



**Georgia-Pacific**  
Gypsum

# Environmental Product Declaration

ACCORDING TO ISO 14025 AND ISO 21930

Type III environmental product declaration (EPD) developed according to ISO 14025 and 21930 for 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel



 Georgia-Pacific  
**DensArmor Plus®**  
High-Performance Interior Panel



## ASTM International Certified Environmental Product Declaration

This document is a Type III environmental product declaration by Georgia-Pacific LLC that is certified by ASTM International (ASTM) as conforming to the requirements of ISO 14025 and ISO 21930. ASTM has assessed that the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) information fulfills the requirements of ISO 14040 in accordance with the instructions listed in the product category rules cited below. The intent of this document is to further the development of environmentally compatible and sustainable construction methods by providing comprehensive environmental information related to potential impacts in accordance with international standards.

### Environmental Product Declaration Summary

GENERAL SUMMARY			
<b>Owner of the EPD</b>	Georgia-Pacific Gypsum LLC 133 Peachtree St NE Atlanta, GA 30303		
<b>Product Group</b>	Glass Mat Gypsum Panels		
<b>Product Name</b>	1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel (Brand Name) 1/2" Glass Mat Gypsum Panel (Generic Name)		
<b>Product Definition</b>	1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panels are used where added moisture and mold resistance and durability are desired. They are interior panels where added moisture and mold resistance and durability are desired. It is manufactured to ASTM C1658 Standard Specification for Glass Mat Gypsum Panels.		
<b>Product Category Rule (PCR)</b>	Product Category Rules for North American Glass Mat Gypsum Panels. UNPC Code 3699, NAICS Code 327420. Program Operator: ASTM 07.2016.		
<b>Certification Period</b>	11.29.2016 - 11.29.2021		
<b>Declared Unit</b>	1000 square feet, commonly referred to as MSF		
<b>ASTM Declaration Number</b>	EPD-043		
EPD INFORMATION			
<b>Program Operator</b>	ASTM International		
<b>Declaration Holder</b>	Georgia-Pacific Gypsum LLC		
<b>Product group</b> Glass Mat Gypsum Panels	<b>Date of Issue</b> 11.29.2016	<b>Period of Validity</b> 5 years	<b>Declaration Number</b> EPD-043
<b>Declaration Type</b> A "Cradle-to-gate" EPD for 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel. Activity stages covered include the product manufacturing (modules A1 to A3). The declaration is intended for use in Business-to-Business (B-to-B) communication.			





## 1 PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

### 1.1 PRODUCT DEFINITION

1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panels are used where added moisture and mold resistance and durability are desired. The abuse and impact resistant panels are used in high traffic areas.

### 1.2 PRODUCT STANDARD

Applicable product standards for glass mat gypsum panels (UNSPSC Code 30161500) include:

- ASTM C1177 Standard Specification for Glass Mat Gypsum Substrate for Use as Sheathing
- ASTM C1658 Standard Specification for Glass Mat Gypsum Panels
- ASTM C11 Terminology Relating to Gypsum and Related Building Materials and Systems
- ASTM C22 Specification for Gypsum
- ASTM C473 Test Methods for Physical Testing of Gypsum Panel Products
- ASTM C1264 Specification for Sampling, Inspection, Rejection, Certification, Packaging, Marking, Shipping, Handling, and Storage of Gypsum Panel Products
- ASTM E119 Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials

## 2 PRODUCT APPLICATION

1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panels are used in residential and commercial interior wall and ceiling applications. They are also used in residential and commercial exterior soffit applications.

## 3 DECLARED UNIT

The declared unit is 1,000 square feet (MSF) of glass mat gypsum panels. The conversion factor to kilograms is 1.05 ft<sup>2</sup>/kg (=1000 ft<sup>2</sup>/953 kg).

**Table 1: Product data summary**

PRODUCT	THICKNESS (INCHES)	SPECIFIC DENSITY (LB/MSF)	CORE TYPE	ASTM STANDARD
1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel	1/2"	2102	Regular	C1658

### 3.1 TECHNICAL DATA

See table 2 for a summary of technical data for 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel.

**Table 2: Technical Data**

TECHNICAL DATA	VALUE AND UNITS/TEST RESULTS/STATEMENT	REFERENCED DOCUMENTS
“R” factor – thermal resistance in US unit [SI unit]	.56R	ASTM C1177
Safety Data Sheet	Yes	Available at gpgypsum.com
Mold resistance	Yes	ASTM C3273
Surface Water Absorption	0.5g after 2 hours 1.6g after 2 hours	ASTM C1178 ASTM C1658
Water Absorption	5% 10%	ASTM C1178, ASTM C1658 ASTM C1177
Surface burning characteristics (if applicable)	See flame spread and smoke development	ASTM E84
Flame Spread	0	ASTM E84
Smoke Developed	0	ASTM E84
Water Vapor transmission Water Method Test	27	ASTM E96
Abuse/Impact resistance test (if applicable)	Where applicable	ASTM C1629
Total Recycled content (%)	Dependent on the facility	As defined in ISO 14021
Pre-consumer (%)	Dependent on the facility	As defined in ISO 14021
Post-consumer (%)	Dependent on the facility	As defined in ISO 14021

## 4 MATERIAL CONTENT

### 4.1 DEFINITIONS

Per Dens® Brand Fiberglass Mat Gypsum Panel SDS: Calcium sulfate dihydrate (Gypsum), Fiberglass mats, Continuous filament glass fibers (fiberglass), Crystalline silica (Quartz), Boric acid

The material content for 1/2” DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel is represented by the following quantities:

- Core (natural gypsum ore and FGD) – 52.0%
- Glass Mat (facing and backing) – 2.7%
- Additives (dry and wet) – 0.3%
- Water – 45.1%

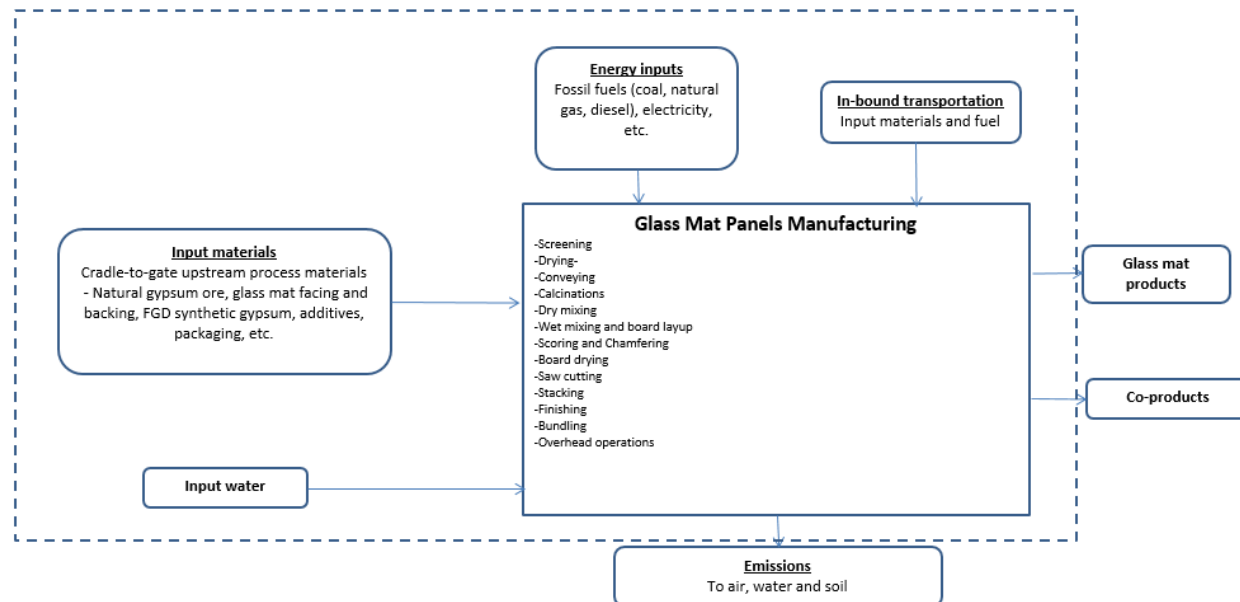
### 4.2 PACKAGING

Packaging consists of gypsum board end tape (bundling tape) constructed of paper and containing water- and oil-based ink; banding, rail bags and slip sheets; cardboard and metal edge/corner protectors; risers/spacers constructed of gypsum board; and adhesive for risers/spacers.

## 5 PRODUCT STAGE

The system boundary for the gypsum glass mat panel starts with the raw material acquisition and extends through the manufacturing of the panel, cradle-to-shipment gate. All transportation distances for the raw materials, chemicals and the final product were included. Data included from gypsum panel manufacturing, emissions to air, water and soil, and any solid waste or wastewater. Figure 1 below illustrates the product stage system boundary.

Figure 1: System boundary for glass mat gypsum panels study



## 6 LIFE CYCLE INVENTORY

### 6.1 CUTOFF CRITERIA

The cut-off criteria follows the guidelines presented in the PCR for North American Glass Mat Gypsum panels and was applied to 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel EPD. All data collected at the facility level including energy, mass and environmental flows were included. This includes data for gypsum rock and glass mat panel manufacturing. There was not an exclusion of data from those production processes. All hazardous and toxic substances were included in the study.

### 6.2 DATA QUALITY

GP gypsum quarry and panel facilities estimated, calculated, or measured the collected primary data for the production of natural gypsum and gypsum panel product. The data was validated by the plant managers at the facilities and by the internal LCA project team.

All specific processes discussed in the glass mat panel PCR are considered and modeled to represent 11 different gypsum glass mat products produced at Georgia-Pacific LLC. The

background process data were supplied by the USLCI database, PE INTERNATIONAL LCI database and the US adjusted Eco invent v 2.2 LCI database and modeled in GaBi 6.4, November 2014.

### 6.3 REPRESENTATIVENESS

The 2012 production data from 7 facilities for 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel represents 100% of total GP production in 2012 for that product. Secondary data from appropriate LCI datasets range from 2010-2013.

### 6.4 ALLOCATION

Allocation is necessary for the glass mat gypsum products because the mill produces other panel products. The allocation rules for the LCA follow the PCR allocation rules for glass mat gypsum products.

Plant generic formulations were used for 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel. For total water intake and mill level emissions (air, water, solid), the amounts were allocated by mass by total amount of product produced at the facility.

FGD gypsum was performed according to the system expansion approach. The glass mat gypsum panels are debited for the dewatering and transportation of the FGD gypsum and credited for avoided landfilling of FGD gypsum. The coal-fired power generation process is debited for the FGD gypsum landfilling.

## 7 LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

### 7.1 RESULTS OF THE LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

The LCA results for 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panels are shown below. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's TRACI (Tool for the Reduction and Assessment of Chemical and other Environmental Impacts) life cycle impact assessment methodology (version 2.1) is applied to calculate environmental performance of gypsum board. Per declared unit impact indicator results, energy and material resource consumption, and waste are presented in Table 3. Impact indicators used are global warming potential (GWP), acidification potential, eutrophication potential, smog potential, and ozone depletion potential.

For each Georgia-Pacific Dens® product, the range of impact indicator results (minimum and maximum values) are calculated and documented in the LCA report. This information is deemed confidential and not presented in the EPD document.

FGD as recovered material is not included in the non-renewable materials (NRMR) category indicator as it is not required to be included by the Glass Mat Gypsum Panel PCR, and GP has deemed the FGD content in Dens® products confidential.

**Table 3: EPD Summary Results – 1 MSF of 1/2" DensArmor Plus® Gypsum Panel**

CATEGORY INDICATOR	UNIT	TOTAL
Global warming potential, GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> equiv.	360
Ozone depletion potential, ODP	kg CFC-11 equiv.	1.35E-05
Acidification potential, AP	kg SO <sub>2</sub> equiv.	2.1
Eutrophication potential, EP	kg N equiv.	4.77E-01
Smog creation potential, POCP	kg O <sub>3</sub> equiv.	25
<b>Total primary energy consumption</b>		
Non-renewable, fossil, PENR-fossil	MJ, HHV	5,412
Non-renewable, nuclear, PENR-nuclear	MJ, HHV	391
Renewable, solar, wind, hydroelectric, and geothermal, PER-SWHG	MJ, HHV	87
Renewable, biomass, PER-biomass	MJ, HHV	41
<b>Material resources consumption</b>		
Non-renewable materials, NRMR	kg	890
Renewable materials, RMR	kg	1.8
Net fresh water consumption, NFW	L	1,639
<b>Waste generated</b>		
Hazardous waste, HW	kg	6.64E-02
Nonhazardous waste, NHW	kg	0.71

## 7.2 INTERPRETATION

The LCA study results found the raw material supply stage has the most significant contribution to global warming potential, with manufacturing also having a large contribution. The raw material supply life cycle stage also has the highest contribution to eutrophication potential, ozone depletion potential and smog creation potential. However, transportation has a high contribution to smog creation potential and acidification potential as well. These impacts from transportation are due to transporting gypsum ore overseas by barge. The conservative dataset for glass wool mat (eco invent v3.1) is included in the raw material supply, which has a high contribution to all impact indicators for the raw material supply.





## 8 ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

### 8.1 ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH DURING MANUFACTURING

The following environmental abatement pollution equipment were installed at the surveyed GP facilities to control particulate matter (PM) emissions:

- Fabric Filter – high temperature and low temperature baghouses
- Bin Vents
- Precipitator
- Water Sprinklers for Dust Control

## 9 DECLARATION TYPE AND PRODUCT AVERAGE DECLARATION

The type of EPD is defined as a “Cradle-to-gate” EPD of glass mat gypsum panels covering the product stage and is intended for use in Business-to-Business communication. This EPD represents an average performance for the product(s) included in the EPD, manufactured at Georgia-Pacific facilities.

## 10 DECLARATION COMPARABILITY LIMITATION STATEMENT

Environmental declarations from different programs may not be comparable. The comparison of the environmental performance of glass mat gypsum panels using the EPD information shall be based on the product’s use in and its impact on or within the building and shall consider the complete life cycle (all information modules).

## 11 EPD EXPLANATORY MATERIAL

For any explanatory material, in regard to this EPD, please contact the program operator.

ASTM International  
Environmental Product Declarations  
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PA 19428-2959, <http://www.astm.org>



## 12 REFERENCES

1. ISO 14040 Environmental management – life cycle assessment – Principles and framework: International Organization for Standardization; Geneva, 2006.
2. ISO 14044 Environmental management – life cycle assessment – Requirements and guidelines; International Organization for Standardization; Geneva, 2006.
3. ISO 14025 Environmental labels and declarations– Type III environmental declarations – Principals and procedures; International Organization for Standardization; Geneva, 2006.
4. ISO 21930 Sustainability in building construction – Environmental declaration of building products; International Organization for Standardization; Geneva, 2007.
5. EN 15804 :2012 Sustainability of construction works-Environmental product declarations – Core rules for the product category of construction products.
6. GaBi 6.4 thinkstep, Professional version.
7. Eco invent data v3.1.
8. TRACI, <http://www.epa.gov/nrmrl/std/sab/traci/>
9. Product Category Rules for North American Glass Mat Gypsum Panels. UNCPC Code 3699, NAICS Code 327420. Program Operator: ASTM 07.2016
10. The ASTM Program Operator for Product Category Rules (PCRs) and Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), General Program Instructions; Version 7.0, 08.2016
11. Gypsum Association LCA Final report: 2016, An Industry Average cradle-to-gate Life Cycle Assessment Glass Mat Gypsum Panels for the USA and Canadian Markets. Athena Institute.