SIMPSON STRONG-TIE: COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Simpson Strong-Tie continues to look for ways to build safer and stronger homes and buildings while being mindful of how we can help protect the environment, and the health and safety of our employees. As a manufacturer of metal connectors, fasteners, anchors and structural systems, we are actively involved in environmentally conscious activities both internally and externally. We work with our customers to develop products that support green building technology and we follow an environmental policy that helps guide our internal recycling and conservation efforts.

Everyone is responsible for minimizing our impact on the environment and is committed to the prevention of pollution. We strive to meet or exceed all applicable environmental laws and regulations and to continually improve our operations and their effect on the environment. Management establishes objectives for improvement in appropriate areas and monitors implementations for effectiveness.

Simpson Strong-Tie Environmental Policy

Recycled Steel Content in Simpson Connectors

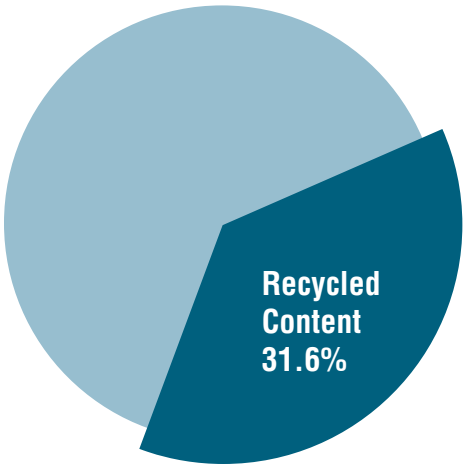
Simpson Strong-Tie® structural-rated connectors are produced from mill certified steel that is purchased from suppliers all over the world. As a result, it is difficult to ascertain with certainty the exact amount of recycled content in our products. However, we know it's important to supply this information for programs, such as the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), which provides building and design professionals with a nationally-accepted green building rating system. In order to quantify the amount of recycled steel used to make our connector products, we rely on the information published by the steel industry.

There are two major production processes in the steel industry with different recycled components. Because the bulk of our steel comes from the Basic Oxygen Furnace method, we quote this method for recycle percentages. Based on industry requirements and the Basic Oxygen Furnace method estimates, the pie chart (on the right) shows the 2005 steel production and recycling rates from the Steel Recycling Institute.

Steel Recycling Program

In addition to using recycled steel, Simpson Strong-Tie uses specially-designed dies for its metal stamping process to help minimize steel waste. All scrap steel resulting from the manufacturing process is recycled at each of our North American facilities. In 2006, we recycled more than 10 million pounds of scrap steel for use in other steel applications.

Recycling Rates from the Steel Recycling Institute



Total Recycled Content: 31.6%*
Post-Consumer Recycled Percentage = 24.6%
Post-Industrial Recycle Percentage = 6.6%

* **Total recycled content** includes scrap steel generated during the manufacturing process. This scrap is not included in the post-consumer recycled content percentage, which is why the total percentage is higher.

Green Building Systems

Many of the homes and buildings built today use green building technology. Simpson Strong-Tie supports green building systems that use engineered wood and insulated concrete forms.

Engineered wood products, such as LSL, are made from strands of wood stripped from low-grade plantation trees and provide a sustainable alternative to solid sawn lumber. Simpson Strong-Tie supports the engineered wood industry by offering a variety of connector products specifically for engineered wood applications.

Insulated concrete forms (ICF) create wall assemblies using foam insulation and poured concrete, resulting in significant energy savings. Simpson Strong-Tie has developed a ledger connector system specifically for the ICF industry. Many of our top of wall connectors developed for masonry applications also work well with the ICF system. In addition, several standard wood-to-wood connectors can be used for the interior framing in an ICF structure.

Advanced Framing

Advanced Framing techniques are helping to reduce material usage and improve energy performance in wood-frame construction by eliminating non-structural wood from the building envelope and replacing it with insulation. Wood provides a "thermal bridge" or a path for conductive heat loss through the building frame. Simpson Strong-Tie structural connectors can be used to reduce thermal bridging while maintaining structural performance. Advanced framing techniques are supported by several green building programs, such as LEED, the U.S. government's ENERGY STAR program and the NAHB Model Green Homebuilding Guidelines. To learn more about connectors and advanced framing, visit www.strongtie.com/green.

Use of Non-Toxic Materials

Finished products that require painting are processed using either water-based paint products or powder coating. Both processes are non-toxic. The paint has no volatile petroleum content, poses no fire hazard and does not produce toxic fumes while drying. The water-based paint process eliminates any risk of the paint being atomized into the air. Simpson Strong-Tie uses non-toxic powder for powder coating its products and burns off the water used from this process in its powder-coating wash tanks. This eliminates the chance of wastewater entering groundwater. The burn off is also not hazardous to the air. Both methods eliminate the volatile organic emissions associated with solvent-based paints.

In addition, Simpson Strong-Tie prints its promotional and educational literature with non-toxic soy ink.

Other Recycling Efforts

Simpson Strong-Tie recycles cardboard and other packaging materials from product packages and inbound loads through local recycling vendors. Paper and newsprint are collected and recycled at office locations, and there are initiatives in place throughout the company to encourage office employees to reuse and recycle paper.

In addition, Simpson Strong-Tie has agreements with pallet recyclers to help customers reduce their pallet demand. All usable pallets are reused for shipping finished goods, and damaged pallets are sent to a repair company for creating new pallets. Obsolete or unusable machinery and equipment are sold to refurbishing companies or scrapped and recycled.

Energy Efficiency

Simpson Strong-Tie has been recognized for its energy-saving efforts. Energy-efficient light fixtures, motion sensors and automatic temperature controls are used wherever possible to minimize energy waste. Several facilities have installed reduced lighting programs, which automatically turn off unnecessary lighting in office and manufacturing areas. In addition, all new buildings are constructed with energy-efficient skylights to reduce energy consumption.

Helping Create a Sustainable Environment

Simpson Strong-Tie takes its environmental role seriously, and is committed to supporting employees and customers to help create a sustainable environment. By working together as an industry, we can continue to find new ways to build safer, stronger structures that incorporate green technology.