Introduction to ResponsibleSteel

ResponsibleSteel is developing the first global initiative for responsibly sourced and produced steel. Our vision is to maximise steel’s contribution to a sustainable world.

Since our establishment in 2016, our mission has been to enhance the responsible sourcing, production, use, and recycling of steel by:

- Providing a multi-stakeholder forum to build trust and achieve consensus
- Developing standards, certification and related tools
- Driving positive change through the recognition and use of responsible steel

More than 90% of all metal produced annually is steel. Steel production is an important economic sector, and its products are crucial for the global transition to renewable energy, but it is also associated with environmental and social impacts.

Climate change is the most urgent issue we face today. The steel sector alone accounts for between 7% and 9% of global CO₂ emissions.

Sustainability is complex and challenging, requiring innovation, dynamism, vision, and technical know-how. That is why we have spent almost a decade developing the ResponsibleSteel Standard.

The first steelmaking sites to be evaluated against our Standard were certified in July 2021. We now have ResponsibleSteel certified sites across Europe, North America, South America, and Australia. We are also currently developing additional enhanced requirements for GHG emissions and the sourcing of input materials.

ResponsibleSteel now has over 100 members including steelmakers, steel buyers, mining companies, standards and assurance bodies, and civil society organisations. Our steelmakers collectively make up over 12% of global steel production.

By working hand in hand with some of the most influential organisations in this industry and beyond, we will continue to drive positive change through the recognition and use of ResponsibleSteel, now and in the future.

Our Standard for the production of steel was approved in November 2019 and addresses key issues that were identified by stakeholders as being fundamental to the sector:

- Corporate Leadership
- ESG Management Systems
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Labour Rights
- Human Rights
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Local Communities
- Climate Change and GHG Emissions
- Noise, Emissions, Effluents & Waste
- Water Stewardship
- Biodiversity
- Decommissioning and Closure

Together, we can make a lasting impact on the world. Welcome to Responsible Steel.

To learn more, please visit: https://www.responsiblesteel.org/