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# Calculation method of carbon dioxide emission intensity from iron and steel production —

## Part 1: Steel plant with blast furnace

*Méthode de calcul de l'intensité de l'émission de dioxyde de carbone  
de la production de la fonte et de l'acier —*

*Partie 1: Usine sidérurgique avec fourneau*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 14404-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 17, *Steel*.

ISO 14404 consists of the following parts, under the general title of *Calculation method of carbon dioxide emission intensity from iron and steel production*:

*Part 1: Steel plant with blast furnace*

*Part 2: Steel plant with electric arc furnace (EAF)*

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## Introduction

The steel industry recognizes the urgent need to take actions concerning climate change. Slowing and halting global warming requires reductions in GHG emissions on a global scale. To play a part in achieving these reductions, it is necessary for steel plants to identify the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted during the production of steel products, in order to identify next opportunities for reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The production process of steel involves complex chemical reactions, various heating cycles, and the recycling of various by-products. This variety of imports, including raw materials, reactive agents, fuel and heat sources are transformed into wide range of steel products, by-products, waste materials and waste heat.

Steel plants manufacture various products including: sheet products, plate products, long products, pipe and tubes and many other types of products. In addition, steel plants produce unique speciality grade steel products with high-performance, which are achieved by various sub-processes including micro-alloying and applying surface treatments like galvanizing and coating that require additional heat treatments. Therefore, none of the steel plants in the world is exactly identical.

Climate regulations in each country require steel companies to devise methods to lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from steel plants while continuing to produce steel products by these diverse and complex steelmaking processes. To accomplish this, it is desirable to have universally common indicators for determining steel plant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

There are many methods for calculating CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity for steel plants and specific processes. Each method was created to match the objectives of a particular country or region. In some cases, a single country can have several calculation methods in order to fulfill different objectives. Every one of these methods reflects the unique local characteristics of a particular country or region. As a result, these methods cannot be used for comparisons of CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity of steel plants in different countries and regions.

The World Steel Association (worldsteel), which consists of more than 130 major steel companies in 55 countries and regions of the world, has been working on the development of a calculation method for CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity of steel plants to facilitate steel plant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions improvement by the objective comparison of the intensity among the member companies' steel plants located in various places in the world. An agreement was reached among members, and worldsteel has issued the method as a guideline called "CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Data Collection User Guide." Actual data collection among worldsteel members based upon the guide started in 2007. Furthermore, worldsteel is encouraging even non-member steel companies to begin using the guide to calculate CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity of their steel plants.

This calculation method establishes clear boundaries for collection of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions data. The net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and production from a steel plant are calculated using all parameters within the boundaries. The CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity of the steel plant is calculated by the net CO<sub>2</sub> emission from the plant using the boundaries divided by the amount of crude steel production of the plant. With this methodology, the CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity of steel plants is calculated irrespective of the variance in the type of process used, products manufactured and geographic characteristics.

This calculation method only uses basic imports and exports that are commonly measured and recorded by the plants; thus, the method requires neither the measurement of the specific efficiency of individual equipments or processes nor dedicated measurements of the complex flow and recycling of materials and waste heat. In this way, the calculation method ensures its simplicity and universal applicability without requiring steel plants to install additional dedicated measuring devices or to collect additional dedicated data other than commonly used data in the management of plants. However, because different regions have different energy sources and raw materials available to them, the resulting calculations cannot be used to determine a benchmark or best in class across regions.

With this method, a steel company can calculate a single figure for the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity of a plant as a whole. As was explained earlier, most steel plants manufacture vast range of products with various shapes and specifications. This calculation method ensures the simplicity and universal applicability by not accommodating the differences in the production processes of such diverse products, and treats

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a whole steel plant as one unit with one CO<sub>2</sub> emission intensity. Therefore, this calculation method is not applicable for calculating and determining the carbon footprint of any specific steel product. Also, and for this reason, this method can be used neither for establishing caps or benchmarks for emissions under emissions trading scheme in any specific local or regional economic system, nor for the generation of CO<sub>2</sub> data that would allow a comparison of CO<sub>2</sub> intensities of production processes that are operated inside the site.