Driving forces

Primary production continues to have a significant environmental impact as aluminum companies operate in highly competitive conditions subject to periodic overcapacity. Aluminum products can contribute to energy savings in their usage phase, although typically the industry has to operate in a cascade recycling chain due to increasing material impurities. Nevertheless, substantial opportunities exist for sourcing aluminum with a smaller environmental footprint. Managing energy efficiency is critically important given the significant energy costs in aluminum production and the potential for climate regulation to reshape those costs in the future. Responsible management of non-greenhouse-gas air emissions, waste management, and water discharge are also important for maintaining a license to operate with both environmental regulators and local communities. Consequently, climate strategies, forward-looking energy purchasing and control of environmental impacts remain high priorities. As in other heavy manufacturing and resource environments, workforce and contractor safety is critical.

Highlighted criteria & Dimension weight

Economic Dimension .......... 34%
- Codes of Business Conduct
- Corporate Governance
- Supply Chain Management

Environmental Dimension ...... 33%
- Operational Eco-Efficiency
- Climate Strategy
- Water Related Risks

Social Dimension ................ 33%
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Social Impacts on Communities
- Talent Attraction & Retention

Sustainability leaders 2019

SAM Gold Class
Norsk Hydro ASA Norway

SAM Bronze Class
Alcoa Corp * United States

* SAM Industry Mover

Industry statistics

Number of companies in universe 6
Number of companies assessed in 2018 6
Assessed companies to total companies in universe 100%
Market of assessed companies to total market 100%

Results at industry level

The box-and-whisker plot describes the distribution of scores in the industry, based on all assessed companies. More information is available in the Reading Instructions in the introduction.