

GSCC chief optimistic toward US green steel progress

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The green steel movement will continue in the United States as long as end customers demand low emissions raw materials and are ready to pay a price premium for that, Global Steel Climate Council (GSCC) executive director Adina Renee Adler told Fastmarkets in an interview on Thursday December 11.

Some automotive customers in the US, and some construction industry end users to a lesser degree, are particular about including lower emissions steel products in their mix, Adler said.

Regulatory changes under US President Donald Trump's second tenure had withdrawn some business incentives for companies, starting with when Trump pulled the US from the Paris Climate Agreement, for the second time, in January 2025.

The GSCC, which was launched in [2022](#), comprises steel manufacturers, associations and other organizations in the steel supply chain. Its founding members are the Steel Manufacturers Association, Nucor Corporation, CELSA Group, Steel Dynamics, Inc (SDI), Commercial Metals Company and the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, which has since rebranded as Recycled Materials Association.

It is a non-profit organization committed to limiting future global temperature rises to 1.5 degree Celsius above "pre-industrial" levels by the year 2050, by supporting a global standard that accelerates the transition to low-emission steel.

There are two steps of the GSCC program, according to Adler. "Company-wide standards for reducing emissions targets, and product-level certification under the Steel Climate Standard," Adler said.

Only four steelmakers which are US-based steelmakers Nucor, SDI, Arkansas Steel Associates (ASA), and Italian steelmaker AFV Beltrame, have achieved company-wide certifications from the GSCC, according to Adler.

Nucor, which is the largest steel producer in the US, was [certified by the GSCC in January](#) to reduce carbon emissions by 2030 for its hot-rolled steel production, advancing the steelmaker's decarbonization drive to hit its net-zero target by 2050.

These four companies had reported a one-year emissions reduction of 3 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions, which is equivalent to taking 628,000 cars off the road for a year, Adler said.

“We are looking forward to growing that number as the number of certified members’ targets grow,” Adler said.

To date, only Newport, Arkansas-based billet, bar and rail tie producer ASA and Fort Wayne, Indiana-based SDI have achieved product-level certification from GSCC, Adler said.

“There are other companies in the pipeline, globally, for both the steps of the GSCC standard, which will be unveiled in the first quarter of 2026,” Adler told Fastmarkets.

The GSCC certified eight specific hot-rolled steel products from ASA and SDI in **July**, marking an expansion in GSCC’s certification program, moving beyond company-wide emissions targets to include product-level certification under the Steel Climate Standard.

ASA earned product-level certification for one of its core offerings, a steel railroad OTM (other track material), while SDI received certification for hot-rolled steel products from each of the company’s seven steel mills.

“Each product was independently verified to meet the rigorous emissions intensity thresholds set by the Steel Climate Standard,” according to a GSCC press release, which added that the independent verification of ASA’s and SDI’s products was conducted by one of the GSCC verification bodies KERAMIDA, which is a global environmental health safety and sustainability services company.

SDI received GSCC’s certification for the following hot-rolled products:

1. Steel sheet substrate from its Butler Flat Roll Division in Butler, Indiana
2. Merchant bar quality (MBQ) steel and specialty bar quality (SBQ) steel from its Engineered Bar Products Division in Pittsboro, Indiana
3. Semi-finished steel billets, steel reinforcing bar (rebar), structural and merchant bar, and rail from its Structural and Rail Division in Columbia City, Indiana
4. Semi-finished steel billets, rebar, steel structural and merchant bar from its Roanoke Bar Division in Roanoke, Virginia
5. Steel sheet substrate from its Columbus Flat Roll Division in Columbus, Mississippi
6. Steel sheet substrate from its Southwest-Sinton Flat Roll Division in Sinton, Texas
7. Specialty shapes, rail and rail products, steel structural and merchant bar, and semi-finished steel billets from its Steel of West Virginia facility in Huntington, West Virginia.

SDI expanded its range of lower-emodied carbon steel product offerings in **October**, launching two products BIOEDGE and EDGE, that will be made exclusively using electric-arc furnace (EAF) technology.

SDI has a stated goal to be carbon neutral by 2050 at its EAF steel mill operations.

Separately, ResponsibleSteel, which is a third-party provider of sustainability standards and certification, certified integrated steel producer US Steel’s mini mill subsidiary Big River Steel with a “level 1” honor in **September 2024**, which was lauded as a “gold standard” for the steelmaking industry by US Steel’s chief executive officer David Burritt.

Big River Steel in Osceola, Arkansas, had received ResponsibleSteel's first-ever site certification in North America in 2022.

Fastmarkets' weekly green steel domestic, differential to US HRC, fob mill was flat at \$0 per short ton on December 10, unchanged since the differential was launched on May 22, 2024.

Fastmarkets' carbon threshold is 0.7 tCO₂e per 1 tonne of steel. Renewable energy credits and mass

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