stage) are now mandatory in the agreed amendments to EN15804 that will be published in 2019. This paper explains the methodology used by the metal industry to calculate modules A, C & D for a metal sheet in the light of the equation to be included in the amended EN15804. The calculation is then applied to 3 theoretical examples. Finally, the paper provides guidance on using LCI datasets developed by the steel and aluminium sectors. The collaborating authors have prepared this paper under the auspices of the METALS FOR BUILDINGS alliance that has been established to ensure reliable information on the sustainability of metal building products is available to policy makers and practitioners in sustainability appraisal policies and systems.