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The U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED®) Green Building Rating System is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. Through this system, LEED® improves occupant well-being, environmental performance and economic return on buildings through use of established and innovative practices, standards, and technologies.

Door Components purchases steel from mill producers as supported by the American Iron and Steel Institute, the American Institute of Steel Construction, and the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries. These suppliers subscribe to the tenants of the steel recycling resources including the online resource www.recycle-steel.org.

The steel purchases for hollow metal doors and frames constitute both post-consumer and pre-consumer recycled content as formulated by the Fordham University study. This study is accepted as the Keystone formulation for LEED and recycling. The discussion and attached calculations demonstrate conclusively the inherent recycled content of today's steel in North America: to buy steel is to "Buy Recycled".

Based on the current standards, it is a correct statement that Door Components, Inc., as a manufacturer in North America, purchases steel with a sum of post-consumer recycled content plus ½ of the preconsumer content constitutes at least 10% or 20%, based on cost, of the total value of the materials on the project. Recycle content value is determined by weight. That fraction is then multiplied by assembly cost to determine recycle content value.

Combined frame and door Steel Recycle content value – determined by weight is: 68.9

Hollow metal doors and frames manufactured by Door Components are capable of a significant contribution towards the total points awarded under the LEED rating system due to the high recycled content and high reclamation rate of steel doors and frames. Credits applicable to the hollow metal products of Door Components are as follows;

Materials & Resources LEED NC v4 Credit 4: Recycled Content - intended to increase demand for building products which incorporate recycled content materials, therefore reducing impacts resulting from extraction and processing of virgin raw materials.

Credit 4.1 (1 point) Use materials with recycled content such that the sum of post-consumer recycled content plus one-half of the pre-consumer content constitutes at least 10% (based on cost) of the total value of the materials in the project.

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Credit 4.2 (1 point in addition to MR 4.1) Use materials with recycled content such that the sum of postconsumer recycled content plus one-half of the pre-consumer content constitutes at least 20% (based on cost) of the total value of the materials in the project.

Materials & Resources LEED NC v4 Credit 5: Regional Materials - Intended to increase demand for building materials and products that are extracted and manufactured within the region, thereby supporting the use of indigenous resources and reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation.

Credit 5.1 (1 point) Regional materials 20% extracted, processed and manufactured regionally. Use building materials or products that have been extracted, harvested or recovered, as well as manufactured, within 500 miles of the project site for a minimum of 10% (based on cost) of the total materials value. If only a fraction of the material is extracted, harvested or recovered and manufactured locally, then only that percentage (by weight) shall contribute to the regional value.

Credit 5.2 (1 point in addition to MR 5.1) Regional materials 20% extracted, processed and manufactured regionally. Use building materials or products that have been extracted, harvested or recovered, as well as manufactured, within 500 miles of the project site for an additional 10% beyond MR Credit 5.1 (total of 20% based on cost) of the total materials value. If only a fraction of the material is extracted, harvested or recovered and manufactured locally, then only that percentage (by weight) shall contribute to the regional value.

Relative to Regional Materials credits 5.1 and 5.2, it is important to understand that unlike products harvested from a forest, iron ore is mined around the globe and blended to produce specific grades of steel. There is no process to track ore as it is extracted from its country of origin, transported and traded on the global commodities markets. As such, it is physically impossible to know where the raw materials for steel doors and frames were extracted. For that reason, Door Components is not in a position to make any statement beyond the recycled content and the place of manufacture for our products.

It is Door Components' intention to support the environment and to provide the Architectural and Construction Industry with the highest quality product with full and explicit conformation to the standards as set by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

Sincerely,
Vice President – Business Development