





The future of steel: sourcing steel in a net zero economy

Introduction

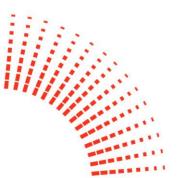
Steel is the world's most widely used material – from buildings to bridges, scissors to saucepans, cars to wind turbines, it's found in almost every aspect of our lives.

Despite technologies existing for its production to be decarbonised, steelmaking is one of the biggest emitters of CO_2 globally today. Total greenhouse gas emissions from the steel sector alone account for 7% - 9% of direct emissions from the global use of fossil fuels, and this is projected to rise in line with increasing demand.

Given we have less than 10 years to halve global carbon emissions to get the world on track to reach net zero by mid-century, the steel industry needs to play its part. And we have to start today.

That's why the Climate Group in partnership with ResponsibleSteel have come together to establish <u>SteelZero</u> – a global initiative working with forward-looking organisations to speed up the transition to a responsible, net zero steel industry.

SteelZero will follow the path of the Climate Group's other successful corporate commitment campaigns, with the support of ResponsibleSteel's sectoral expertise.



SteelZero

To join, organisations must make a public commitment to procure 100% net zero steel by 2050. By harnessing their collective purchasing power and influence, SteelZero will send a strong demand signal to shift global markets and policies towards responsible production and sourcing of steel.

Organisations who join SteelZero are either companies that procure steel, public procurement bodies, specifiers of steel such as designers and engineers, or organisations involved in the steel supply chain at any stage after the production of crude steel.

SteelZero and its committed leading organisations will send a powerful signal to steel producers, investors and policymakers to accelerate the transition to widescale production of net zero steel.

Companies who move forward to develop their plans for net zero steel now, will be better positioned to respond to buyers' requirements and manage market demands for net zero steel.

The focus and work program of SteelZero has been shaped through a series of interviews with potential members with ideas and plans are being discussed and reviewed at multi-stakeholder workshops. Over 50 businesses and business associations across the construction & property, consumer products, automotive, finance and renewable energy sectors plus 10 civil society organisations have been involved with the development of SteelZero.

Key milestones:

September 2020: First industryspecific working groups commenced. November 2020: First companies signed up to commitment framework.

January 2021: Expansion of committed companies and continuation of working groups.

October 2020: Commitment framework finalised.

December 2020: SteelZero launch event.

For more information on SteelZero please contact:

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About the Climate Group

The Climate Group drives climate action. Fast. Our goal is a world of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, with greater prosperity for all. We focus on systems with the highest emissions and where our networks have the greatest opportunity to drive change. We do this by building large and influential networks and holding organisations accountable, turning their commitments into action. We share what we achieve together to show more organisations what they could do. We are an international non-profit organisation, founded in 2004, with offices in London, New Delhi and New York. We are proud to be part of the We Mean Business coalition. Follow us on Twitter @ClimateGroup.

Building demand for a net zero economy

Since 2014, the Climate Group has developed a series of high impact campaigns as part of the We Mean Business Coalition's Take Action platform. These corporate commitment initiatives are helping to reshape the markets for renewable electricity (RE100), energy productivity (EP100) and electric vehicles (EV100).

Almost 300 multinational businesses with a combined revenue of US\$6.6 trillion and over 16 million employees have joined these campaigns and, by acting collectively, are now driving climate action in more than 140 markets worldwide.

About ResponsibleSteel

ResponsibleSteel's mission is to maximise steel's contribution to a sustainable society. A not for profit organisation, ResponsibleSteel is the industry's first global multi-stakeholder standard and certification initiative.

With members from every stage of the steel supply chain, ResponsibleSteel is developing an independent certification standard to ensure businesses and consumers can be confident that they steel they use as been sourced and produced responsibly at every stage.

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The Steel Stewardship Council Ltd, known as ResponsibleSteel, is a not for profit company (Australian Company Number 610 479 000) whose registered address is located at 755 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, NSW 2302, Australia.



