

AnvilOrganic® Cotton T-Shirt Carbon Footprint



Anvil recently partnered with climate change service provider Camco International to conduct a product lifecycle assessment of the greenhouse gases (GHGs) produced during the typical lifespan of a single AnvilOrganic® cotton tee. The final value, referred to as the tee's carbon footprint, suggests that a total of 3.91 kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) are emitted as a result of raw materials production, manufacturing, distribution, screen printing, consumer use and disposal. Emissions associated with transportation between each stage .

Anvil cast the broadest life cycle assessment scope possible when deciding to include all emission generating processes from the tee's "cradle" to its "grave". Camco consulted with Anvil to define a boundary of specific emission source types for which data would be collected during each life stage. Camco assisted Anvil with the collection of data associated with specific emissions sources including energy consumption, water consumption, company-owned vehicle use, third party deliveries, landfill waste and water waste from a combination of Anvil and Vendor facilities. Emissions values associated with consumer use and disposal were derived from independent primary literature sources. Camco utilized current best practice life cycle quantification methodologies including recommendations from PAS 2050, and ISO 14044 when conducting the assessment. All six GHGs stipulated within the Kyoto protocol were addressed using a set of reference materials representative of the most recent and geographically relevant emission factors available and published from respected technical sources.