

# Acknowledging Our Part Understanding our carbon boundary



Establishing the extent of the carbon boundary of a facility is important in calculating a carbon footprint.

The carbon boundary is like a fence. It determines what is within its boundaries and what is outside the boundaries.

In essence a carbon boundary identifies what is included in our footprint calculation. By defining the carbon boundary it is easier for those looking in to understand the extent of our calculation.

A carbon boundary can be placed to include:

1. direct emissions from a facility's operations
2. indirect emissions from energy inputs into the operation
3. cradle to gate emissions
4. life cycle emissions



Direct and indirect emissions are within our control. The other emissions are within our influence.

Direct emissions are emissions from the company's direct use of fossil fuels (such as vehicle fuel use).

Indirect emissions are emissions from what we consume as energy (such as our electricity use).

Cradle to gate emissions are emissions that result from the entire supply chain. It includes our raw material manufacture and its transport to our facilities.

Life cycle emissions include emissions from deliver, use, and end-of-life of a product.

The carbon footprint calculation gets more complicated as you move the carbon boundary out from what is within our control.

**Establishing a clear boundary sets a limit to the focus for a carbon reduction strategy.**



You must be the change you wish to see in the world.  
Mahatma Gandhi  
www.walkerind.com



## QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. What direct sources of emissions are there at your operations?
2. What indirect sources of emissions do you have?
3. What emission sources do you have related to your supply chain?
4. What would need to be considered as emission sources once your product leaves your gate?

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