

Additional information on the CO2 Performance Ladder of ProRail

The CO2 Performance Ladder is an initiative of the ProRail Procurement Department. The ladder was developed in collaboration between the Procurement Department and the Sustainability Department of ProRail. Outside expertise was hired from KPMG-Sustainability (The Netherlands branch). The certification scheme of the CO2 Performance Ladder was finalized in collaboration with several Certification Bodies in The Netherlands.

Audits are performed by Certification Bodies (for example Det Norske Veritas, Lloyds, KEMA, KIWA). Accreditation of the Certification Bodies will be performed by the Dutch Accreditation Board (probably in 2011, until then ProRail will give a temporary permission). The Certification Bodies submit a "CO2 Awareness Certificate" after a successful audit. Companies submit their certificate in tender procedures and will be awarded an advantage depending on the level on the CO2 Performance Ladder.



During the design fase of the CO2 Performance Ladder a large Dutch construction company (including a Trackwork Contractor) was asked to review the set up of the ladder. After introduction of the CO2 Performance Ladder ProRail set up a helpdesk and an internetsite for any question companies might have. A Technical Committee was installed together with the Certification Bodies to deal with interpretation questions that arise during audits.

The effect of the CO2 Performance Ladder are beyond our imagination. For instance a newspaper heading says "CO2-ladder creates a green revolution" (in the Dutch building industry).



All, in The Netherlands, active Trackwork contractors reached level 4 or 5 on the CO2 Performance Ladder. On level 4 and 5 of the ladder companies must include their supply chain. For instance, ProRail receives questions from concrete sleeper manufactures to allow the use of 100% of used ballast (after cleaning) in the manufacturing of concrete sleepers (a cradle to cradle example). The CO2 Performance Ladder asks for open source innovation. Initiatives taken by a company must be published on the internet. Google shows, a few month after introduction of the ladder, hundreds of results (mainly in Dutch; enter "CO2 prestatieladder and ask for results in Dutch).



The CO2 Performance Ladder asks companies to work together with “Sustainability NGO’s” (for instance WWF, Greenpeace, etc.) or Government Initiatives on CO2 reduction. This creates a large workload for NGO’s in The Netherlands .

Together with NGO’s ProRail works on the installation of a national “CO2 Performance Platform” and a national “CO2 Performance Advisory Board”. The CO2 Performance Platform will assist companies in finding ways to reduce CO2 emissions and the Advisory Board will set goals for CO2 reductions ambitions of companies.



A national committee (under supervision of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment) is set up in The Netherlands to investigate the possibility to transform the ProRail Performance Ladder into a national system (ProRail is asked for the project management of this committee).

If more information is required please contact ProRail at diana.baggerman@prorail.nl

Kind regards,

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Manager Procurement / ProRail

Just for your information.

The CO2 Performance Ladder is one of the initiatives ProRail takes on the subject of sustainability. With the CO2 Performance Ladder we ask our suppliers, consultants and contractors to take initiatives. Of course ProRail also takes initiatives on CO2 reduction. A few examples.

Above a railway line near the Harbour of Vlissingen we will install large wind turbines. The electricity will be used for the trains.



ProRail will build new stations in Utrecht and Rotterdam. Both stations will be equipped with solar panels to create a CO2 neutral station.



ProRail developed "Routelint". An information system for train drivers. The project is in the pilot phase. Train drivers get information of trains in front and behind their own train. It allows them to anticipate on the traffic on their track. The ambition is that this will save in future up to 5% traction energy.



In a ProRail contest companies were asked to come up with ideas to reduce CO2 –emission of our rail systems. Winner was a company that came up with the solution of more energy efficient switches in our power supply stations

