

Lead sheet as a sustainable resource

The case for lead sheet as a sustainable resource is very strong.

High rates of recycling

- Compared to its competitors, both metals and man-made substitutes, lead sheet has the highest rates of recycling in Europe.
- 100% of lead sheet used by Calder Group comes from recycled material, none from primary mining sources.
- More than 95% of lead is collected and recycled – no lead goes to landfill.
- Lead sheet can be used and recycled repeatedly without loss of performance.

Energy efficient

- With a low melting point of 327 °C, lower than other metals and man-made substitutes, lead has one of the lowest energy demands of any metal.
- Lead's low melting point means the process of recycling is very energy efficient – approximately one-third of the energy needed in winning primary lead from its ore.
- Less energy equates to lower cost.

Low impacts on the environment and health

- Lead sheet has the lowest carbon footprint of all competing roofing materials
- Handled correctly the risks to human health in lead workers are low.
- Research shows no environmental risk related to water run-off from lead sheet.
- Calder Group has a Code of Practice to ensure that high standards of product stewardship are applied to the manufacture, distribution and installation of lead sheet products.
- Extensive and effective EU legislation covers the entire lifecycle of lead sheet.

Durability and low lifetime cost

- Lifetime of lead sheet frequently exceeds 60 years.
- Lead lasts three times longer than other man-made substitutes.
- Durability reduces maintenance and lifetime costs.