

# Responsible Steel™ Certified Site



RS 779651

Presented to

## BlueScope Australian Steel Products Manufacturing

### SITE NAME AND ADDRESS

BlueScope Steel Limited  
Western Port  
Bayview Road,  
Hastings, Victoria 3915  
Australia

### CLIENT NAME AND ADDRESS

BlueScope Steel Limited  
Level 24, 181 William Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000  
Australia

Version of the ResponsibleSteel Standard and Assurance Manual that the site was audited against

ResponsibleSteel Standard Version 1.1  
ResponsibleSteel Assurance Manual Version 1.0

### ISSUE DATE

4 September 2023

### EXPIRY DATE

3 September 2026

### NEXT SCHEDULED AUDIT

Before 3 March 2025

### CERTIFIED SINCE

4 September 2023

### CERTIFICATION SCOPE

The manufacture and supply of pickled hot rolled, cold rolled, cold rolled annealed, metal coated and organic coated flat steel strip in coil, sheet and slit form for use in the construction, manufacturing, packaging and resource industries. Supply includes order review, production planning, scheduling, product flow and fulfilment.

Any facilities and associated activities that are directly related to steel making or processing, that are on-site or near the site and that have not been included in the certification scope or audit scope

N/A

### CERTIFICATION BODY

BSI Group ANZ Pty Limited  
Suite 1, Level 1, 54 Waterloo Road  
Macquarie Park NSW 2113  
Australia



### AUTHORISED CERTIFICATION BODY SIGNATURE

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Charlene Loo'.

Charlene Loo, Managing Director, BSI Group Australia & New Zealand

ResponsibleSteel™, 755 Hunter Street,  
Newcastle West NSW 2303, Australia

Validity of this certificate is subject to continued conformity with the applicable ResponsibleSteel Standard and can be verified at [www.responsiblesteel.org](http://www.responsiblesteel.org)

This certificate does not constitute evidence that a particular product supplied by the certificate holder is ResponsibleSteel certified. Products offered, shipped or sold by the certificate holder can only be considered covered by the scope of this certificate when the required ResponsibleSteel claim is clearly stated on sales and delivery documents.



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Annex

## BlueScope Australian Steel Products Manufacturing

### SITES AND FACILITIES COVERED BY THE CERTIFICATE

BlueScope Steel – Western Port

Includes : Cold Reduction, Metal Coating, Painting, Finishing and Customer Service Centre operations, along with warehousing, product distribution and wharf facilities.

### SUPPORT FUNCTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE AUDIT

BlueScope Head Office, L24, 181 William Street, VIC, Australia

BlueScope Australian Steel Products:  
People, Procurement and Health & Safety

BlueScope Australian Steel Products Manufacturing Departments including:  
Environment Department  
Energy Services  
Human Resources  
Product Innovation & Technology  
Services and Manufacturing Excellence

ResponsibleSteel™, 755 Hunter Street,  
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# PUBLIC SUMMARY AUDIT REPORT

This is a concise public summary of the audit report for BlueScope Western Port. The full version of the audit report is in the possession of the member company and the audited site.

## Audit overview

<b>Member Name</b>	BlueScope Steel Limited
<b>Audited entity name</b>	BlueScope Western Port
<b>Number of sites</b> <b>Names &amp; location</b>	BlueScope, Australian Steel Products Manufacturing Western Port, 28 Bayview Road, Hastings, Victoria 3915, Australia.
<b>Certification scope</b>	<p>The following Operational Areas are to be included in the certification scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Pickle Line,</li><li>-Cold rolling mill;</li><li>-Metal coating lines;</li><li>-Organic coating lines,</li><li>-Finishing (Temper Mill, Slitting, Shearing, Tension levelling, Loading / Unloading; warehousing; storage and despatch of steel products)</li><li>-Customer Service Centre (Slitting, Recoiling, despatch of steel products)</li><li>-Cooling Towers, Boilers and Water Treatment Plant</li><li>-Assets (High Voltage and Power distribution, Environmental Services, Emergency and Security, Maintenance Services, Combustion services)</li><li>-Capital Projects</li><li>-Product Innovation &amp; Technology (design, testing and manufacture of plain carbon steel and low alloy steel products of the use in construction, manufacturing, packaging and resource industries.)</li></ul>
<b>Standard version audited against</b>	<a href="#">ResponsibleSteel Standard V1-1</a>
<b>Audit type and outcome</b>	Initial certification audit
<b>Certification body</b>	BSI
<b>Audit Dates</b>	Stage 1: 25-28/10/22

	Stage 2: 15-16/3/23. External interviews online between 14/3-5/5/23
<b>Number of auditors and audit days</b>	2 auditors 13 days (stage 1, stage 2 and reporting)
<b>Lead auditor declaration</b>	<p>The findings in this report are based on an objective evaluation of evidence, derived from documents, first-hand observations at the sites and interviews with site staff, workers and stakeholders, as conducted during stage 1 and stage 2 audit activities. The audit team members were deemed to have no conflicts of interest with the sites. The audit team members were professional, ethical, objective and truthful in their conduct of audit activities. The information in this report is accurate according to the best knowledge of the auditors who contributed to the report.</p> <p>It should be noted that audits are snapshots that rely on sampling. Sampling of interview partners, of documentation and records, of observed operations and activities. The auditors can therefore not exclude the possibility that there are non-conformities in addition to the ones identified during the audit activities.</p>
<b>Next audit type and date</b>	Surveillance TBA

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# Introduction

## About ResponsibleSteel

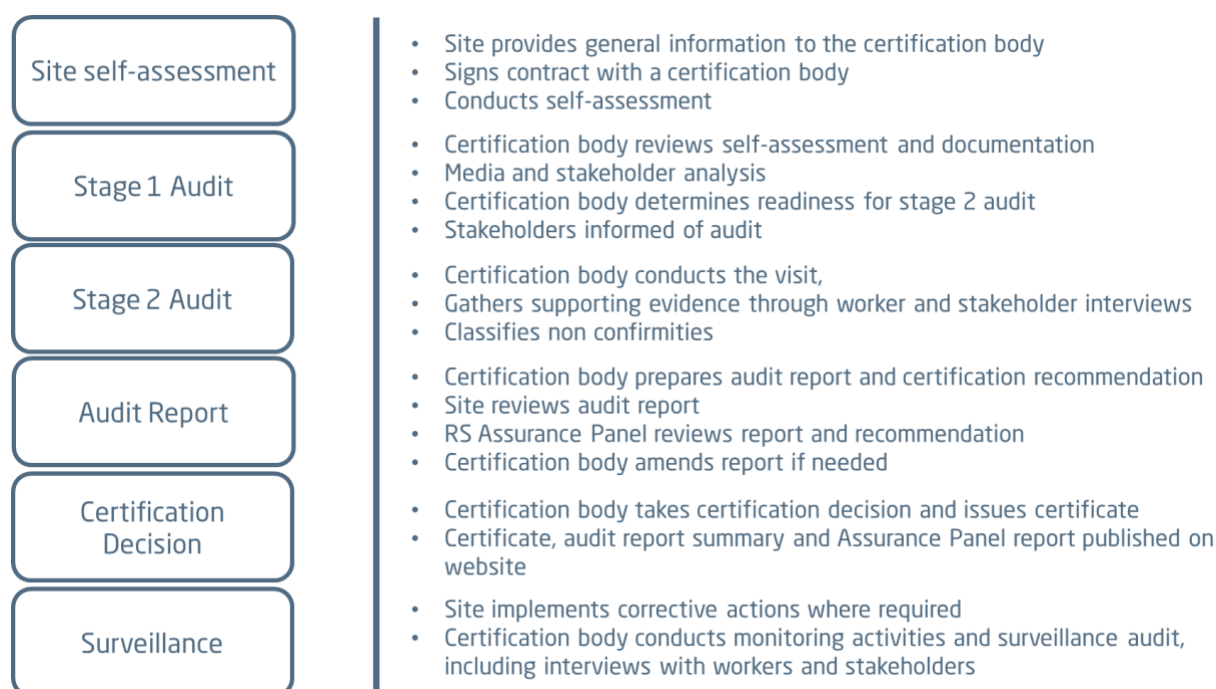
Our mission is to achieve net zero carbon emissions for the steel sector, and to enhance the responsible sourcing, production, use and recycling of steel.

We are a not-for-profit multi-stakeholder organisation founded to bring together business, civil society and downstream users of steel, to provide a global standard and certification initiative for steel. We have built a consensus on what sustainability looks like for steel – including the impacts of mining, steel production, the scrap metal supply chain, greenhouse gas emissions, water use, workers' rights, communities and biodiversity. We are the first global scheme for responsibly sourced and produced steel.

Our Members include steel makers, mining companies, automotive and construction companies as well as civil society organisations focused on labour rights, biodiversity, climate change and many other important issues.

## Overview of the certification process

Certification against the ResponsibleSteel Standard is voluntary and follows the process below:



Sites can apply to be assessed against the ResponsibleSteel Standard on a voluntary basis. Conformity with the Standard is verified by independent certification bodies and auditors. The auditors study documentation provided by the site, review relevant media and scientific publications on the site, visit the site to see operations first-hand, and interview site management, process owners, shopfloor workers and external stakeholders such as authorities, community and civil society representatives. The assessment is summarised in an audit report that is reviewed by an independent Assurance Panel. Only if that Panel is satisfied with the quality of the audit and the resulting report, can a site with a positive certification recommendation be certified. A ResponsibleSteel certificate is valid for three years and certified sites have to pass a surveillance audit after 18 months and

subsequent re-certification audits to remain certified. The rules and processes for ensuring compliance with the Standard are laid out in the [Assurance Manual](#) and have been developed in line with the Assurance Code of Good Practice set by the ISEAL Alliance.

ResponsibleSteel provides an Issues Resolution System that any stakeholder may use to log a complaint about any aspect of the ResponsibleSteel programme. The [Issues Resolution System](#) can be accessed via the ResponsibleSteel website.

More information on ResponsibleSteel can be found on <https://www.responsiblesteel.org/>.

## Site information

<b>Country and town</b>	Hastings, Australia
<b>Activities and products</b>	The scope of activities of the site involves: The manufacture and supply of pickled hot rolled, cold rolled, cold rolled annealed, metal coated and organic coated flat steel strip in coil, sheet and slit form for use in the construction, manufacturing, packaging and resource industries.
<b>Year site opened</b>	1972
<b>Major extensions and / or refurbishments and year(s) when these occurred</b>	<p>BlueScope Western Port opened under the name John Lysaght Australia in 1972. BlueScope's Western Port site has evolved from two earlier company trading names: JLA - John Lysaght (Australia) Pty Ltd, BHP Steel - Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, Steel Division.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bluescope.com/bluescope-news/2022/11/50-year-anniversary-at-bluescope-western-port/">https://www.bluescope.com/bluescope-news/2022/11/50-year-anniversary-at-bluescope-western-port/</a></p> <p>Initially, the first strip rolling process at Western Port involved hot rolling, but the hot rolling mill was later decommissioned. Since then, hot rolled coils are delivered by land and sea to Westernport's cold reduction department from the sister site in Port Kembla, New South Wales (certified to ResponsibleSteel.)</p> <p>Chronologically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The site opened in November 1972.</li> <li>- Hot Rolling Mill was decommissioned in 2011.</li> <li>- Coil Reduction Mill (Cold Rolling) including Pickle Line and Five Stand Mill opened in early 1973 and has been operating to date.</li> <li>- Metal Coating Lines MCL4, MCL5 and MCL6 were commissioned in 1972, 1979 and 1992 respectively.</li> <li>- MCL5 was "mothballed" in 2011 and restarted in 2017</li> <li>- Coating Paint Line CPL2 was opened in 1972 followed by CPL4.</li> <li>- Customer Service Centre (including coil splitting, cutting, packaging, loading) was added in late 2021 located in the decommissioned Hot Rolling Mill building and in the adjacent yard.</li> </ul>
<b>Annual production</b>	1 million tons annually of coated and uncoated cold rolled coil (annealed and tension levelled.)
<b>Number of employees and contractors</b>	826 employees 105 contractors
<b>Carbon reduction target</b>	Western Port has a target of 30% improvement in GHG emissions (scope 1&2) intensity by 2030 on a 2018 baseline. This target is aligned to BlueScope's non-steelmaking target of 30% improvement by 2030.



	<p>BlueScope also has an absolute net zero goal that applies to all global operational scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions. Achieving the net zero goal is highly dependent on several enablers, including commerciality of emerging and breakthrough technologies, the availability and affordability and reliable renewable energy and hydrogen, availability of quality raw materials, and appropriate policy settings.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bluescope.com/bluescope-news/2021/09/bluescope-climate-action-report/">https://www.bluescope.com/bluescope-news/2021/09/bluescope-climate-action-report/</a></p>
<b>Further environmental and social information</b>	<p><a href="https://www.bluescope.com/sustainable-steel/reports/">https://www.bluescope.com/sustainable-steel/reports/</a></p>

# Stakeholder engagement

## External Stakeholder interviews

The list of external contact names periodically invited to the site's Community Liaison Committee was provided to BSI by the site and included about 30 names of organisations and individuals. During Stage 1, BSI in discussion with the site selected 12 stakeholders from that list who:

- were expected to be able to provide input relevant to the ResponsibleSteel process, and
- represented different groups of interest, e.g. a local member of Victorian State Parliament, a local Shire councillor, local school principal, members of interest groups, site contacts at main utilities, a farmer leasing land from the site, the local port authority, and industrial neighbours located near the site.

Within the timelines required in the Assurance Manual BSI sent information about ResponsibleSteel program to all 12 identified stakeholders. The information provided included two letters of invitation and a brochure with information on ResponsibleSteel. Six of 12 contacted stakeholders confirmed they were willing to participate in an interview, but one of the six sent apologies on the day of the planned interview. The remaining five external stakeholders were interviewed by BSI as per the list in the Annex to this report. The full list of about 30 organisations and their relevance to the site is also presented in the same Annex.

The overall summary of external stakeholders feedback is provided below.

The names of the individuals are maintained by BSI, but were not shown in this report for privacy reasons. BSI have summarised relevant aspects of the interviews below to ensure anonymity.

## Media review

Media review was conducted by BSI. The audit team identified 25 links to different media articles that related to Western Port site. The articles were reviewed and no controversy or adverse publicity was found.

Examples of media articles reviewed included: The Australian (daily/online, one article), MarketScreener (online, one article) ABC News (online, one article), Herald Sun (daily/online, one article), MPNEWS (online, 15 articles), Sydney Morning Herald (daily/online, one article) and Australian Manufacturing (one article) and Manufacturers' Monthly (online, one article.)

The articles spanning about 10 years reported site expansions, job cuts and risk of closure, (e.g. ABC News, SM. MPNEWS), 50th anniversary (MarketScreener), etc.

The full list of links to the abovementioned articles is maintained by BSI.

## Internal Stakeholder interviews

Internal stakeholders (workers) were selected initially by BSI with site assistance provided in terms of planning which departments would be visited by the audit team. The site provided BSI auditors with lists of workers who were working in each department on the day of the visit and each BSI auditor made their selection of workers to interview. This included individuals, or groups of two to three workers consistent with the overall Stage 2 audit plan. The interviewees included a Health and Safety Representative (HSR), warehouse workers,

process specialists and process operators, a shift supervisor, an operations manager & coordinator, and apprentices.

BSI have summarised relevant aspects of the interviews below while also de-identifying them to ensure anonymity.

## **Overall Findings:**

### **Interview outcomes for both internal and external stakeholders:**

Overall, positive feedback was obtained about both external relationships and internal relationships (i.e. employee – employer/manager) with the BlueScope Western Port site. One matter raised by stakeholders was in relation to the commissioning period of the new Customer Service Centre (CSC) with a preference raised for more frequent or regular progress reports when matters are brought to front-line leadership. This has resulted in one OFI for BlueScope to consider actioning which is described in further detail below.

## Summary of Audit Findings

<b>Conform</b>	Conformity, the requirement is fulfilled.
<b>Opportunity for Improvement (OFI)</b>	The respective requirement or criterion has been implemented, but effectiveness or robustness might be increased, or it is a situation that could lead to a future non-conformity if not addressed.
<b>Minor non-conformity (NC)</b>	Isolated, unusual or non-systemic lapse. Or a lapse with limited temporal and organisational impacts. A non-conformity that does not result in a fundamental failure to achieve the objective of the relevant requirement or related criterion. Sites can become certified with minor non-conformities, but they must have addressed them by the time of their next audit.
<b>Major non-conformity (NC)</b>	A non-conformity that, either alone or in combination with further non-conformities, results in or is likely to result in a fundamental failure to achieve the objective of the relevant requirement or related criterion. For example, non-conformities that continue over a long period of time, are systemic, affect a wide range of the site's production or of the site's facilities. Sites with major non-conformities cannot be certified.
<b>Exclusion</b>	The requirement is either <b>not applicable</b> : excluded from the audit since it is not applicable to the sites; or <b>not rated</b> : the requirement is very closely linked to another requirement where a non-conformity (NC) or opportunity for improvement (OFI) has already been raised. Sometimes, when requirements are linked to one and the same subject-matter, it is appropriate to count NCs or OFIs only once to avoid repetition.

Principles and criteria (# of requirements)	Conform	O FI	Minor NC	Major NC	Exclusion
<b>Principle 1. Corporate Leadership</b>					
Criterion 1.1: Corporate Values and Commitments (6)	5	1			
Criterion 1.2: Leadership and Accountability (5)	5				
<b>Principle 2. Social, Environmental and Governance Management Systems</b>					
Criterion 2.1: Management System (6)	6				
Criterion 2.2: Responsible Sourcing (6)	6				
Criterion 2.3: Legal compliance and signatory obligations (6)	6				
Criterion 2.4: Anti-Corruption and Transparency (8)	7				1
Criterion 2.5: Competence and awareness (5)	5				
<b>Principle 3. Occupational Health and Safety</b>					
Criterion 3.1: OH&S policy (6)	6				
Criterion 3.2: Health and Safety (OH&S) management system (10)	10				
Criterion 3.3: Leadership and worker engagement on OH&S (10)	10				

Principles and criteria (# of requirements)	Conform	O FI	Minor NC	Major NC	Exclusion
Criterion 3.4: Support and compensation for work-related injuries or illness (8)	8				
Criterion 3.5: Safe and healthy workplaces (5)	3	1	1		
Criterion 3.6: OH&S performance (2)	1	1			
Criterion 3.7: Emergency preparedness and response (6)	6				
<b>Principle 4. Labour Rights</b>					
Criterion 4.1: Child and juvenile labour (9)	9				
Criterion 4.2: Forced or compulsory labour (7)	5				2
Criterion 4.3: Non-discrimination (9)	8	1			
Criterion 4.4: Association & collective bargaining (12)	11				1
Criterion 4.5: Disciplinary practices (5)	5				
Criterion 4.6: Hearing and addressing worker concerns (5)	5				
Criterion 4.7: Communication of terms of employment (5)	5				
Criterion 4.8: Remuneration (11)	5		4		2
Criterion 4.9: Working time (7)	7				
Criterion 4.10: Worker well-being (2)	2				
<b>Principle 5. Human Rights</b>					
Criterion 5.1: Human rights due diligence (5)	5				
Criterion 5.2: Security practice (9)	6		1		2
Criterion 5.3: Conflict-affected and high-risk areas (5)					5
<b>Principle 6. Stakeholder Engagement and Communication</b>					
Criterion 6.1: Stakeholder engagement (10)	9	1			
Criterion 6.2: Grievances and remediation of adverse impacts (12)	12				
Criterion 6.3: Communicating to the public (7)	7				
<b>Principle 7. Local Communities</b>					
Criterion 7.1: Commitment to local communities (8)	8				
Criterion 7.2: Free, Prior & Informed Consent (3)					3
Criterion 7.3: Cultural heritage (7)					7
Criterion 7.4: Displacement and Resettlement (9)					9
<b>Principle 8. Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>					
Criterion 8.1: Corporate commitment to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement (8)	8				
Criterion 8.2: Corporate Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (2)	2				

Principles and criteria (# of requirements)	Conform	O FI	Minor NC	Major NC	Exclusion
Criterion 8.3: Site-level GHG emissions measurement and intensity calculation (3)	2				1
Criterion 8.4: Site-level GHG reduction targets and planning (11)	11				
Criterion 8.5: Site-level GHG or CO2 emissions reporting and disclosure (8)	3				5
<b>Principle 9. Noise, Emissions, Effluents and Waste</b>					
Criterion 9.1: Noise and vibration (7)	7				
Criterion 9.2: Emissions to air (8)	8				
Criterion 9.3: Spills and leakage (9)	9				
Criterion 9.4: Waste, by-product and production residue management (11)	10				1
<b>Principle 10. Water Stewardship</b>					
Criterion 10.1 Water-related context (7)	7				
Criterion 10.2 Water balance and emissions (8)	8				
Criterion 10.3 Water-related adverse impact (6)	6				
Criterion 10.4 Managing water issues (8)	8				
<b>Principle 11. Biodiversity</b>					
Criterion 11.1: Biodiversity commitment and management (25)	15				10
<b>Principle 12. Decommissioning and closure</b>					
Criterion 12.1: Decommissioning and closure (13)					13
	Conform	O FI	Minor NC	Major NC	Exclusion
<b>Total (370)*</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62</b>

\* Note that the Total in the table does not correspond to the sum of Conform, OFI, Minor NC, Major NC and Exclusion due to the way that requirements and conformity classifications are counted.

## Exclusions

The list of exclusions provided by the site and justifications why they were excluded, reviewed & accepted by BSI.

Criterion 2.4.4 is considered not applicable due to not being in a country with a high corruption risk.

Criterion 4.4.2 is considered not applicable due to the national legislation in Australia not restricting workers' organisations.

Criterion 4.8.6 is considered not applicable as the company does not offer accommodation as company standard arrangements.

Criterion 4.8.7 is considered not applicable as BlueScope pays above the market rate in the regions in which they operate in Australia. Living wage is set by minimum award conditions from the Fair Work Commission.

Criterion 5.2.2 is considered not applicable as the site does not need to use extensive measures to ensure security of people, property of assets.

Criterion 5.3 is considered not applicable as the site does not operate in conflict affected or high-risk areas.

Criterion 7.2 is considered not applicable as the site does not operate in close proximity to indigenous peoples.

Criterion 7.3 is considered not applicable as there are no cultural heritage sites/critical cultural heritage sites within the boundaries of the Western Port site.

Criterion 7.4 is considered not applicable as there are no plans for displacement or resettlement. Furthermore, there has been no displacement or resettlement in the 10 years leading up to ResponsibleSteel certification as the boundaries of the site have been in place for far greater than 10 years.

Criterion 8.3.3 is considered not applicable as the Western Port site does not produce Crude Steel.

Criterion 8.5.1 b – states N/A because heat and steam are not imported to site from outside the site boundary.

Criterion 8.5.1 d – states N/A because BlueScope does not intend on relying on carbon offsets to achieve our 2030 targets, however BlueScope retains the option to use them where direct abatement is not technically or commercially feasible.

BlueScope's offset principles were published as part of its Climate Action Report in September 2021 and since then BlueScope has developed an organisational offset strategy and supporting governance framework (BSL-CC-SD-01-01). Note that Western Port does not presently intend on using offsets to meet its emission reduction commitments.

Criterion 8.5.1 e – states N/A because credit emissions are not applicable to the Western Port site, on the basis that the site does not produce Crude Steel, and hence does not export any intermediary products ahead of Crude Steel production that would result in a 'credit' within scope 1 and 3 of the site's CO2 accounting; there are no 'credits' related to the procurement/delivery of electricity and steam from site (Scope 2); and the site does not sell CO2 or other carbon containing co-products to external users.

Criterion 8.5.1 f – N/A as shown in Criterion 8.5.1 a – Total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions and Scope 3 GHG emissions are available for BlueScope at a group level, and facility level (all facilities aggregated) and is published in BlueScope's Climate Action Report and annual Sustainability Report and Data Supplement. In addition, performance against the non-steelmaking targets to which Western Port contributes to is also reported in the Climate Action Report and annual Sustainability Report and Data Supplement.

Criterion 8.5.1 g – states N/A because the site does not produce Crude Steel (this is the same as Criterion 8.3.3 above)

Criterion 9.4.5 is considered not applicable as Western Port do not stockpile wastes on site.

Criterion 11.1.2 a, b & c are considered not applicable as Western Port is not situated in or adjacent to the areas specified.

Criterion 11.1.3 a, b & c are considered not applicable as Western Port Operations occur within already developed/industrial areas only.

Criterion 11.1.4 a, b & c are considered not applicable as there is no critical habitat within the site's operation.

Criterion 11.1.7 b & d are considered not applicable as there are no known threatened species present within the manufacturing footprint (EPA licence boundary).

Principle 12 is not applicable as the site is not yet certified to ResponsibleSteel and does not have any decommissioning or closure plans.



## Strengths

For the organisations that adopt ResponsibleSteel as one of the newest management system methodologies, the 12 principles of the Standard become a planning board for outlining the organisation's expectations, a road map for defining future directions and aspirational goals, and a platform for setting benchmarks in sustainability for leaders in the steel industry.

BlueScope was one of the founders of ResponsibleSteel and its largest and most complex site in Port Kembla has been certified to ResponsibleSteel Standard from February 2022.

This Report summarises the results of the ResponsibleSteel initial certification audit at the BlueScope site in Western Port in Victoria, Australia conducted by BSI between October 2022 (Stage 1) and March 2023 (Stage 2).

The BSI audit team leader recommends to the ResponsibleSteel Assurance Panel that certification be granted to BlueScope's Western Port site.

Before embarking on the ResponsibleSteel certification journey, BlueScope and Western Port site were already meeting many of the requirements of the ResponsibleSteel Standard. However some of the existing policies, processes, procedures, plans or publicly available information needed to be expanded, revisited or established to align with the ResponsibleSteel requirements, across Corporate, Business Unit or Site specific level.

The audit conducted by BSI shows that BlueScope Western Port was found to conform with the majority of the applicable ResponsibleSteel criteria except where six minor non-conformities were raised. The effectiveness of corrective actions on these findings will be reviewed during the next surveillance assessment that is recommended to occur approximately 12 to 18 months from the date of certificate issue. In addition, five opportunities for improvement were also raised across different principles for potential management system enhancements.

Overall, BSI recognises the effort made by the site's team during the ResponsibleSteel audit process to achieve endorsement for certification. Eleven of the twelve principles of the ResponsibleSteel Standard were deemed applicable for the site, with decommissioning and closure the only Principle deemed not applicable at the time of the audit, as there are no plans for site closure or decommissioning of parts of the site.

BSI's view is that one of the most prominent good examples are the processes implemented to address requirements of Principle 6 & 7 "Stakeholder Engagement and Communication and Local Communities."

BSI noted representatives of the site demonstrated excellent communication practices with external stakeholders and local communities. Many of the external stakeholders praised the role of and experience they had with the site's Community Liaison Committee meetings. Similarly, external stakeholders praised BlueScope's continuing support for the local community, the First Nations Peoples, schools (e.g. child literacy and numeracy programs), and sponsorship of different local events and/or charities.

## Areas for improvement

During the audit, a few areas were identified that require the attention of the site including six minor non-conformities against requirements of the ResponsibleSteel Standard. The site is required to effectively address the non-conformities before the surveillance audit. Five opportunities for improvement were also identified. All these findings are shown in the table below.

Type of finding	Statement, requirement, objective evidence or description only for OFI's
Minor non-conformity	<p><i>Statement of non-conformity:</i> The requirements of the Australian Standard for installation of fire extinguishers were not always complied with at the site.</p> <p><i>Requirement:</i> Criterion 3.5.1 - The site provides facilities, plants, infrastructure, equipment, materials and tools that do not pose risk to health and risk of incidents and ensures they are maintained in safe working order.</p> <p>The Fire extinguishers at few locations (like QA test Lab in Paint lines CPL2; Metal Coating Lines near control room) were obstructed with objects in front of them and were installed at shoulder height which is not complaint as per Australian Standard AS2444 – Portable fire extinguisher and fire blankets (Installation Height) as per the fragment below:</p> <p><i>Objective evidence:</i> No extinguisher should be mounted higher than 1200mm (120cm) off the floor. The bottom of the extinguisher should be no less than 100mm (10cm) from the floor.</p>
4 x Minor non-conformities	<p><i>Statement of non-conformity:</i> Remuneration Policy is not yet publicly available.</p> <p><i>Requirement:</i> Criterion 4.8.1 a), b), c) The site has a public remuneration policy (...)</p> <p><i>Objective evidence:</i> The policy has been prepared internally but at the time of the audit was not yet publicly available. Whilst the policy addresses requirements Criterion 4.8.1 a), b), c) these commitments have not yet been made publicly available at the time of the audit, therefore all the listed requirements were considered non-conforming. The policy has since been published on the Corporate Website.</p>
Minor non-conformity	<p><i>Statement of non-conformity:</i> A policy covering the ResponsibleSteel requirements relating to security arrangements was not publicly available at the time of the audit.</p> <p><i>Requirement:</i> 5.2.1 The site has a public policy on security arrangements that commits to respect human rights and public freedoms.</p> <p><i>Objective evidence:</i> The current publicly available BSL Supplier Code of Conduct, January 2019 does not yet show policy of security arrangements that commits security providers to respect human rights</p>

Type of finding	Statement, requirement, objective evidence or description only for OFI's
	and public freedoms. The updated policy Rev1, November 2022 is not yet available publicly. At the time of the audit, BlueScope's Human Rights Policy which covers the ResponsibleSteel security arrangements was not publicly available, but has since been published on the Corporate Website.
Opportunity for improvement OFI	Criterion 1.1.1.e) BlueScope could add to their corporate policies for suppliers their commitment to source raw materials from suppliers whose policies and practices support the implementation of the ResponsibleSteel Principles and Criteria as applicable to the sourcing of raw materials.
Opportunity for improvement OFI	<p>Criterion 3.5.2.a) Clean and hygienic workplaces, including factory, offices, sanitation areas, food storage and meals break areas with seating;</p> <p>. Overall, the infrastructure, facilities, plants, equipment, raw materials, were in good condition with measures for a traffic management plan, good lighting, heating and cooling, crib rooms, lockers, gender specific and disability restrooms, tearooms, lunch area, drink hot and cold-water supply, and a food vending machine. However the auditors noted some opportunities for improvement in general housekeeping in some operational areas.</p>
Opportunity for improvement OFI	<p>Criterion 3.6.2 The site has a process to verify its performance data and regularly discloses key aspects of its OH&amp;S performance to the public.</p> <p>Sustainability Report published on the website for the Global corporate data which Western Port is part of.</p> <p>Opportunity for improvement was raised for this requirement to consider adding the HSE statistics in the Community Liaison Committee meeting minutes which is attended by the external stakeholder groups.</p>
Opportunity for improvement OFI	<p>Criterion 4.3.3 Where there is a risk that workers are affected by discrimination, the site has effective procedures to: a) address this risk.</p> <p>During worker interviews one of the workers in the newly established Customer Service Centre (CSC) team expressed a preference for more frequent or regular progress reports when matters are raised with front-line leadership. This concern was subsequently discussed with the site's Plant Manager and HR Manager and evidence showed how the site aims at optimising the process including training for Managers and Team Leaders and also by managing expectations of workers in relation to the timeline and on-going feedback about the progress of their claim.</p> <p>The provided clarification was considered satisfactory by BSI, but room for improvement appears to exist to enable BlueScope leaders to react to such situations appropriately including showing compassion and managing claimant expectations as mentioned above.</p>

Type of finding	Statement, requirement, objective evidence or description only for OFI's
Opportunity for improvement OFI	<p>Criterion 6.1.4. The site has a plan in place for the effective engagement of stakeholders, scaled to its size and to the environmental and social risks and adverse impacts associated with its activities.</p> <p>The current stakeholder engagement plan includes a number of activities, documents and records as listed by BSI in dash-points under requirement 6.1.5. There is opportunity for the overall process of how these elements form the site's stakeholder engagement plan could be defined in one specific document to more effectively "join the dots."</p>

## Assurance Panel Declaration

In line with the ResponsibleSteel Assurance Manual, three members of the Assurance Panel reviewed the full audit report for BlueScope Western Port, including the auditors' findings for each individual requirement of the ResponsibleSteel Standard. Subsequently, the Assurance Panel members met online to discuss individual findings and to align their views on the audit report. We sought clarification and asked for reconsideration of conformity classifications where the auditors' conclusions were not sufficiently substantiated. Following review of the changes that were made by the auditors, we support the certification recommendation for BlueScope Western Port.

The Assurance Panel's conclusions on the final audit report are as follows:

- The audit report contains sufficient detail to support an informed certification decision
- The supporting evidence and rationales given in the audit report support the auditors' conformity classifications
- The certification recommendation based on the audit report is conclusive

This statement has been approved by the three members of the Assurance Panel who reviewed the audit report on 27 July 2023.