STEEL IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY
A LIFE CYCLE PERSPECTIVE
THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD LIES IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

With today’s finite resources the world must leave behind the outdated “take, make, consume and dispose” mentality.

A circular economy promotes zero waste in order to bring about a more sustainable world.

The life cycle approach achieves this by measuring the social, economic and environmental impact at each stage of a product’s life cycle.

The steel industry is an integral part of the global circular economy thanks to its unique ability to reduce, reuse, remanufacture and recycle steel.

CONSTRUCTION
The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Programme, a good example of life cycle thinking in the construction industry, is expanding globally with just under 25,000 projects in over 250 countries.

PACKAGING
The steel packaging industry is using LCA to calculate the footprint of their products and to improve their design.

AUTOMOTIVE
Many automakers, including Honda, Toyota, Volkswagen, Mercedes, Ford, and Nissan are already using LCA as a tool to reduce the environmental impact of their products.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

LIFE CYCLE THINKING

REDUCE
over €12 bn spent annually on R&D means high-strength steel can now weigh less without losing strength

25%
WEIGHT REDUCTION IN NEW STEELS USED FOR CAR PARTS

REUSE
steel’s durability fully extends the life cycle of the product

REUSING STRUCTURAL STEEL WILL INCREASE WITH SUSTAINABLE DESIGNS

REMANUFACTURE
steel’s ability to restore used products to like-new condition

A WIDE RANGE OF STEEL PRODUCTS ARE ALREADY REMANUFACTURED WORLDWIDE

RECYCLE
thanks to its magnetic quality steel is the most recycled material in the world

650 MILLION TONNES RECYCLED ANNUALLY