



# STEEL SUSTAINABILITY AUSTRALIA

**A new sustainability certification program that engages the entire steel value chain**

Steel Sustainability Australia (SSA) offers a new certification program that provides a clear pathway for steel businesses to operate more responsibly and transparently while being part of an environmentally and socially sustainable future.

The SSA program was developed by the Australian Steel Institute (ASI). Superseding ASI's Environmental Sustainability Charter (ESC), the SSA program engages the entire steel value chain by certifying downstream steel businesses such as fabricators, roll formers, and reinforcing processors, and verifying upstream steel producers against best practice environmental, social and governance (ESG) indicators aligned to the principles supporting the Green Building Council of Australia's (GBCA) Responsible Product Framework.

## THE SSA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM:

Assures certified steel suppliers and their products are sustainably manufactured and processed and are sourced through responsible and ethical supply chains

Promotes steel as a sustainable material choice, supporting mega trends such as embodied carbon reduction and circularity/circular economy

Provides specifiers, engineers, builders and government with the means to identify sustainable steel suppliers through transparent and consistent measurement of environmental, social and health impacts across the entire steel value chain

Is a recognised initiative under Green Building Council of Australia's (GBCA) Responsible Product Framework, rewarding points under Green Star rating tools

## RECOGNITION OF ESC CERTIFICATION

As of January 2023, SSA has replaced ESC. For suppliers with current ESC certification, specifications calling for ESC may still be in place (and valid) for pre-existing projects until ESC certificate expiry (no later than 30 June 2023).



[steelsustainability.com.au](https://steelsustainability.com.au)

**For further information, contact:**  
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# BENEFITS FOR SSA CERTIFIED SUPPLIERS

Downstream steel businesses like fabricators, roll formers, and reinforcing processors can derive a raft of benefits from SSA certification.

IMAGE: THE 5 STAR RATED 300 GEORGE STREET, BRISBANE

"A key factor in Multiplex's selection of Beenleigh Steel Fabrications for the structural steel subcontract was the fact they are a Gold Member of the ASI's Environmental Sustainability Charter." (Multiplex)



## COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Suppliers can quote with confidence on projects with sustainability specifications. Listing of SSA Suppliers available on website.



## CAN IMPROVE BOTTOM LINE

Through delivering operational efficiencies and reducing business costs.



## GREEN STAR POINTS

Contribution of Green Star Credit points\* on a Green Star project.



## TIERS OF ACHIEVEMENT

The program offers 3 varying levels of achievement, making the certification journey easier.



## BEST PRACTICE SUSTAINABILITY

Demonstrates and provides assurance that your operations are meeting best practice ESG sustainability performance expectations.



## PROMOTES YOUR BRAND

Promotes to potential clients your company's ESG sustainability credentials in one program.



## INDEPENDENTLY AUDITED

Certification to the SSA program is assessed by independent auditors.



## RESOURCES AND DISCOUNTS

Access to sustainability tools and resources, plus discounts available to ASI & SRIA members.



[steelsustainability.com.au](https://steelsustainability.com.au)

\*Varying Credit points gained in the 'Responsible' category depending on SSA level of certification. Refer to the GBCA website for information on Green Star ratings

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# BENEFITS FOR SPECIFIERS & PROCUREMENT PROFESSIONALS

From compliance with ESG indicators to Green Star Points, SSA certification offers a range of benefits.

## ACCESS SUSTAINABLE STEEL SUPPLIERS



Allows project owners to identify sustainable steel suppliers who can deliver projects to the desired specification. Listing of SSA Suppliers available on website.

## TRANSPARENCY OF MEASUREMENT



The SSA certification program's transparent measurement of the ESG impacts of products and processes provides assurance that the steel supply is reducing its environmental and social impact.

## DEVELOPED BY SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS



The SSA certification program was developed with thinkstep-anz, one of the region's leading sustainability consultancies.

## GREEN STAR POINTS



SSA Certified Suppliers contribute varying Green Star Credit points\* on a Green Star project.

## RESPONSIBLY SOURCED PRODUCTS



Ensures the steel supply is responsibly sourced from manufacturers that are actively managing the environmental and social impacts of their steel manufacturing operations.

## BEST PRACTICE FOR ESG PERFORMANCE



Certifies compliance to ESG sustainability indicators across the entire steel value chain in one program, setting a best practice sustainability standard for steel suppliers and their products.

## BACKED BY ASI



Backed by the Australian Steel Institute, the peak industry body representing the entire steel supply chain, who manage a range of other compliance solutions including SCA and ShedSafe.

## INDEPENDENTLY AUDITED



Certification to the SSA program is assessed by independent auditors.



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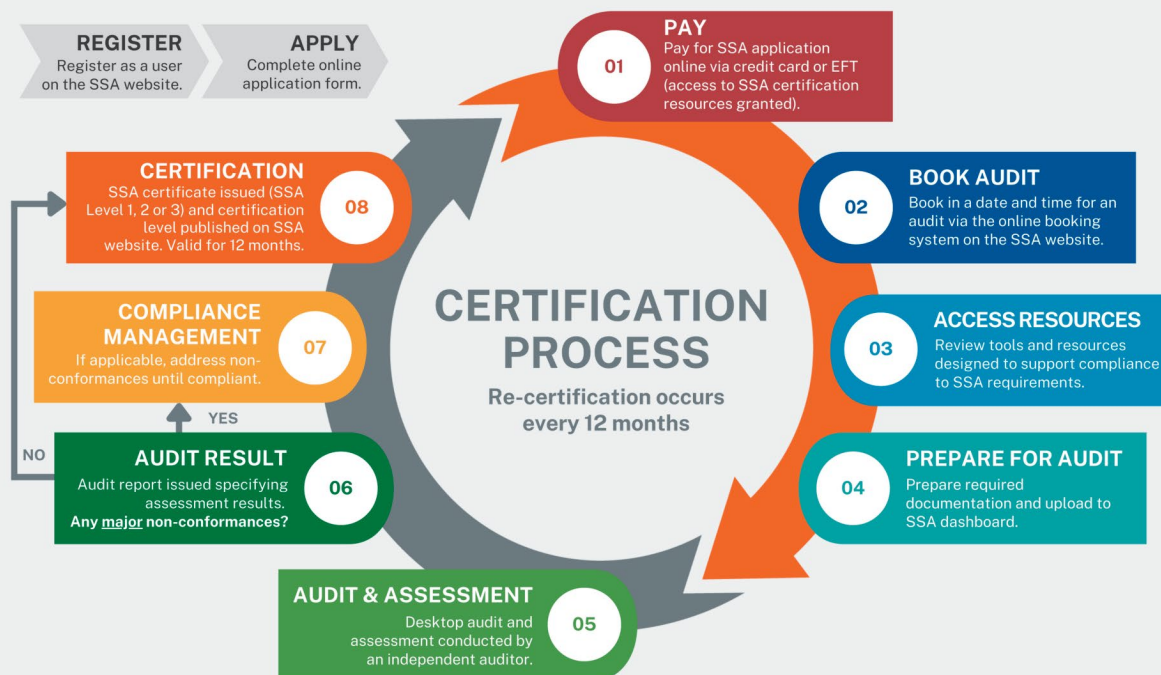
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## APPLICATION PROCESS

SSA Applicants are subjected to an annual, site-based desktop audit conducted by an independent auditor to assess compliance to the requirements relevant to the chosen level of certification (SSA L1, 2A, 2B or 3). The audit assesses the management systems, and on-site operations and practices in manufacturing the finished steel product.



## LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION

The SSA program is a recognised initiative under the GBCA Responsible Products Framework (RPF). The SSA certification program assesses compliance to a mix of environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria and provides 4 pathways (L1, L2A, L2B, L3) to achieve certification. Certification to each SSA level have corresponding Responsible Product Values (RPVs) that meet the requirements of the 4 Green Star Responsible Products Credits under the 'Responsible' category in the Green Star Buildings rating tool.

**Level 1:** The entry level of SSA certification (4 RPV) can be combined with other valid certifications to achieve Green Star credits.

**Level 2:** Achieves 'Good Practice' recognition (10 RPV) and offers two pathways to comply; 2A certification, where a verified product-specific EPD can be provided and 2B certification, where a verified EPD cannot be provided.

**Level 3:** Aspirational level of certification assesses extended compliance requirements to achieve 'Best Practice' recognition (15 RPV) under GBCA's Responsible Products Framework.

Principle	Credit	RPV	L1	L2A	L2B	L3
<b>Governance</b>	1.1 Business Integrity	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.2 Management Systems	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.3 Stakeholder Engagement	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Responsible</b>	2.1 Environmental Management	1	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2.2 Environmental Product Declaration	4		✓		✓
	2.3 Health Impacts Disclosure	1			✓	✓
<b>Healthy</b>	3.1 Paints and Coatings	1		✓	✓	✓
	3.2 OH&S Management	1	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3.3 Procurement OH&S Assessment	1			✓	✓
	3.4 Modern Slavery	2			✓	✓
<b>Positive</b>	4.1 Steel Supply Sourcing	2	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4.2 Carbon Emissions Reduction	1				✓
<b>Circular</b>	5.1 Resource Management	1		✓	✓	✓
<b>RPV Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>

