

Agenda

- 1. Introduction of WP1 Nordic harmonisation of life cycle assessment (5 min)
 - Maria Tiainen/Finnish Ministry of the Environment
- 2. Overview of the BIM4LCA project and its results (15 min)
 - Rita Lavikka/VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland
- 3. Process for BIM-based building LCA and information requirements (20 min)
 - Tytti Bruce-Hyrkäs/Granlund
- 4. Architectural BIM modelling for LCA: identification of building elements (20 min)
 - Tomi Henttinen/Gravicon
- 5. Discussion and questions (30 min)
 - Add your questions and comments to Miro https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVLdXzr2o=/?share_link_id=487683046189





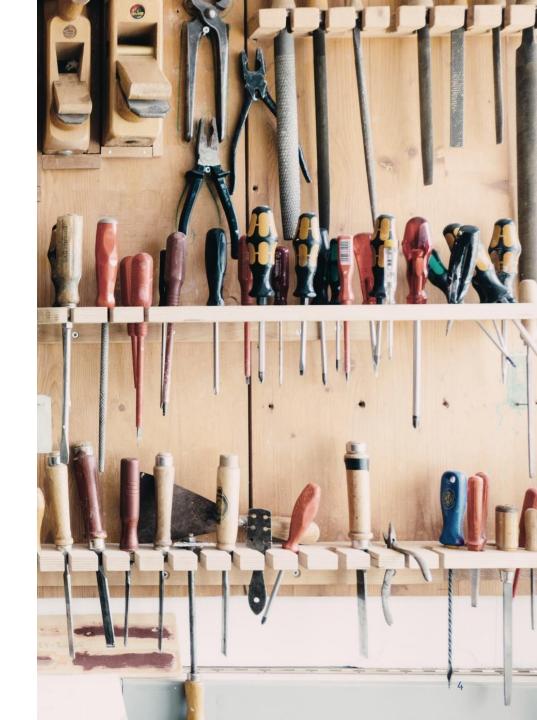






Nordic Sustainable Construction

- Nordic Sustainable Construction is a programme under the Nordic Council of Ministers
- Purpose:
 - accelerate the knowledge and capacity for a green transition in the Nordic construction sector
 - strengthen Nordic collaboration
 - ensure an aligned Nordic path





Work Packages



Nordic Harmonisation of Life Cycle Assessment

Harmonisation, regulation, digitalisation, limit values, climate reporting.



Circular Business Models and Procurement

Circularity in the construction industry and for public developer through capacity building.



Sustainable Construction Materials and Architecture

Opportunities and barriers to using wood and other biobased construction materials.



Emission-free Construction Sites

Diminishing emissions through regulation, harmonisation, research and practical guidelines.



Programme Secretariat and Competences for Reuse in Construction

Capacity building, strategic partnerships, knowledge sharing.





WP1 Nordic harmonisation of life cycle assessment

Task 1 Nordic LCA practices

- Feasibility study: how far to harmonise?
- Methodological harmonisation for normative needs
- Compatibility of building LCA and infrastructure LCA
- Timely importance for policymaking

Task 2 Database and scenarios

- Joint processes for gathering and verifying generic data
- Joint processes for setting lifecycle scenarios for <u>normative</u> LCA
- Interfaces to LCA tools

Task 3 Digitalisation of LCA

- Development of LCA guidance for BIM
- Development of national reference buildings into BIM
- Development of training models
- Coordination with BIM and other software developers

Task 4 Limit values

- Joint method for defining country-specific limit values where needed
- Joint process for reporting the climate impacts of Nordic built environment

Task 5 Acceleration Programme

To accelerate the decarbonisation of building and construction sector



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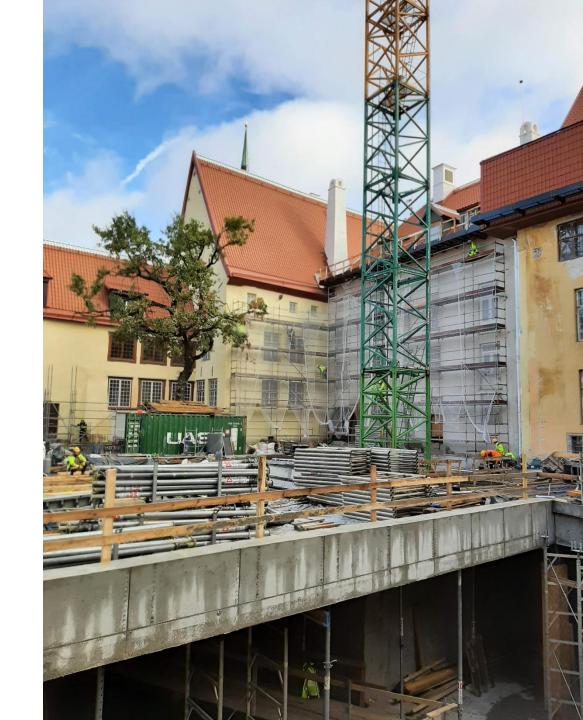
Overview of the BIM4LCA project and its results

Rita Lavikka/VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland



Main project goals

- Develop a generic process for BIM-based building LCA
- Create architectural, structural, HVAC and electrical BIM designs and their IFCs
- Create learning material guiding the calculation of BIM-based building LCA





Focus on <u>normative</u> building LCA

Conceptual design

Alternative designs

LCA aim: Comparing LCA of alternatives

Data: emission data for structures and systems at rough estimate level of detail

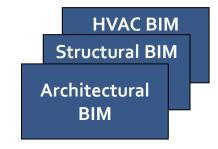
Developed design (building permit LCA)

Architectural BIM

LCA aim: First estimation (Proposed normative LCA in Estonia and Iceland)

Data: Mainly general emission data

Technical design



LCA aim: More accurate LCA based on the quantity take-off

Data: General and specific (EPD) emission data

Construction and handover (as-built LCA)

HVAC BIM
Structural BIM
Architectural
BIM

LCA aim: As-built normative LCA (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden)

Data: General and specific (EPD) emission data



Working group

- VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland (coordinator)
- Granlund
- Gravicon
- Insinööritoimisto Kallinen
- Nordic partners supporting R&D
 - Rangi Maja OÜ
 - Bengt Dahlgren
 - Asplan Viak AS
 - Gravicon DK
 - SBEResearch
 - Arkkitehtitoimisto Huvila











The Operating Environment of Building LCA and BIM in the Nordics and Estonia

- Report on the current building LCA and BIM practices, published 12.12.2023
 - Constraints and enablers for Nordic harmonization of building LCA
 - Enablers and hindrances for BIM-based building LCA
 - The basis for further project work providing guidance for BIM-based LCA and material declaration





The status of normative building LCA

Country	Normative building LCA	Limit values
Denmark	Since January 2023	Since January 2023
Estonia	Will be in force in 2025	Under discussion
Finland	Will be in force in 2026	Will be in force in 2026
Iceland	Proposed for 2025	Values to be set by 2028
Norway	Since July 2023	Maybe in +5 years
Sweden	Since January 2022	Proposed July 2025



Modules in the normative building LCA

X = included in the regulation, O = planned but not in force yet

Module	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Iceland	Norway	Sweden
A1-A3 Product phase	Х	0	0	0	Х	Х
A4 Transport	0	0	0	O	Х	X
A ₅ Construction process	0	0	0	0	X*	Х
B1 Use	-	-	-	-	-	-
B ₂ Maintenance	-	-	-	-	X	0
B ₃ Repair	-	-	-	-	-	-
B4 Replacement	X	0	0	О	X	0
B ₅ Refurbishment	-	-	-	-	-	-
B6 Operational energy use	X	0	0	0	-	0
C1 Deconstruction, demolition	-	0	0	O	-	0
C2 Transport	-	0	0	O	-	0
C ₃ Waste processing	X	0	0	0	-	0
C ₄ Disposal	X	0	0	0	-	0
D Re-use, recovery, recycling potential	X	O	O	0	-	-

The phase of normative building LCA reporting and accepted data sources

Country	Building life-cycle phase of the mandatory LCA	Floor area definition	Accepted emission data sources	Conservative emission factor for general data
Denmark	As-built	Reference area (embodied part), heated gross floor area (operational part)	Generic data from BR18 §297, EPDs	-
Estonia (Proposed)	Building permit	Heated net floor area	Estonian database, EPDs	1,2
Finland (Proposed)	As-built	Heated net floor area	National emission database (CO2data.fi), EPDs	1,2
Iceland (Proposed)	Building permit and as- built	Gross floor area, possibly later net floor area	Emission database, EPDs	1,25
Norway	Finished before the certificate of completion is issued	Gross floor area	EPDs	1,25
Sweden	As built	Gross floor area	Boverket database, EPDs	1,25

Constraints and Enablers for Nordic Harmonisation of Building LCA

Constraints

- Differences in what is included (modules, building parts)
- Differences in handling biogenic carbon
- Differences in accepted data sources and use of conservative values

— Enablers

- Common standards as a starting point (EN15978 and EU Level(s))
- Process for
 - unified calculation of the building parts
 - handling of the BIM material inventory lists
 - tracking of assumptions



BIM maturity

- All countries use BIM authoring tools for architectural and structural modelling
 - Allow the export of IFC (EN ISO 16739-1)
- Many countries have BIM guidelines and requirements, but rarely national or mandatory
 - Do not specifically support normative building LCA
- The naming conventions and classifications for materials and structures vary
 - They are also national, and their maturity and usage vary by country



Constraints and needs for using BIM for the building LCA

— Constraints

- The information content and identification of objects and materials in BIMs are not standardized
- Inaccuracy in quantity take-off
- The lack of interoperability between BIM and LCA software
- Modelling conventions regarding spaces in BIM are not harmonized
- Not all data comes from BIM (e.g. B6 and energy sources)

— Needs

- The general calculation rules for building LCA set requirements for the BIM modelling process
- The information content and identification of materials and structures in BIM should be standardized





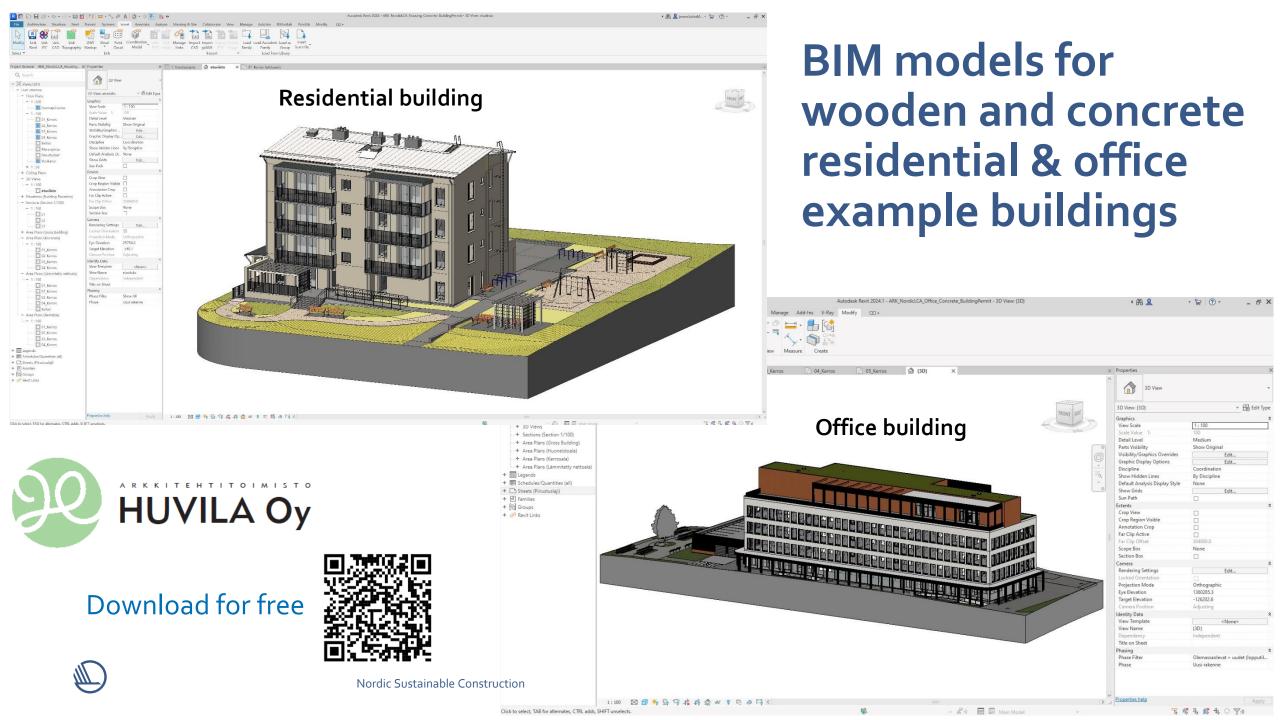


Summary of results : Q

- 1. A generic description of the **BIM to LCA process**
 - supporting the calculation and reporting of normative LCA in building construction projects
- 2. Generic guidelines for reliable BIM-based material inventory
 - specifications for information needed for modelled building components, data transfer from BIM tools to LCA tools, and iterative design and analysis workflow between BIM and LCA tools
- 3. A pathway towards automated BIM-based LCA
 - for instant feedback and low-carbon design solutions
- 4. Two example buildings with **BIM models**
 - for practitioners to learn BIM-based building LCA
- 5. Educational videos on BIM-based LCA







YouTube training videos



- 2. BIM-based building LCA process and building LCA calculation principles
- 3. Architect's building permit and as-built phases: information content, IFC export
- 4. Structural designer: information content, IFC export, Excel import
- 5. HVAC designer: information content
- 6. HVAC designer: IFC export
- 7. LCA expert: IFC export, LCA software import, example on calculating the CO₂ of a wall structure



BIM4LCA introduction, Rita Lavikka

NordicSustainableConstruction •



BIM4LCA architectural design Tomi Henttinen

NordicSustainableConstruction •



BIM4LCA LCA calculation, Martin Excell

NordicSustainableConstruction •



BIM4LCA LCA calculation 2 Tytti Bruce Hyrkäs

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BIM4LCA MEP 1, Markus Järvenpää Tero Järvinen

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BIM4LCA MEP 2, Markus Järvenpää Tero Järvinen

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BIM4LCA structural design Minna Salonsaari

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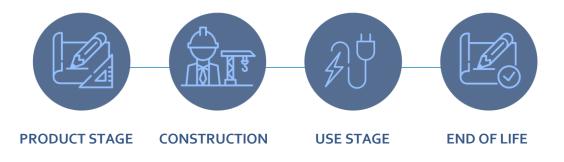
Process for BIM-based building LCA and information requirements

Tytti Bruce-Hyrkäs/Granlund



Whole life carbon assessment

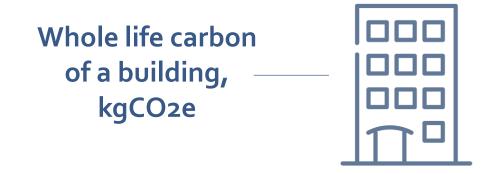


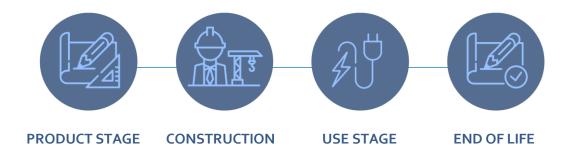




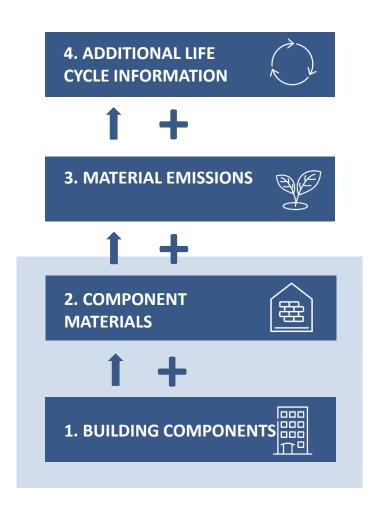


Whole life carbon assessment











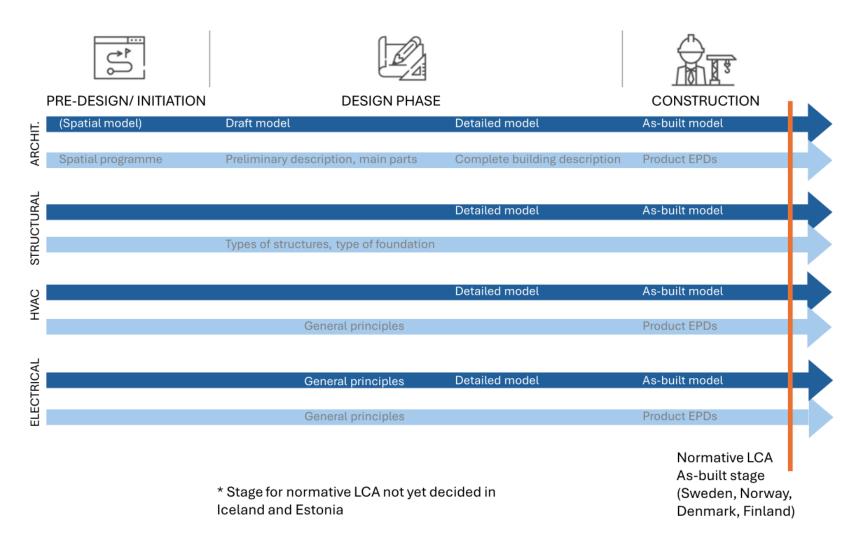
Steering the emissions requires followup through the design process





Availability and content of data and automation possibilities depend on the stage of design and purpose of LCA

- Normative LCA requires combining information from several sources including some manual inputs
- In some fields, working automation workflows exist but do not extend to full LCA. Success requires strict modelling principles.





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Data flow from BIM to LCA

BIM models Data extraction Data LCA software Reporting augmentation Regulations Component • Possible Additional National transforms geometries assumptions conventions Modeling Model data • Other data conventions Model content overlapping sources Project phase Validation



Issues in the current BIM to LCA data flow

BIM models

- Regulations
- Modeling conventions
- Project phase

Data extraction

- Component geometries
- Model data content

Data augmentation

- Possible transforms
- Model overlapping
- Validation

LCA software

- Additional assumptions
- Other data sources

Reporting

National conventions

- Objects modelled incorrectly
- All objects not modeled
- Data may be recorded in different properties
- Varying naming and typing conventions

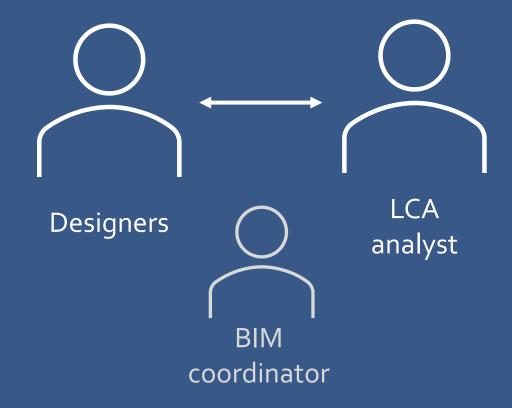
- LCA system
 boundary may differ
 from modeled
 content
- Take-off units not corresponding to LCA databases
- Data in nonstandard locations
- Reliability of quantities?
- Manual extraction work, error-prone

- No knowledge on missing informationDifficult to solve
 - overlapping between modeled domains
 Object types in BIM
- Object types in BIM models not easily mappable with other documents
- Lacking coordination —
 from BIM modeler to
 LCA analyst
 Not sure of materials
 and products —
- Not clear, to which LCA reporting category a BIM object belongs Low automation in previous steps leads to repeated work



Common understanding is the key to success

- Information requirements
 - Geometries and type designators
- Documentation of the models
 - What has been modelled, and the level of detail
 - What building parts or details are not modelled
 - Which IFC properties are employed to store data
 - Where can the LCA analyst find supplementary information



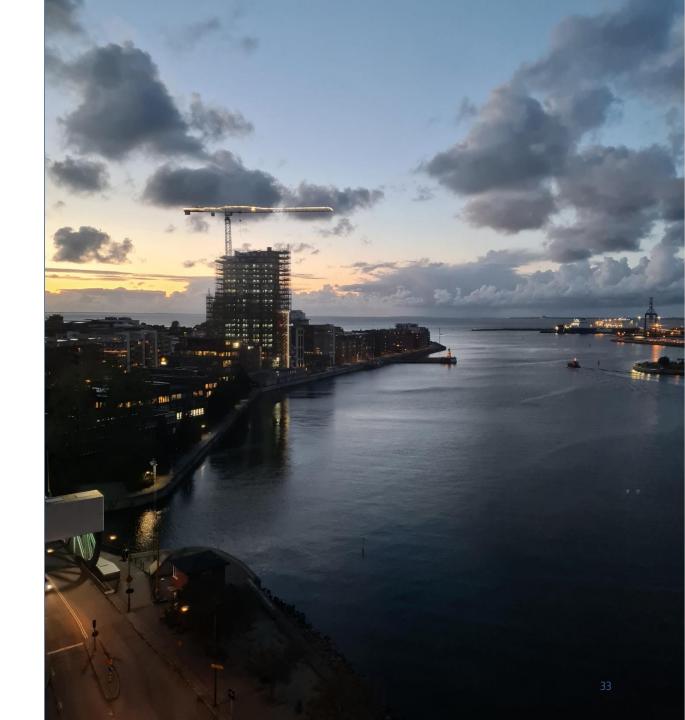


Solutions

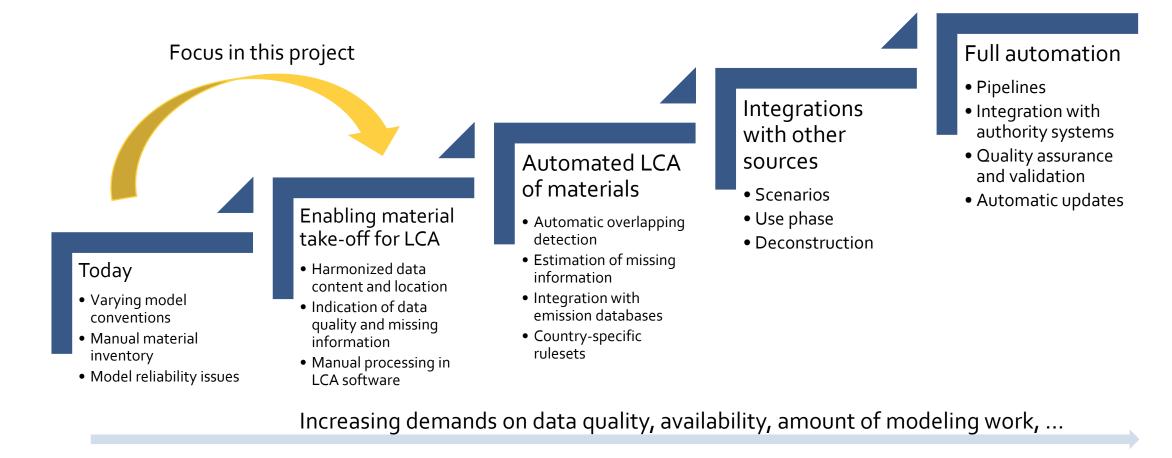
In BIM4LCA project we:

- Described a process from BIM to LCA to help in communications and creating common understanding in projects
- Specified general modelling principles and data requirements for architectural, structural and HVAC modelling, so that the material inventory lists can be processed more effectively
- Information required for calculation of nonmaterial related LCA modules will not be likely to be contained in BIM models





Steps towards automated LCA from BIM





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BIM-based building LCA process

- BIM provides adequate information on correct quantities
- This information is linked with the emission data in the LCA software.

Native

- Modelling in native software (Revit, ArchiCAD)
- Specifications for required properties for the objects, based on LCA requirements

IFC

- IFC format as standardized exchange format
- Data specification in IFC property sets
- Export to material inventory lists with standardized fields

Processing

- Data augmentation and additional assumptions (manually, or later in the LCA software)
- Possible processing into format accepted by LCA software

LCA

- Examples of importing material inventory lists into LCA software
- Reporting and calculation in LCA software, business-as-usual creating national reports in LCA software is not included

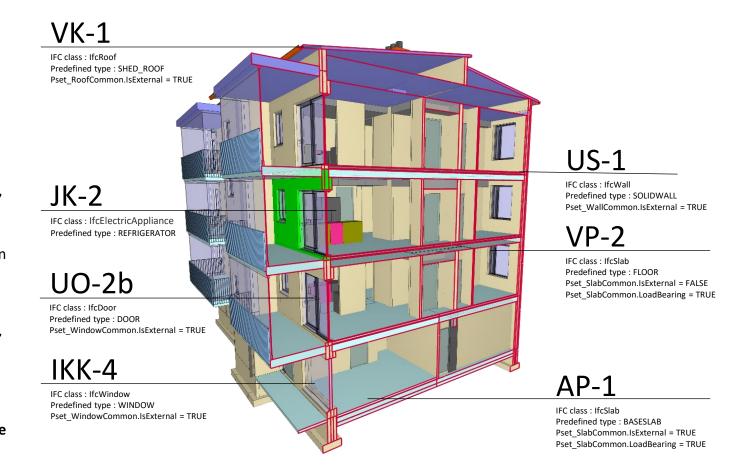




Use of the IFC model to calculate the CO2 of a building

- For each element in the design model, the correct IFC class, pre-defined type and required properties are defined. This information allows the IFC model to be filtered by element group.
- In addition, in the IFC, each type of building element and product element is **assigned a project-specific type designator (e.g. US-1).** This allows the elements to be linked to external material and product data.
- The IFC data model provides the quantity information for each element. Quantities can be read from the model as lengths, areas, volumes or number of items, depending on the elements.
- The IFC model data is transferred to the LCA calculation software. The IFC model contains quantitative data only for the elements to be implemented. Waste material, formwork, supports and other temporary structures must be considered separately. In addition, the LCA software must include quantitative estimates for elements not included in the design model.
- The project-specific type designators in the IFC model can be used in the LCA calculation software to link the breakdown structure and product information for each element.

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Minimum requirements models supporting LCA



prEN 15978*

pren 15978*			QIO	Litecycle stage		
Building parts	Building elements and processes		αто	Building permit	As-Built	
Pre: construction works	Eacilitating works	Temporary/Enabling works Specialist groundworks				
	Work on the existing building	Demolition and alterations				
	Eoundations.		m³	Structural estimate	Structural BIM	
	<u>Piles</u>		m	Structural estimate	Structural BIM	
Substructure	Basement walls		m²	Arch BIM	Structural BIM	
	Retaining walls		m²	Arch BIM	Structural BIM	
	Waterproofing		m²	Arch BIM	Arch BIM	
	Ground floor	enstruction	m²	Arch BIM	Arch BIM	
Super-		Salumna	kg (steel structure), m³ (concrete, wood)	Arch BIM	Structural BIM	
	Erame	Beams.	kg (steel structure), m³ (concrete, wood)	Arsh BIM	Structural BIM	
		Shear walls	kg (steel structure), m³ (concrete, wood)	Arch BIM	Structural BIM	
structure	Upper floors	Upper floors		Arsh BIM	Arch BIM	
	Balconies		square meters, meters	Arch BIM	Structural BIM	
	Da of	Roof structure	m²	Arch BIM	Arsh BIM	



Lifecycle stage

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Building Building elem		ments and processes	ΩΤΟ	Building permit	As-Built
		Internal walls – non- loadbearing	m² (net area)	Arsh BIM	Arch BIM
		Internal doors	No. of units	Arch BIM	Arch BIM
Einishes.	External	Cladding	m²	Estimate, based on arch design	Arch BIM
	finishes	Coatings	m²	Estimate, based on arch design	Arch BIM
		Wall finishes	m²	Estimate, based on arch design	Arch BIM, based on room geometry
	Internal	Baised floors	m²	Estimate, based on arch design	Arch BIM, based on room geometry
	finishes	Eleartinishes	m²	Estimate, based on arch design	Arch BIM, based on room geometry
		Seiling finishes	m²	Estimate, based on arch design	Arch BIM, based on room geometry
Water system		Hot water distribution	m (pipes, insulations), No. of units	Estimate, based on arch design	MEP BIM
	Water	Sold water distribution	m (pipes, insulations), No. of units	Estimate, based on arch design	MEP BIM
	systems	Water treatment systems	m (pipes, insulations), No. of units	Estimate, based on arch design	MEP BIM
Building		Rainwater systems	m (pipes, insulations),	Estimate, based on arch design	MEP BIM

QTO



Architectural BIM modelling for LCA; identification of building elements; data validation

Tomi Henttinen/Gravicon





Design principles

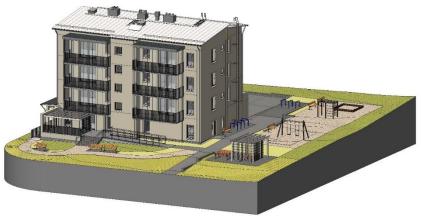
- Real-life design objectives emphasise the life-cycle properties of buildings
 - Adaptability allows for spatial changes during the life cycle
 - Multi-purpose usability
 - Access to natural light
 - Design work followed the Finnish Construction Act and building codes
- Simulated real-life building design process
 - Several design disciplines; typical designer roles
 - BIM-based collaboration
- Information content in the two phases of the project
 - Building permit
 - Handover (as-built)
- Two types of models
 - Design software's proprietary file formats (Revit & Archicad)
 - IFC4 as a primary output format



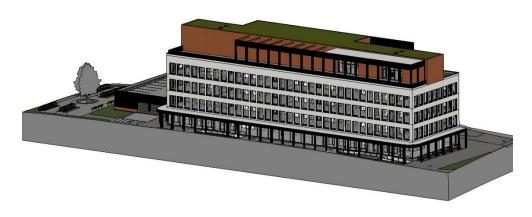
Two buildings



- Residential building
 - Ground floor with service spaces + 3 floors with apartments
 - A basement with storage spaces
 - A garage
 - One staircase with a lift
 - Apartment-specific ventilation system



- Office building
 - Ground floor with restaurant /other public functions + 3 floors with office space
 - A basement with a civil defence shelter, employee facilities and storage space
 - An Integrated garage building
 - Two staircases with lifts
 - The top floor facilitates a semi-public sauna, a roof terrace and a technical room for ventilation machines.



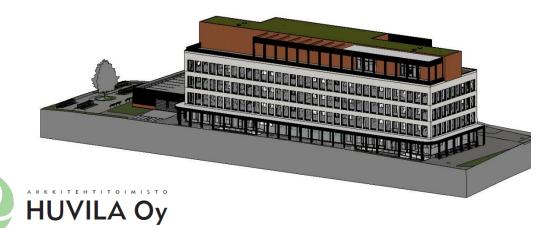


Two material solutions for the frame

- Residential building
 - Wooden: Load-bearing timber-framed walls with wood-panelled facades
 - Concrete: Load-bearing concrete walls with brickwork facades

- Office building
 - Wooden: Wooden column and beam structure, wooden-panelled facades
 - Concrete: Concrete column and beam structure, siding panel facades
- The material of the frame influenced the distances between the floors and the dimensions of the structures.
- The material options were designed taking into account, among other things, the differences in sound and fire performance of the different materials.

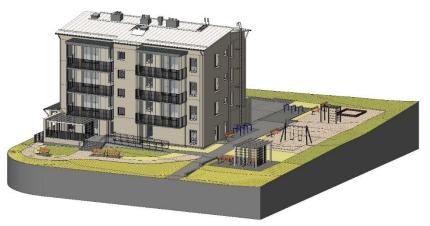


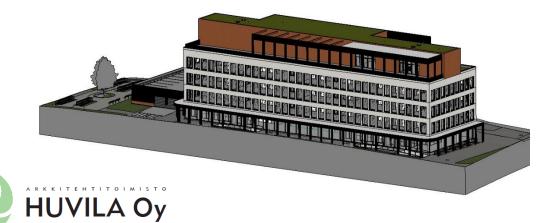




Two phases

- Building Permit
 - General types of materials and products were presented, defining the requirements for materials and products for the implementation phase.
- Handover (as-built)
 - The types specified in the permit phase were updated with selected products and materials.
 - The geometry and information content of the models did not need to be changed, except for design changes caused by other design disciplines.





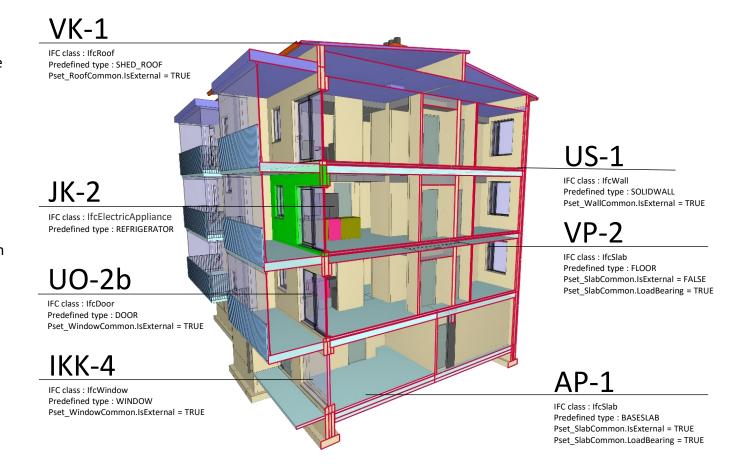


Design models (native BIM models and IFC)

Group	Wooden		Concrete		Site models	IFC files
Architectural building permit models	Residential building in Revit and Archicad	Office building in Revit	Residential building in Revit	Office building in Revit	Residential and office building sites for Wooden and Concrete versions in Revit, Office building site in Archicad	As many as the native models = 10 IFC files
Architectural as-built models	Residential building in Revit	Office building in Revit	Residential building in Revit	Office building in Revit and ArchiCAD	Residential building site in Archicad	= 6 IFC files
Structural models	Residential building in Tekla Structures	Office building in Tekla Structures	Residential building in Tekla Structures	Office building in Tekla Structures		= 4 IFC files
HVAC models (Wood frame also includes sprinkler - systems)	Residential building in MagiCAD for Revit	Office building in MagiCAD for Revit	Residential building in MagiCAD for Revit	Office building in MagiCAD for Revit		= 4 IFC files
Electrical models	Residential building in MagiCAD for Revit	Office building in MagiCAD for Revit	Residential building in MagiCAD for Revit	Office building in MagiCAD for Revit		= 4 IFC files

Use of the IFC model to calculate the CO2 of a building

- For each element in the design model, the correct IFC class, pre-defined type and required properties are defined. This information allows the IFC model to be filtered by element group.
- In addition, in the IFC, each type of building element and product element is assigned a project-specific type designator (e.g. US-1). This allows the elements to be linked to external material and product data.
- The IFC data model provides the quantity information for each element. Quantities can be read from the model as lengths, areas, volumes or number of items, depending on the elements.
- The IFC model data is transferred to the LCA calculation software. The IFC model contains quantitative data only for the elements to be implemented. Waste material, formwork, supports and other temporary structures must be considered separately. In addition, the LCA software must include quantitative estimates for elements not included in the design model.
- The project-specific type designators in the IFC model can be used in the LCA calculation software to link the breakdown structure and product information for each element.





Mapping EN 15978 to IFC 4.3 (ISO 16739-1:2024)

*Sustainability of construction works. Assessment of environmental performance of buildings. Calculation method.

prEN 15978*			IFC 4.3 (ISO 16739-1:2024)				
Building parts Building elements and processes			IFC Entity	IFC PredefinedType	IFC Properties		
	Facilitating works	Temporary/Enabling works	lfcTask 2)	STARTUP			
Pre-construction works	Facilitating works	Specialist groundworks	IfcTask 2)	CONSTRUCTION			
	Work on existing building	Demolition and alterations	IfcTask 2) IfcTask 2)	DEMOLITION ADJUSTMENT			
Sub- structure	Foundations		IfcFooting	FOOTING_BEAM, PAD_FOOTING, PILE_CAP, STRIP_FOOTING			
	Piles		IfcPile	BORED, COHESION, DRIVEN, FRICTION, JETGROUTING, SUPPORT			
	Basement walls		IfcWall	SOLIDWALL			
	Retaining walls		IfcWall	RETAININGWALL			
	Waterproofing		IfcCovering	MEMBRANE			
	Ground floor construction		IfcSlab	BASESLAB	Pset_SlabCommon LoadBearing = TRUE		
		Columns	IfcColumn	COLUMN	Pset_ColumnCommon LoadBearing = TRUE		
	Frame	Beams	lfcBeam	BEAM	Pset_BeamCommon LoadBearing = TRUE		
		Shear walls	IfcWall	SHEAR	Pset_WallCommon LoadBearing = TRUE		
Super-structure	Upper floors		lfcSlab IfcBeam	FLOOR HOLLOWCORE	Pset_SlabCommon LoadBearing = TRUE Pset_BeamCommon LoadBearing = TRUE		

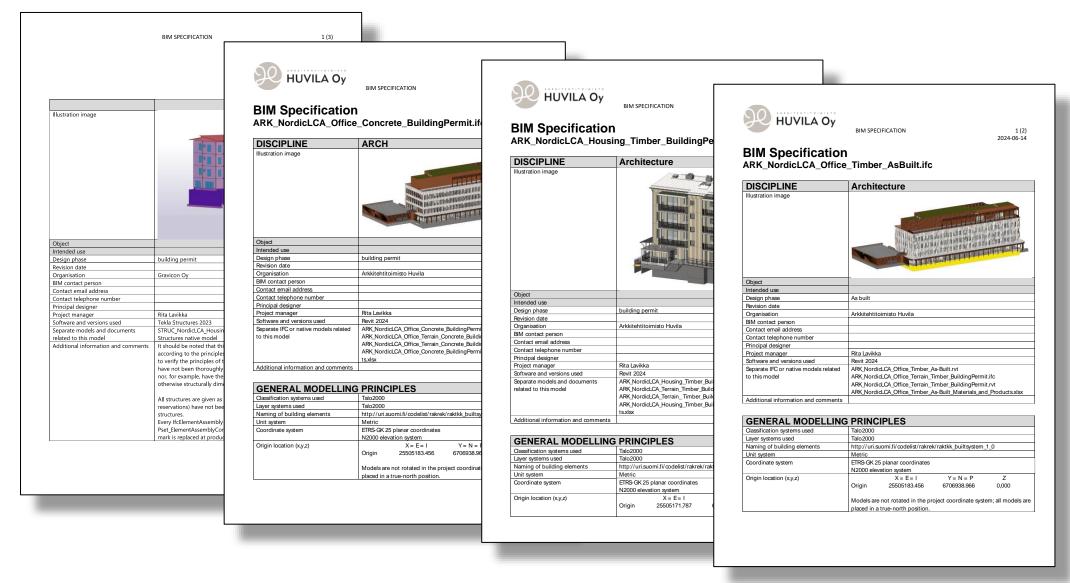


Mapping EN 15978 to classification systems

prEN 15978*		IEC/ISO 81346-12		CoClass		Talo2000**		ICMS***		
Building parts	Building elements and processes		Code	Description	Code	Description	Code	Description	Code	Description
Pre- construction works	Facilitating works	Temporary/- Enabling works	-	-			NA	NA	2.01.	Demolition, site preparation and formation
		Specialist groundworks	-	-			NA	NA	2.01.	Demolition, site preparation and formation
	Work to existing building	Demolition and alterations	-	-			NA	NA	2.01.	Demolition, site preparation and formation
Sub- structure	Foundations		А	Ground system	A20	Foundation	121 1121	Foundations Piles	2.02.	Sub- structure
	Piles		В	Wall system	B31	Cellar wall system	121 1121	Foundations Piles	2.02.	Sub- structure
	Basement walls		В	Wall system	B32	Retaining wall system	1212	Enclosure walls	2.02.	Sub- structure
	Retaining walls		FSG	Protective seal	FSG10	Water- proofing	1153	Retaining walls	2.02.	Sub- structure
	Waterproofing		С	Slab system	C10	Bottom slab system	12124	Thermal insulation	2.02.	Sub- structure



BIM specification documents, initial data for validation





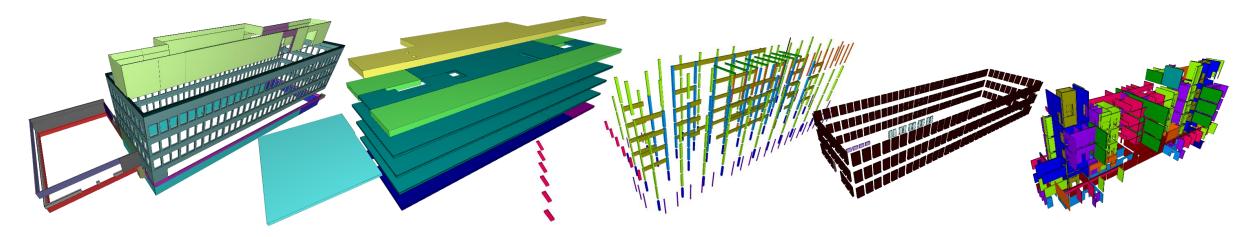
Data validation

- Working methods : Modelling standards
 - Compliance with BIM requirements (e.g. COBIM2012)
 - Correct use of entities (e.g. wall should be modelled as IfcWall)
 - Possibility to group the entities in the model according to EN 15978
- Technical correctness : Proper use of IFC
 - IFC type entities (e.g. IfcWallType for IfcWall)
 - Predefined types (e.g. IfcWall PARTITIONING for walls that are separating spaces)
 - Standard IFC property sets and properties



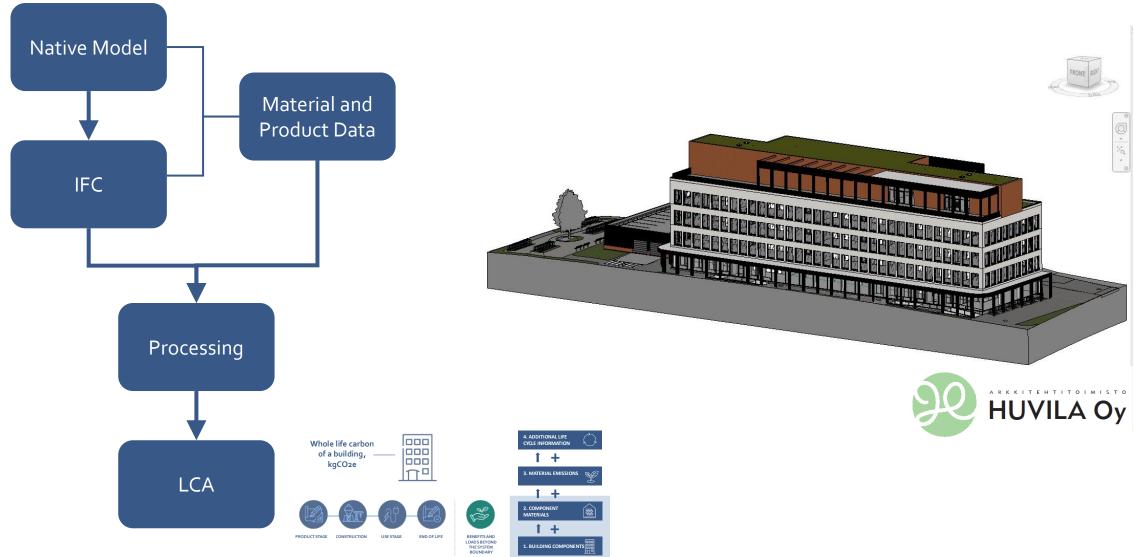
Use of IFC models to calculate the CO2 of a building

- Based on correctly constructed models
 - IFC geometry, IFC class & predefined types, project-designated types
 - Contains only the information about designed entities; excludes waste, temporary structures etc.
- Material and product data provided by the architect and the contractor
 - Based on the project-designated types that are used in the IFC model
 - The information should be in machine-readable format, but not necessarily within the IFC model
- IFC enables a standardised data collection process
 - Same data format regardless of the design software used
 - Data transfer processes can be automated when the source data is always in the same format





BIM-based building LCA process





Questions and answers

— https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVLdXzr2o=/?share_link_id=487683046189





Thank you!

