



An Environmental Product Declaration for the Italian Ceramics Industry

Case Study | Confindustria Ceramica & Sphera

Challenges

- **Tackle an EPD project** representing 82.6% of Italian ceramic tile production
- **Communicate the environmental performance** of Italian ceramic tiles **in an objective and transparent manner**, while emphasizing sustainability activities and investments
- **Obtain tools to qualify for green building rating schemes** (LEED, DGNB, BREEAM) and Italian green public procurement bidding procedures (CAM)
- **Identify potential improvement areas and projects** for better environmental performance of products
- Support individual companies in product-related environmental reporting

Results and Benefits

- **Automated development of an average sector EPD**
- **Monitoring of environmental performance** in the Italian ceramic industry and for specific companies
- **Advantages through improvement of the environmental profile** of the sector and the member companies

- **Significant cost / time savings in generating EPDs**
- **New communication opportunities**
- **Possibility to fulfil the environmental criteria** of the Italian Green Public Procurement bids
- **Specific EPD development** as an option for single member companies
- **Promotion tool for the entire sector**

Sphera's Contribution

- **Sector EPD development** with support from thinkstep's consultancy services, GaBi and GaBi Envision Software and GaBi Databases
- **Automated, verified and user-friendly tool** compliant with the requirements of multiple program operators and able to generate further sector EPDs
- **Eco-Design Tool development** to generate specific EPDs for member companies
- **Diversified offer for the Association and the member companies:** different options for different needs, from the single specific EPD to a complete autonomy in developing EPDs for the entire product portfolio

EPD Creator and Eco-Design Tool for the Ceramics Sector

"Sphera is globally renowned as one of the most important players in the LCA field. Considering its experience in EPD development in the ceramic sector and its robust databases, it has been selected as our partner in the project. One of the decisive factors for thinkstep's selection was the possibility to conduct a sector project, allowing for the development of an EPD Creator, which gives great flexibility and autonomy to the individual companies in their specific EPD generation."

Andrea Contri | Sustainability Manager, Confindustria Ceramica

About Confindustria Ceramica

Confindustria Ceramica represents Italian ceramic tile manufacturers, supporting their competitiveness in global markets through a large network, strategic agreements with national and international organizations and various shareholders.

Confindustria Ceramica offers support and consultancy to its members (approximately 166 companies) with a wide range of activities and services in the different sub-sectors of the industry.

These include information, industrial relationships, fiscal legislation, European funds, support in legal issues and management of relations with trade unions.

The association publishes statistical surveys, reports on market trends and research on relevant topics, such as the environment, transportation, energy, etc.



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About Sphera

Sphera is the leading global provider of Integrated Risk Management software and information services with a focus on Environmental Health & Safety (EHS), Operational Risk Management and Product Stewardship. Sphera has advanced Operational Excellence for more than 30 years, serving companies and customers across the globe to create a safer, more sustainable and productive world.