# BIOMASS BALANCE

Moving towards renewable carbon, molecule by molecule

BUILDING TRUST

# BIOMASS BALANCE

## Moving towards renewable carbon, molecule by molecule

Sika specialises in customer-focused innovation, delivering sustainable solutions that fulfill critical performance needs and help to meet sustainability goals. With our biomass balance approach, we support use of renewable raw materials with our existing supply chain, creating products with a lower carbon footprint while keeping the high performance our customers expect.

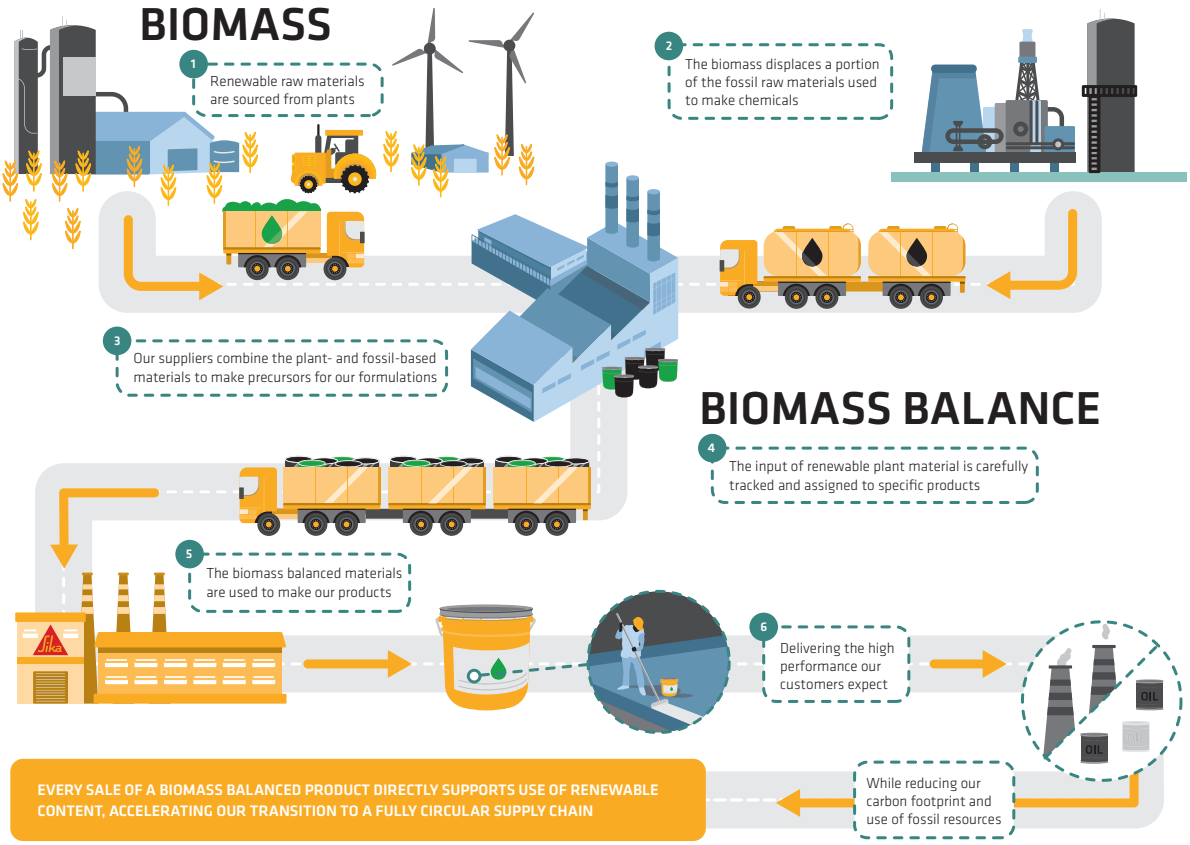
A sustainable construction industry requires high-performing, cost-competitive products that are made with minimal environmental and health impacts. This means developing products that are manufactured with renewable raw materials, replacing the dwindling fossil resources that are used to make almost all of today's chemicals.

However, using renewable raw materials comes with challenges around feedstock availability, technology, and logistics in complex production pathways. Overcoming these challenges takes time, but the climate crisis requires immediate action. At Sika, we are using biomass balanced products to achieve an immediate reduction in our carbon footprint, while continuing to invest in longer-term solutions with our supply chain partners.

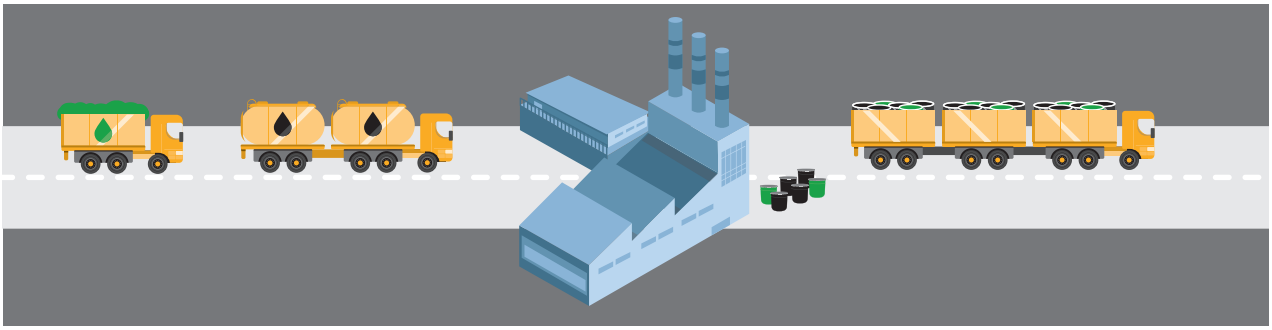
This approach allows us to increase use of renewable raw materials today, reducing the use of fossil carbon and cutting our greenhouse gas emissions whilst continuing on our journey to Net Zero.

### BENEFITS OF BIOMASS BALANCE

- Immediate availability of affordable, sustainable products
- Identical performance characteristics
- Reduction in carbon footprint
- Boosting demand for renewable resources
- Biomass use can increase as availability grows
- Certification available to provide confidence in sustainability



## WHAT IS BIOMASS BALANCE?



In the biomass balance approach, renewable plant-based materials (biomass) are used to replace some of the fossil resources in our supply chain. Our suppliers use a mixture of plant- and fossil-based materials to make precursors for our formulations, carefully tracking the inputs through the supply chain and assigning the renewable content to specific products. This methodical accounting ensures traceability of the biomass, guaranteeing that the sustainable inputs match up with sustainably-marketed products. Every sale of a biomass balanced product directly supports use of renewable content, accelerating our transition to a fully circular Net Zero supply chain.

## WHAT IS BIOMASS?

Biomass is raw material that comes from biological sources, usually plants. For example, this could be wood, wheat, algae, waste from local farms, or even used cooking oil. Some biomass sources are grown and harvested directly for use, while others are byproducts or waste products from existing production processes.

## IS BIOMASS SUSTAINABLE?

Not always. Biomass is renewable—that is, it grows back on a human timescale. But growing and harvesting biomass has its own associated carbon emissions, and can cause deforestation, pollution, and other environmental issues. It's important to look at the impact of the biomass over its full life cycle and get third-party verification that using biomass is sustainable and actually reducing your carbon footprint.

## HOW IS BIOMASS TRACKED IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN?

When biomass is used to replace fossil resources in the chemical supply chain, there are different ways to manage it. These are called chain of custody approaches. Some approaches physically separate the biomass in its own supply chain, creating a product with a guaranteed percentage of biomass, but with potential performance differences or cost increases. Other approaches have no physical connection between the biomass and the products, selling the "credits" for its use for other companies to claim.

The biomass balance approach used by our suppliers measures the amount of real biomass going into the supply chain, and assigns it to an appropriate amount of renewable products that are physically in the same chain. While the complexity of the supply chain means the actual content of biomass in a specific product is not guaranteed, the tracing methods ensure that each bio-based product sold supports real use of biomass, and fossil resources are truly removed from our supply chain.


## HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT BIOMASS BALANCED PRODUCTS ARE TRULY SUSTAINABLE?

Independent validation of the biomass balance tracking method, as well as the sustainability of the biomass and carbon footprint of the product, is critical for transparency and trust. Globally recognised certification schemes are available to ensure that all claims are accurate and verifiable. We work with TÜV Rheinland to verify our product carbon footprint (PCF), ensuring that the life cycle analysis approach accurately represents the reduction in GHG emissions that come with our lower-carbon products.

## DO BIOMASS BALANCED PRODUCTS PERFORM DIFFERENTLY?

Biomass balanced materials are chemically equivalent replacements, meaning they have the same technical and performance characteristics as their fossil-based counterparts. Our biomass balanced products undergo the same BBA testing and quality certification as our other products, giving customers confidence that Sika products will meet their needs.

Every biomass balanced product sold supports our transition to a circular supply chain, helping us take a concrete step towards a renewable chemical industry.

# SIKA FULL RANGE SOLUTIONS:


LIQUID APPLIED ROOFING


SINGLE PLY ROOFING


BITUMINOUS ROOFING


CONCRETE


CONCRETE REPAIR


STRUCTURAL STRENGTHENING


BUILDING FINISHING


WATERPROOFING


JOINT SEALING


FAÇADES


FLOORING


INDUSTRY


DISTRIBUTION


MODULAR/OFFSITE

## WHO WE ARE

Sika Limited and Sika Ireland Limited are part of the global Sika Group, specialising in the manufacture and supply of chemical based products. Sika has a global leading position in the development and production of systems and products for bonding, sealing, damping, reinforcing, and protecting in the building sector and motor vehicle industry. Sika has subsidiaries in 103 countries, manufactures in over 400 factories, and develops innovative technologies for customers around the world that facilitate the sustainable transformation of the construction and transportation industries. With more than 33,000 employees, the company generated annual sales of CHF 11.2 billion (£9.8 bn) in 2023.

In the UK and Ireland, we provide market-leading solutions for building finishing, concrete, waterproofing, roofing, flooring, refurbishment, sealing & bonding, facades, and industry, and have manufacturing sites in Welwyn Garden City, Preston, Leeds, Wishaw, Redditch, and Dublin with over 1,000 employees and a turnover of more than £380 million.



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