



# Mainline track Concrete track NBT

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION



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# E d i t o

## **ALSTOM, AT THE FOREFRONT OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY**

As a promoter of sustainable mobility, Alstom places environmental issues at the heart of its R&D strategy, constantly designing solutions and products which are less energy-consuming, quicker to install, cheaper to maintain, and with higher lifespan and reduced carbon footprint.

For more than 10 years, the company has systematically introduced eco-design in its engineering procedures. Various environmental dashboards have been implemented. They help us to quantify and improve the environmental impact of our solutions from development phase up to final use. Today, Alstom can rely on a team of more than 100 eco-experts to ensure the environmental performance of its portfolio and is able to develop innovative infrastructure solutions tackling key environmental challenges. Alstom is deploying these eco-design tools to rail infrastructure.

### **NBT, a main-line concrete track designed as a sustainable solution**

Alstom has assessed the environmental footprint of NBT, a concrete track with optimised life-cycle costs and environmental criteria. This solution offers smaller footprint, optimised installation methodology and lower maintenance requirements, compared to other main-line track solutions.



Eric Marie  
VP Systems & Infrastructure Platforms



# SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

## Alstom, at the forefront of sustainable mobility

Alstom develops and offers a range of systems, equipment and services for the rail sector and considers its mission to support the transition towards global sustainable transport systems that are inclusive, environmentally-friendly, safe and efficient. As well as taking the life cycle into account, from concept to recycling including maintenance and energy consumption, Alstom offers innovative solutions that respect the environment and meet the mobility needs according to a socially responsible model. As a major player in ecological transport, sustainable development is at the heart of the Alstom's strategy.

Alstom has an environmental management system fully in place and 100% of manufacturing sites and regional centers over 200 employees are certified according to ISO14001.



## Ecodesign approach

More than 10 years ago, Alstom systematically introduced eco-design into its engineering procedures for that very purpose. It has given rise to environmental dashboards that focus on fundamental topics at the start of the development phase, the quantification of the environmental impact (life cycle assessments) and more ecological solutions. Today, more than 100 experts (eco-designers, experts for acoustic and energy-saving materials) endeavor to ensure the environmental performance of each solution.

Ecodesign approach addresses the design and development of products using a life cycle perspective. It aims at continually improving the environmental performance of products through the management of their significant environmental aspects. In this context, life cycle assessment (LCA) is a relevant tool to identify and thus to allow the reduction of products' environmental impacts.



## Track solutions

Alstom track portfolio encompasses track systems adapted to each type of rolling stocks such as tramway, metro and main lines. It covers all infrastructure needs from new lines to extension, refurbishment and maintenance projects. Active in-house innovation programs on infrastructure products and solutions aims at improving construction time and life cycle cost as well as durability, carbon footprint and overall performance. Innovations included in this environmental declaration are Appitrack (Fast and Mechanical track laying) and NBT (Fully-mechanised slab track for main lines) solutions. Raw materials are a key driver of environmental impacts for railway transport service. Given the quantity of materials involved track solutions have a high role to play to limit and improve the overall environmental performance of railway systems.

*See Alstom's annual registration document for more information on Alstom Sustainable Development Strategy, including eco-design on [www.alstom.com](http://www.alstom.com)*





# DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT

This environmental declaration covers a mainline concrete track with specific design, NBT.

This track solution encompasses all the equipment and materials required to support and guide rolling stocks all along the railway line.

## MAIN CHARACTERISTICS



**Type of use:**  
Combined (passengers and freight)

**Intended use:**  
Mainline

**100% open section**

**Total length of line:**  
100 km

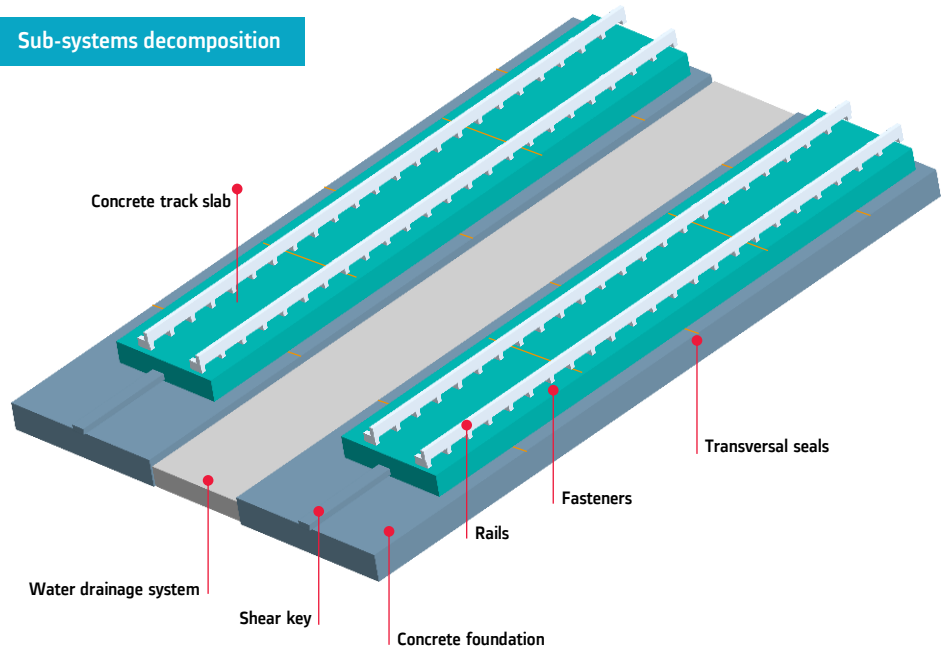
**Track gauge:**  
1435mm

**Design speed:**  
Up to 250km/h

**Lifetime:**  
100 years

NBT is composed of two superimposed concrete slabs (a foundation layer and a steel-reinforced track slab) tied together via a shear key on top of the foundation slab, with transversal joints for concrete crack control.

### Sub-systems decomposition



**Rails:** Common rail used for high speed line (60 E1). NBT is designed to integrate all others track equipment such as switch and crossing with using the same rail profile

**Concrete track slab:** Concrete slab tied together with the foundation via a shear key on top of the foundation slab and directly supporting the track. It is made C35/45 reinforced concrete

**Fasteners:** Direct fastening systems directly inserted in the slab track.

**Transversal seals:** Polyurethane (PUR) and polyethylene (PE) based seals realized in the concrete layers every 4,8 m to ensure crack control. Foundation and track slab are cut staggered to avoid the superposition of seals.

**Concrete foundation:** Sub-structure lying on the track platform and made of C25/30 concrete

**Water drainage system:** Concrete and geotextile system enabling rain water evacuation



# MAIN FACTS

Appittrack technology: Alstom's service-proven fully mechanised track-laying and fasteners insertion solution

## HISTORY

Alstom co-developed NBT for main-line owners seeking a concrete track i.e. a railway track with extensive lifespan and high infrastructure availability, which can be installed as faster than standard concrete track, and be operated for mixed traffic (both passenger-dedicated and freight transport).

In 2013, **NBT was successfully deployed** between Gisors and Serqueux, a 160km/h main line of the French rail network owner: SNCF Réseau.

## KEY BENEFITS



**NBT offers a small physical footprint** that allows optimizing the design of the civil works including opportunities to reduce tunnel diameters and deploy lighter bridges, leading to less civil works and thereby lower investment costs.

Thanks to the use of Appittrack technology, **NBT is the only slab track design on the market capable of being built at the nominal rate of 300 meters per day**, up to 500 meters per day with optimal logistical resources.



**Appittrack use also improves environment, health and safety conditions** by reducing working crews' sizes, limiting noise and dust generation, and allowing cleaner worksites.

**The main advantage of NBT is its durability:** the track's main structural elements are designed for a life of 100 years, enabling infrastructure owners to reduce maintenance and renewal costs and therefore **optimize life cycle costs:**



- Maintenance activities are restricted to running rail (grinding, replacement) and fasteners (some parts to be replaced, i.e. under rail pads)
- Increased revenue for operators is ensured due to higher availability of the track and compatibility with mixed traffic (passenger and freight)





# LIFE CYCLE DESCRIPTION

Environmental impacts of Alstom reference solution for NBT has been characterized through the realization of a LCA in accordance with ISO 14040: 2006.

EIME software and associated EIME database are used to perform this life cycle impact assessment. Version 2016 of the database has been used.

## Function and functional unit

The function of the NBT track infrastructure is to provide rolling support and guide trains at the required speed on railways main-lines.

The functional unit is to provide the track function for 1 km of NBT double track, over 100 years of infrastructure service life. Only full NBT concrete track without transition zone nor tunnel or viaduct sections is considered in this LCA.



## Life cycle boundaries

The whole life cycle of the solution is considered, in other words, the LCA is a “cradle to grave” LCA that take into account all life cycle phases from the extraction of raw materials which compose the different equipment to the end of life waste management. Transports along the supply chain and to the construction site are included as well as all construction activities (tools, electricity, vehicles and consumable).

Maintenance activities mainly consist of inspections, repair and replacement of equipment as well as periodical grinding of the track. Finally, deconstruction, collection and treatment end of life materials have been considered.

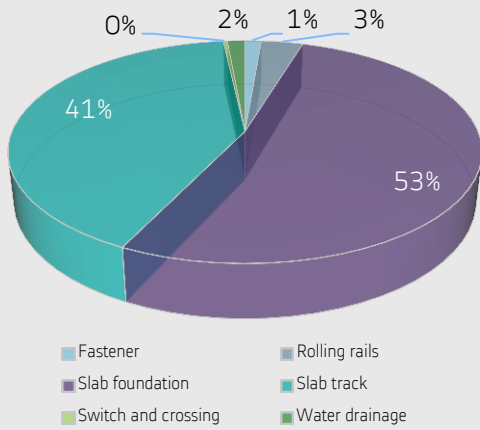
The European grid mix has been used for the electricity consumption for the production of parts, construction and maintenance needs.





# LIFE CYCLE DESCRIPTION

Share of mass by sub-system



## Bill of materials

Materials used for the construction of the NBT infrastructure as well as for maintenance and reinvestments have been inventoried. In line with NBT track design only rails, switch and crossings and fasteners are replaced which represents 12% of total raw materials demand. Total weight associated to the solution is 7 108 T/km, Top four materials and corresponding quantities per km of double NBT track are:

Top 4 materials

(T/km)



**79%** RECYCLABILITY RATE



**99%** RECOVERABILITY RATE

## A recyclable solution

The main components of the solution are concrete, metallic and plastic materials which allow a high recyclability potential. Concrete end of life is based on Supplier information and is in line with target value of French Energy transition law.

Moreover such track solution are very likely to be renewed rather than to be completely dismantled, limiting the quantity of end of life waste generated.

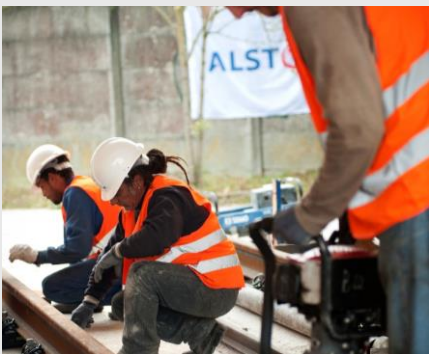
## Hazardous substances

No substances meeting the criteria of Substances of very high concern (SVHC) in REACH regulation article 33 have been identified in the solution.

## Maintenance

Each maintenance activities are considered in this LCA:

- Use of engine and vehicles for inspection on site
- Electricity consumption of trains for on board monitoring
- Grinding
- Replacement of parts including raw materials, production, transport and installation
- Cleaning of the water drainage system





# ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

## Use of resources

FLOW PER FUNCTIONAL UNIT	UNIT	UPSTREAM	CORE	DOWNSTREAM	TOTAL
<b>NON - RENEWABLE RESOURCES</b>					
<b>Material resources</b>	<b>kg</b>	<b>7,72E+06</b>	<b>2,34E+06</b>	<b>5,39E+05</b>	<b>1,06E+07</b>
Limestone	kg	5,92E+06	0,00E+00	0,00E+00	5,92E+06
Inert rock	kg	3,41E+05	1,71E+06	4,59E+05	2,51E+06
Calcium carbonate	kg	6,75E+05	7,93E+04	1,21E+04	7,67E+05
Iron	kg	1,97E+05	3,57E+05	2,46E+02	5,54E+05
Sodium chloride	kg	2,02E+04	1,37E+05	6,41E+04	2,21E+05
Clay	kg	1,91E+05	1,98E+03	1,46E+01	1,93E+05
Other	kg	3,76E+05	5,97E+04	3,65E+03	4,40E+05
<b>Energy resources</b>	<b>MJ</b>	<b>8,42E+07</b>	<b>2,56E+08</b>	<b>2,94E+06</b>	<b>3,51E+08</b>
Uranium	MJ	6,81E+07	6,91E+05	2,10E+08	278 890 611
Natural gas	MJ	7,73E+06	6,12E+05	2,89E+07	37 323 214
Hard coal	MJ	5,16E+06	4,22E+05	8,44E+06	15 409 377
Crude oil	MJ	2,91E+06	8,99E+05	7,90E+06	13 954 514
Other	MJ	3,23E+05	3,19E+05	1,07E+06	5,88E+06
<b>RENEWABLE RESOURCES</b>					
<b>Material resources</b>	<b>kg</b>	<b>1,74E+06</b>	<b>9,19E+06</b>	<b>2,98E+06</b>	<b>1,39E+07</b>
Air	kg	1,70E+06	9,12E+06	2,98E+06	1,38E+07
Other	kg	3,67E+04	3,67E+04	3,67E+04	3,67E+04
<b>Energy resources</b>	<b>MJ</b>	<b>2,95E+05</b>	<b>1,10E+05</b>	<b>1,16E+06</b>	<b>1,56E+06</b>
Solar power	MJ	1,41E+05	1,89E+04	5,64E+05	7,24E+05
Hydro power	MJ	8,39E+04	5,89E+04	3,42E+05	4,85E+05
Wind power	MJ	5,72E+04	3,09E+04	2,39E+05	3,28E+05
Other	MJ	1,29E+04	1,75E+03	1,36E+04	2,82E+04
<b>SECONDARY RESOURCES</b>					
<b>Secondary material</b>	<b>Kg</b>	<b>2,51E+04</b>	<b>0,00E+00</b>	<b>0,00E+00</b>	<b>2,51E+04</b>
<b>Secondary energy</b>	<b>MJ</b>	<b>0,00E+00</b>	<b>0,00E+00</b>	<b>0,00E+00</b>	<b>0,00E+00</b>

## Water use

FLOW PER FUNCTIONAL UNIT	UNIT	UPSTREAM	CORE	DOWNSTREAM	TOTAL
<b>Total water use in the life cycle</b>	<b>kg</b>	<b>2,28E+08</b>	<b>3,07E+07</b>	<b>8,52E+08</b>	<b>1,11E+09</b>
Direct use in the core process	kg	0	2,65E+07	0	0

## Waste

FLOW PER FUNCTIONAL UNIT	UNIT	UPSTREAM	CORE	DOWNSTREAM	TOTAL
<b>Non-hazardous waste</b>	<b>kg</b>	<b>4,35E+05</b>	<b>6,87E+05</b>	<b>3,36E+06</b>	<b>4,48E+06</b>
Hazardous waste	kg	3,59E+05	1,24E+04	2,50E+04	4,42E+04
<b>Radioactive waste</b>	<b>kg</b>	<b>9,28E+03</b>	<b>1,84E+03</b>	<b>9,39E+02</b>	<b>1,42E+03</b>



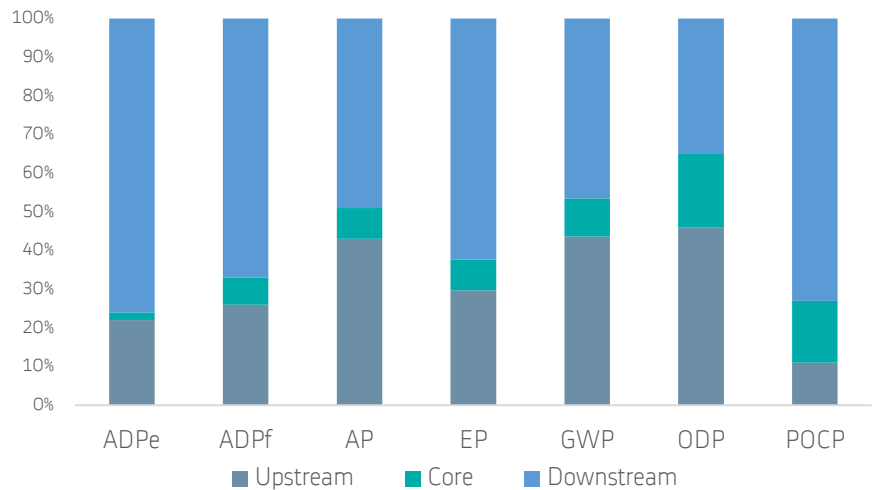


# ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

## Environmental impacts

INDICATOR PER FUNCTIONAL UNIT		UNIT	UPSTREAM	CORE	DOWNSTREAM	TOTAL
Global warming potential	GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> e	2,02E+06	4,48E+05	2,18E+06	4,65E+06
Acidification potential	AP	kg SO <sub>2</sub> e	6,42E+03	1,14E+03	7,36E+03	1,49E+04
Eutrophication potential	EP	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> e	9,32E+02	2,37E+02	1,98E+03	3,15E+03
Photochemical oxidant creation potential	POCP	kg C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> e	1,14E+02	1,57E+02	7,38E+02	1,01E+03
Emission of ozone-depleting gases	ODP	kg CFC 11e	1,05E-01	4,38E-02	7,97E-02	2,29E-01
Depletion of abiotic resources-elements	ADPe	kg Sbe	1,15E+00	1,22E-01	4,00E+00	5,27E+00
Depletion of abiotic resources-fossil fuels	ADPf	MJ	2,00E+07	5,15E+06	5,09E+07	7,60E+07

Contribution of each phase to the environmental impacts



## Configurations

- Life cycle description information and environmental performance results published in this EPD corresponds to the reference design configuration developed by Alstom.
- To know the performance associated to other possible configurations of the solution please contact Alstom.



# ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

## DEFINITIONS



### Global warming potential

This indicator calculates the contribution to global warming of the planet by the emission of greenhouse gases. The result is expressed in kg equivalent CO<sub>2</sub>.

### Acidification potential

This indicator calculates the atmospheric acidification caused by the emission of gas with an acidifying effect. The result is expressed in kg equivalent SO<sub>2</sub>

### Eutrophication potential

This indicator calculates the eutrophication of water caused by the emission of specific substances (discharge of phosphoric, nitrogenous and organic matter). The result is expressed in kg equivalent phosphate.

### Photochemical oxidant creation potential

The potential for creating tropospheric ozone is caused by the discharge of specific gases which have an oxidizing action under the effect of solar radiation. This indicator calculates the potential for the creation of photochemical ozone from the emission of about a hundred substances. The result is expressed in kg equivalent ethylene.

### Emission of ozone-depleting gases

This indicator calculates the contribution made by the discharge of specific gases responsible for ozone layer depletion. The result is expressed in kg equivalent CFC-11.

### Depletion of abiotic resources-elements

This Indicator calculates the depletion of natural non-fossil resources. The result is expressed in kg equivalent of Sb.

### Depletion of abiotic resources-fossil fuels

This Indicator calculates the depletion of natural fossil resources. The result is expressed in MJ.

## Additional information

### Noise and vibration

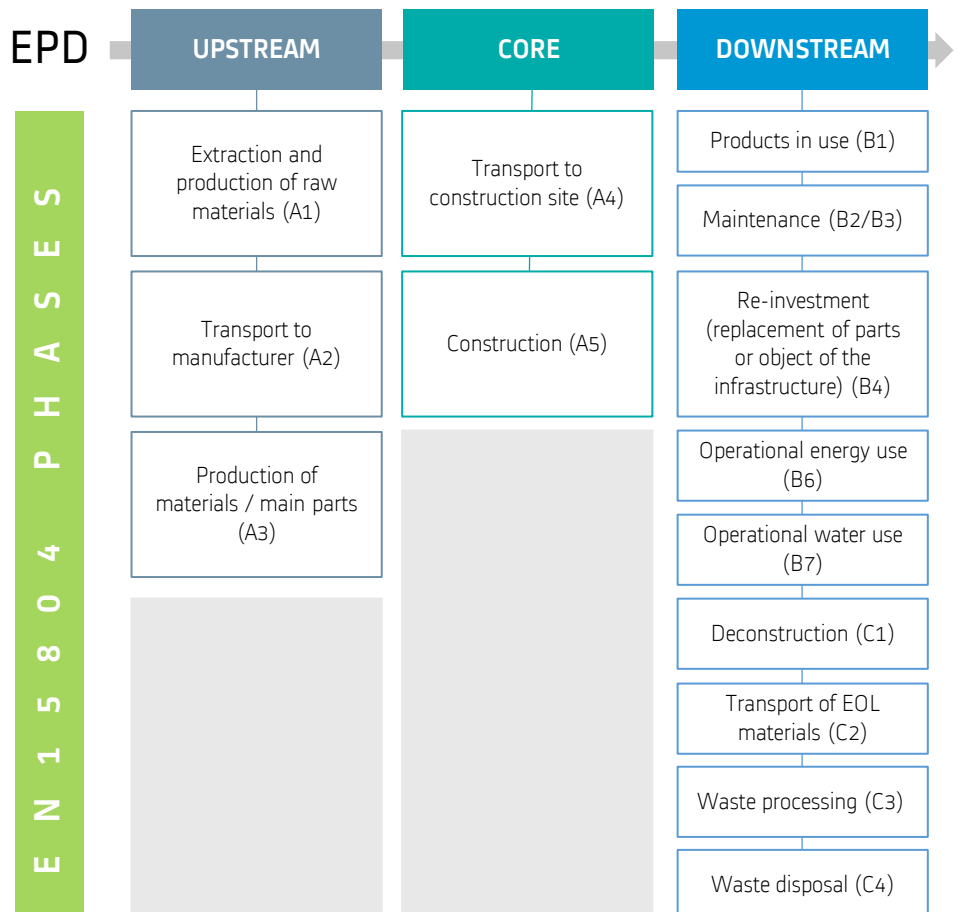
Along the life cycle, the main activities that generate noise are construction and deconstruction activities with the use of heavy machinery. Impact related to noise should be dealt with, case by case, for each applicative project of NBT reference solution at global infrastructure level and as part of environmental impact statement if applicable.

### Biodiversity and water management

Impact on biodiversity and water flow should be dealt with, case by case, for each applicative project at global infrastructure level (as part of environmental impact statement if applicable).



## EPD





# PROGRAMME RELATED INFORMATION AND VERIFICATION

**Product category rules (PCR):**  
Railways, PCR 2013:19, version 2.01

**PCR review was conducted by:**

The Technical Committee of the International EPD® System. A full list of members available on [www.environdec.com/TC](http://www.environdec.com/TC). The PCR review panel may be contacted via [info@environdec.com](mailto:info@environdec.com).

Members of the Technical Committee were requested to state any potential conflict of interest with the PCR moderator or PCR committee, and were excused from the review.

**Independent verification of the declaration and data, according to ISO 14025:2006:**

EPD Process Certification (internal)

EPD Verification (external)

**Third party verifier:**

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**Accredited by:**

Recognized individual verifiers, approved by the International EPD System.

EPD®s within the same product category but from different programmes may not be comparable.

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