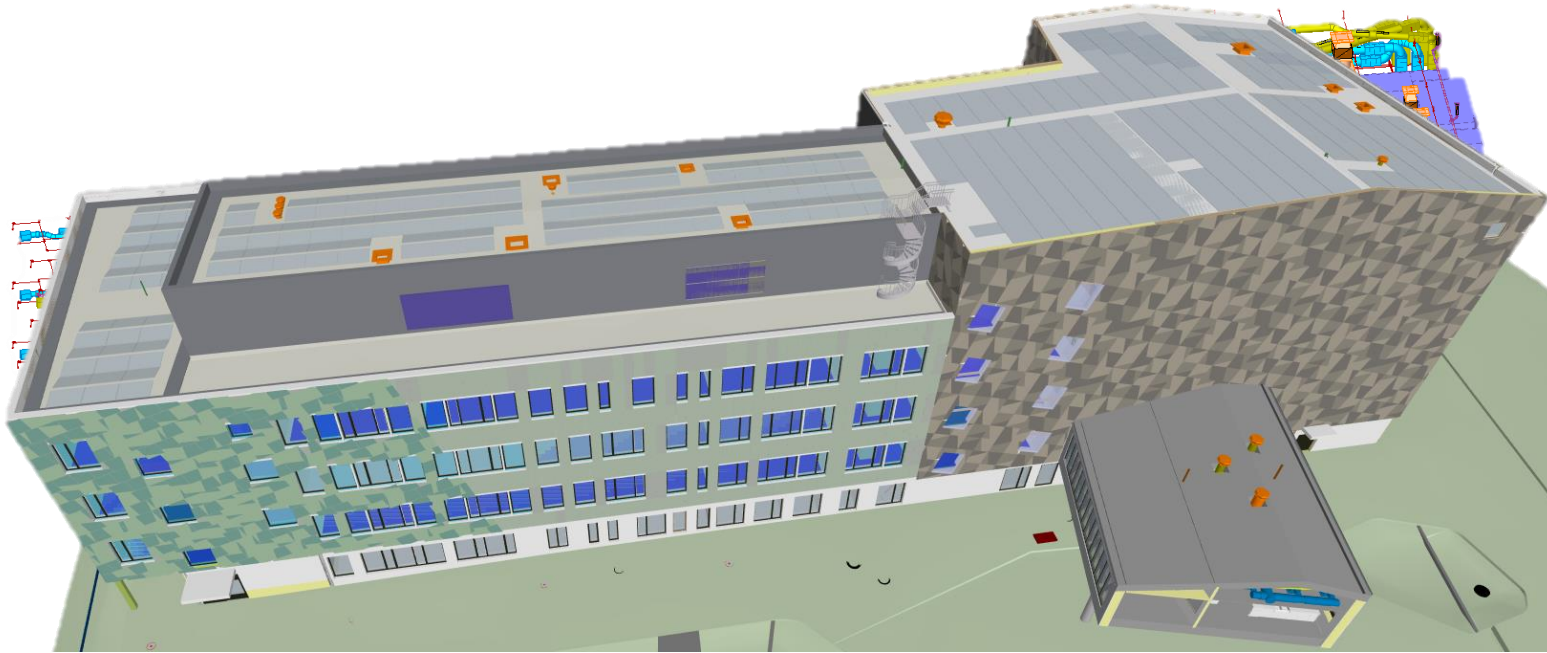


A comparison of GHG emissions of fire suppression systems

International Water Mist Conference 24. September 2025 - Manchester

Kjell Audun Flåten
Senior Engineer – Fire Suppression
kjell.flaten@multiconsult.no





Voldsløkka skole

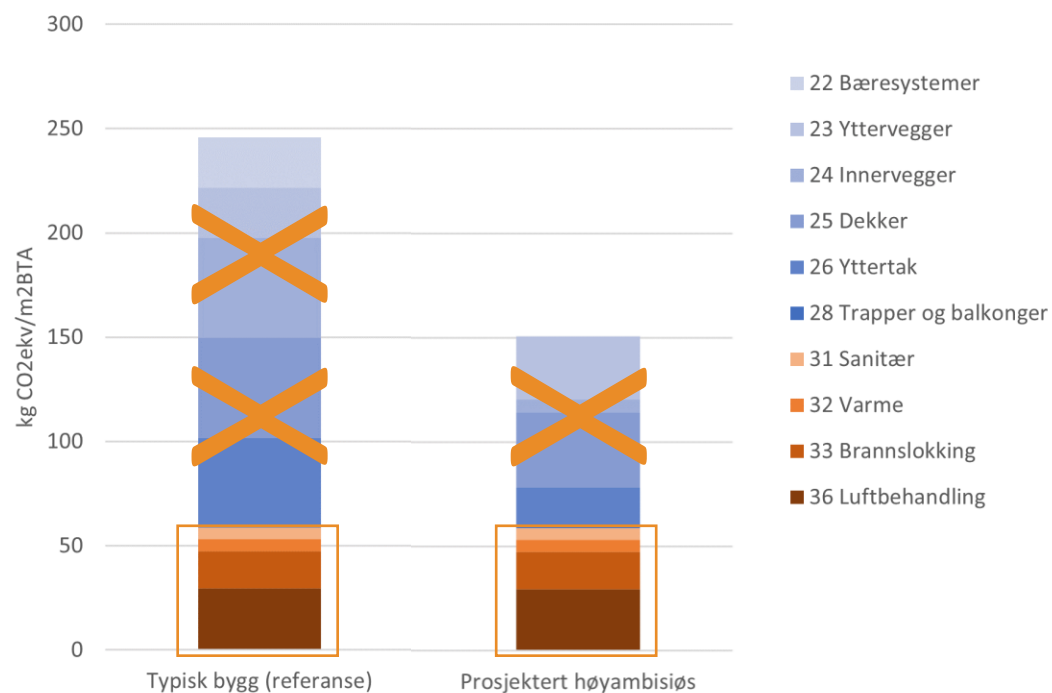
- key to building performance
- involve significant costs
- extensive material use



not included in the building's climate footprint



Estimated GHG emissions from HVAC systems



■ Model building : ~ 20 %

■ Advanced performance building : ~ 40 %

■ Retrofit: ??

Outlook:

- Fewer new builds, more retrofits
- Focus on the structural shell



will become more critical in future building design

Green wings



Støttet av
Forskningsrådet



Green HVAC - greenhouse gas calculator

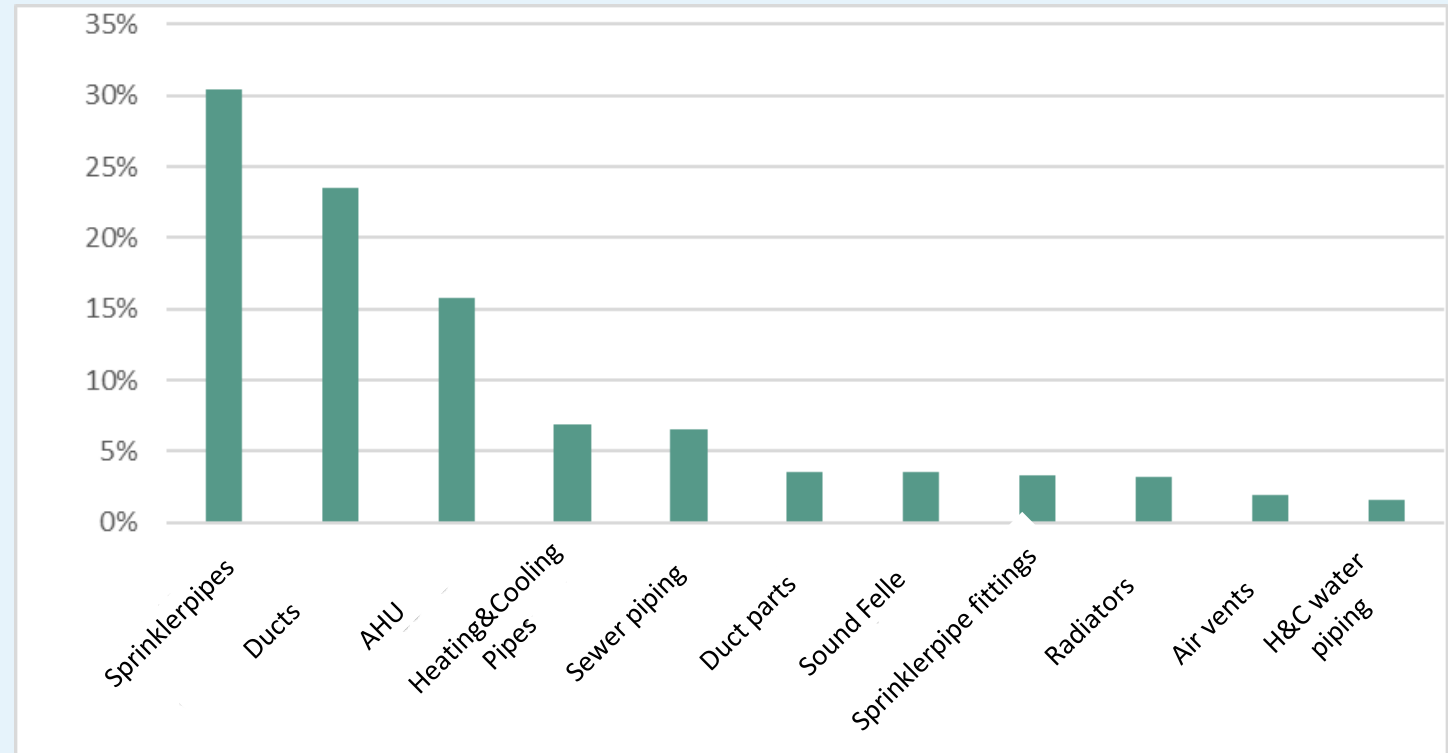
- No adequate tools available
- Necessary for executing Green HVAC projects
- Simplifies greenhouse gas calculations
- Improved visual presentation

➡ The tool is not the product – the service is!

ZEN-CASE YDALIR



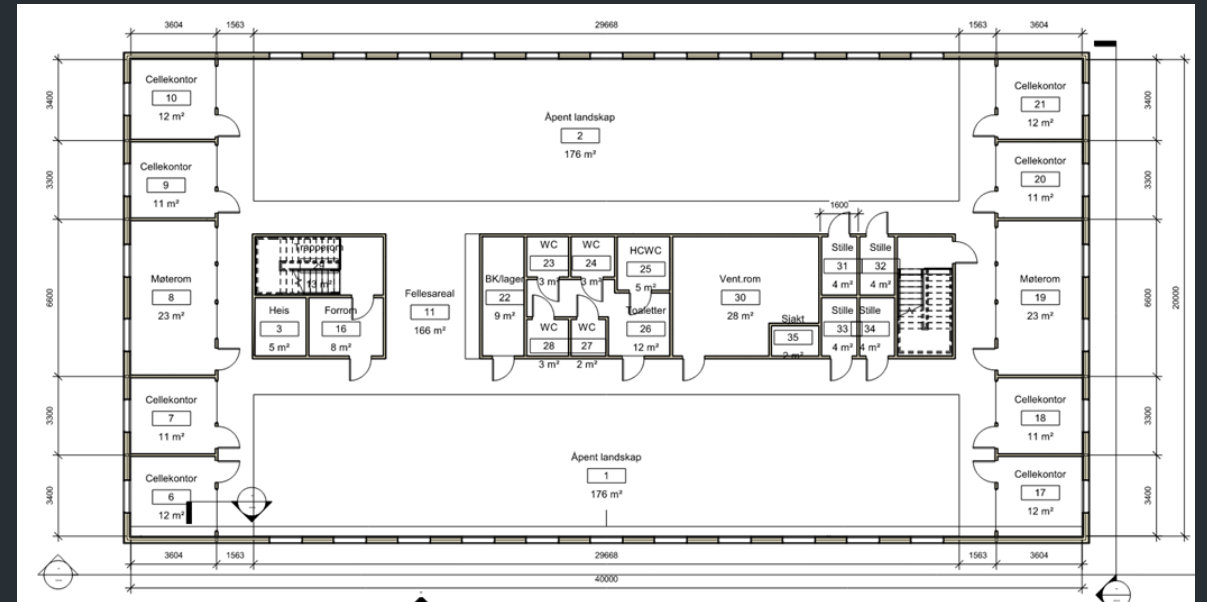
Allocation of emissions to
specific components





A sandbox for exploration

- **Typical Office Building**
- Developed by: Grønn VVS & Hybridene
- Inspired by actual new builds in Eastern Norway
- Goal: Study solutions with transferable value
- Typical office floor: $\sim 850 \text{ m}^2$
- Four floors + technical rooms





Background

- Several studies from GVVS identified that pipes from fire suppression systems are among the largest emission sources in HVAC installations
- We had to get to the bottom of this!
- The study for GVVS is supplier-independent
- Focus on how greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced



4 System typologies

- **Conventional sprinkler system (CS)** – Calculations are based on estimated dimensions derived from pre-calculation tables. Conservative coverage using standard sprinkler heads and fixed piping down to the ceiling level
- **Optimized sprinkler system (OS)** – Fully hydraulically calculated with optimized sizing, utilizing available technologies such as extended coverage sprinkler heads and flexible sprinkler hoses down to ceiling level.
- **Low-pressure water mist (LWM)** – Optimized based on product-specific requirements
- **High-pressure water mist (HPWM)** – Optimized based on product-specific requirements



Requirements

- Sprinklersystem: *NS-EN 12845:2015+A1:2019 Fixed firefighting systems — Automatic sprinkler systems — Design, installation and maintenance, FG-930 (Norwegian Guidelines for NS-EN 12845)*
- WaterMist: *NS-EN 14972-1:2020 Fixed firefighting systems - Water mist systems - Part 1: Design, installation, inspection and maintenance*
NS-EN 14972-3:2021 Fixed firefighting systems - Water mist systems - Part 3: Test protocol for office, school classrooms and hotel for automatic nozzle systems
- Water supply / Backflow prevention Cf. NS-EN1717
- Water supply curve
- Pipeseries

Tabell 2 - Rørtyper for de forskjellige systemene.

System	Materiale	Dimensjon	Sammen - føyning	C-faktor
KS	Sorte stålrør - *Mellomserie	DN 25-100	Rille/gjenge	120
OS	Sorte stålrør - *Mellomserie	DN 25-100	Rille/gjenge	120
LV	Syrefast	DN 15-50	Pressfitting	150
HV	Syrefast	DN 10 – 50	Klemring	150

*Referanser "Mellomserie" angir godstykkelse iht. NS-ISO 4200 område D (se Tabell 3)

Tabell 1 - Forutsatt tilgjengelig vannmengde og trykk.

Q [l/min]	P [bar]
0	4,3
750	4,0
900	3,7
1 100	2,9
1 400	1,5

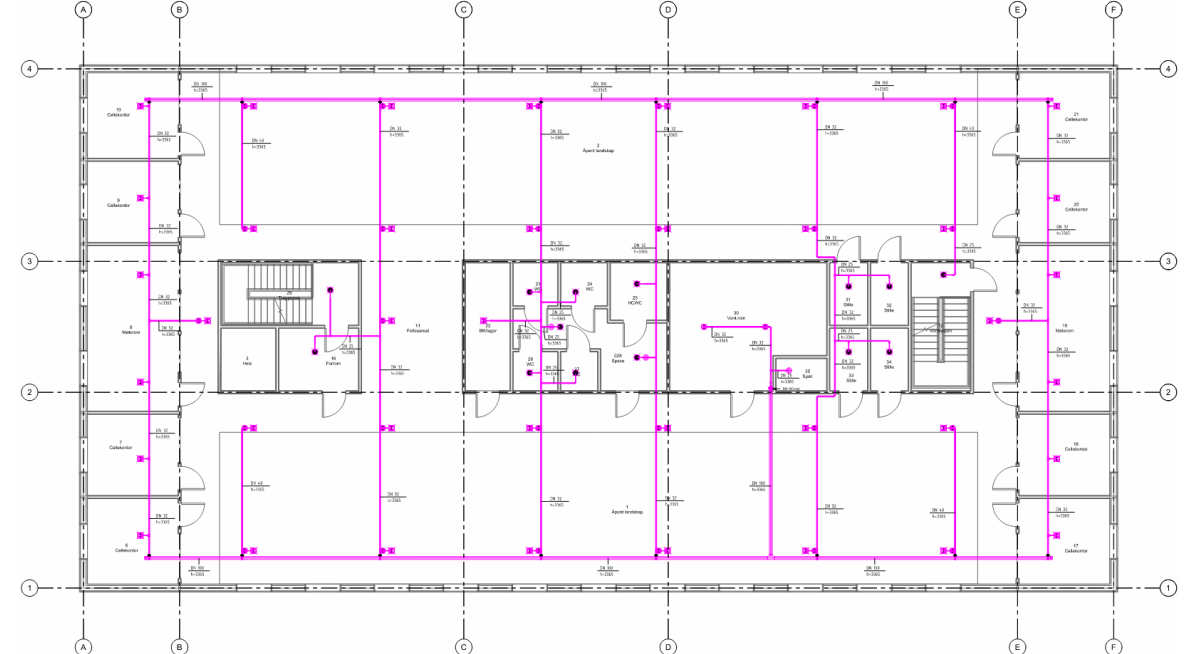
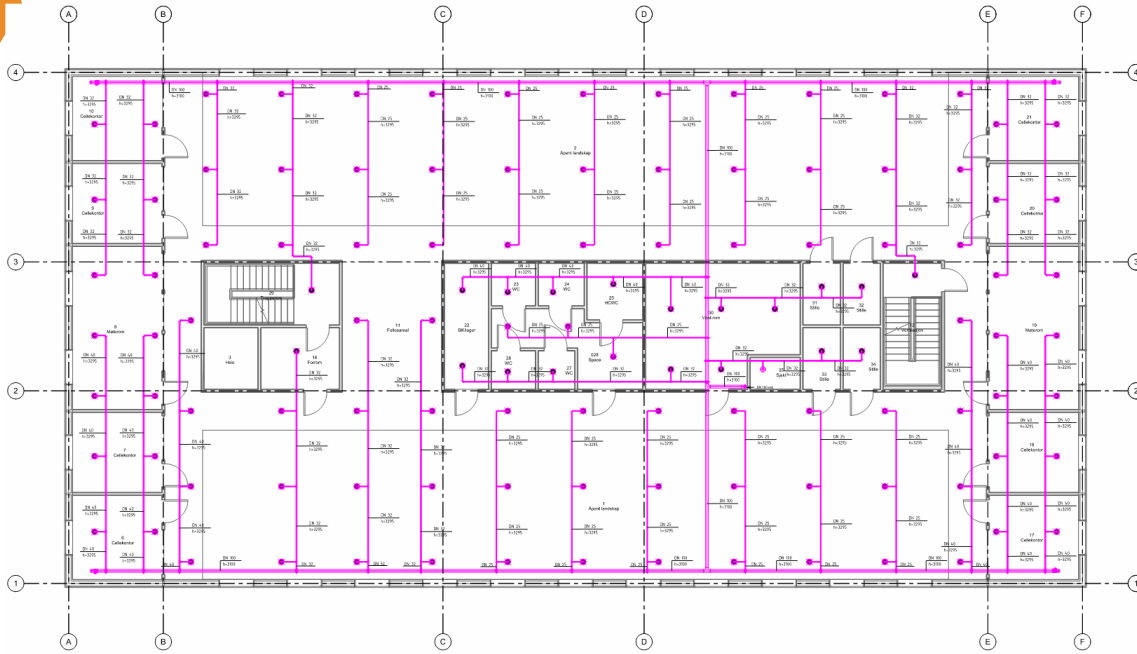


Interfaces

- This study includes only fire suppression systems
- Installation components **not** included as: base structures, signal cabling, power connections, and instrumentation for pump systems.
- Labourcost for Cable installation, system integration, and programming are excluded from the scope
- These deliverables contribute to both the carbon footprint and the total cost of installation

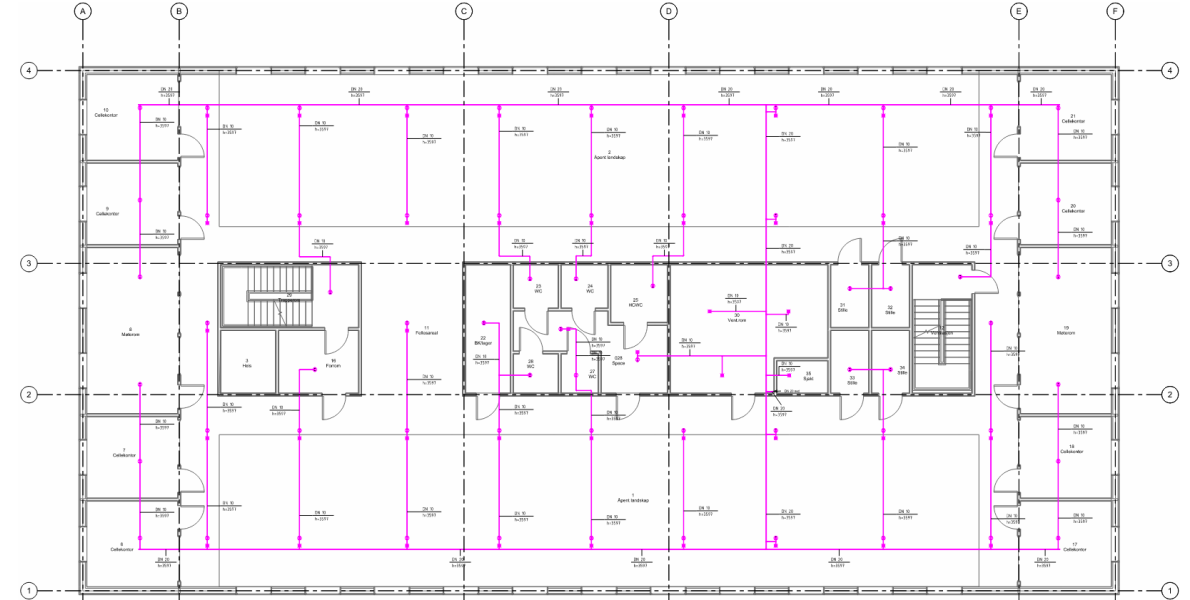
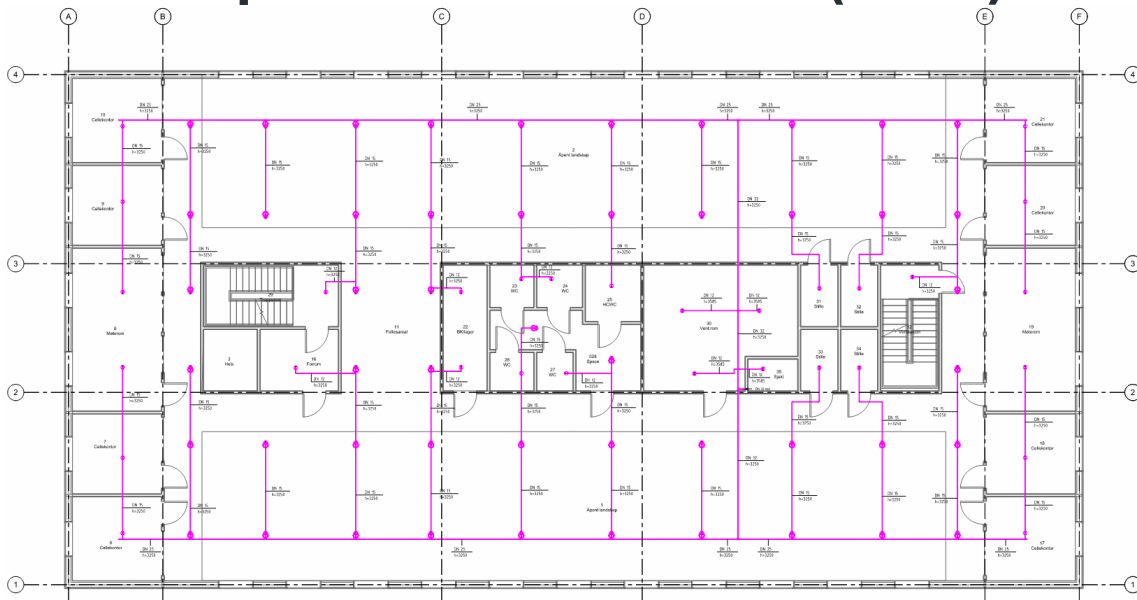
Conventional sprinkler system (CS)

Optimized sprinkler system (OS)



Low-pressure water mist (LWM)

High-pressure water mist (HPWM)

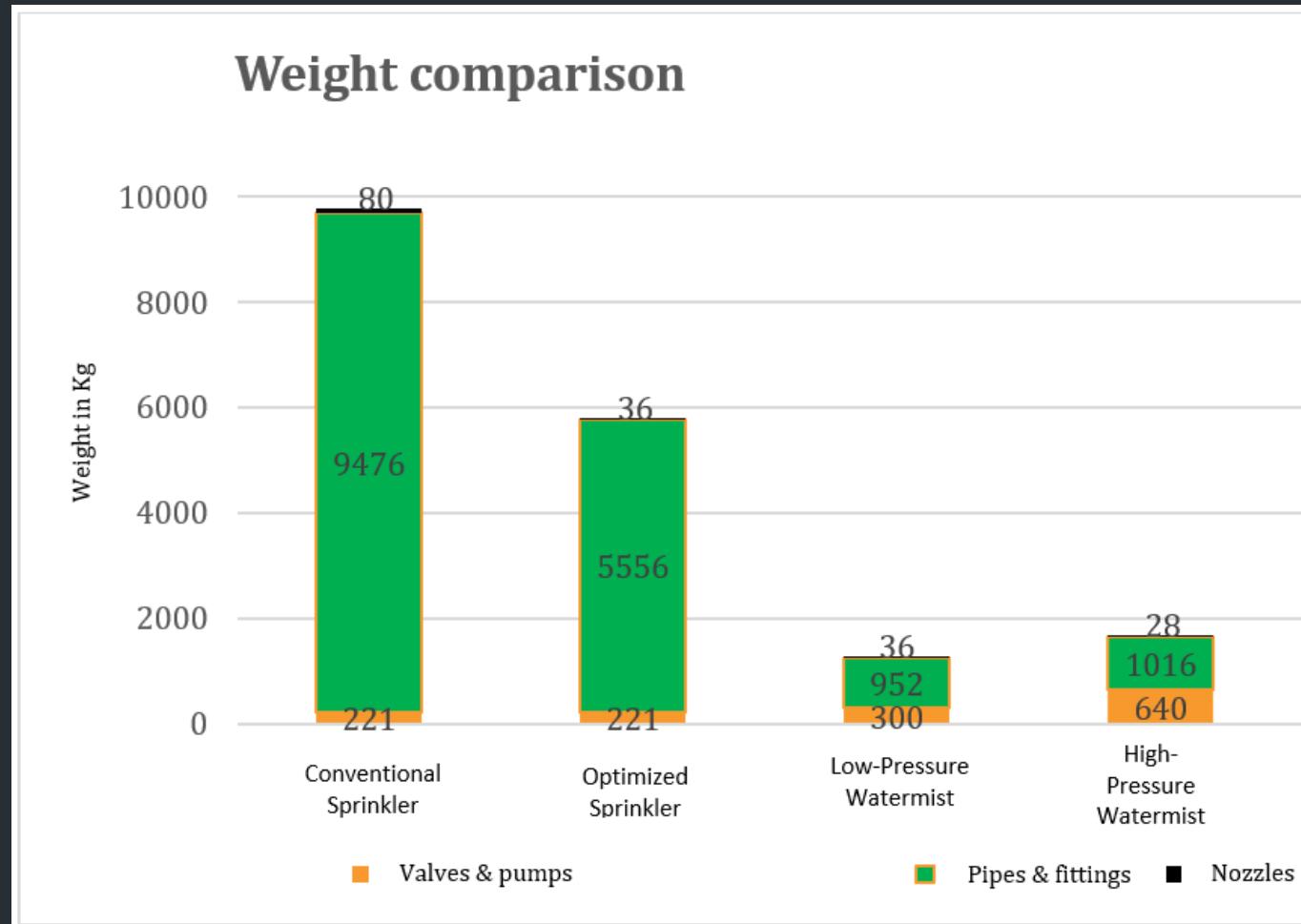




Results

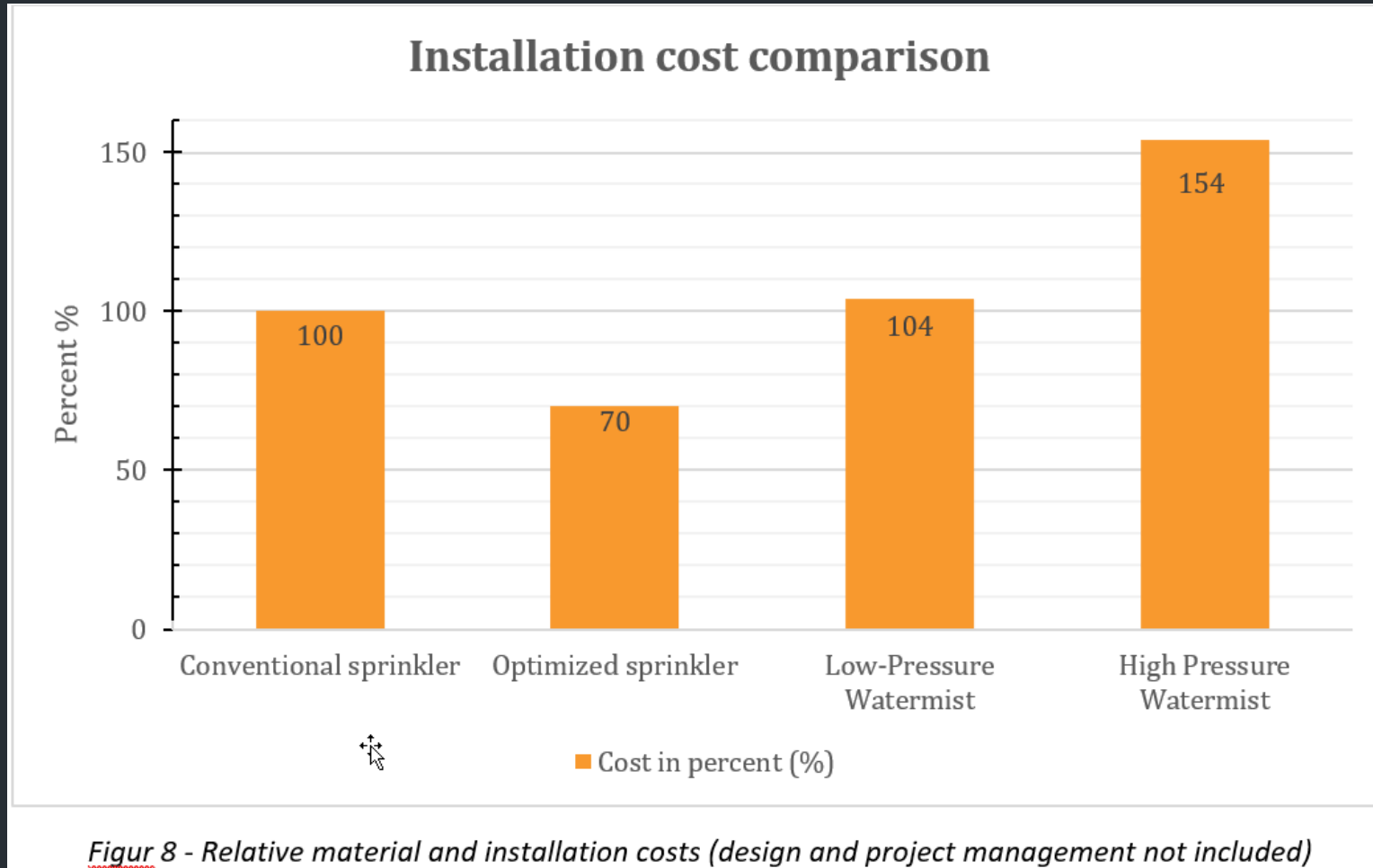


Weight





Economy



Effective project planning saves money!

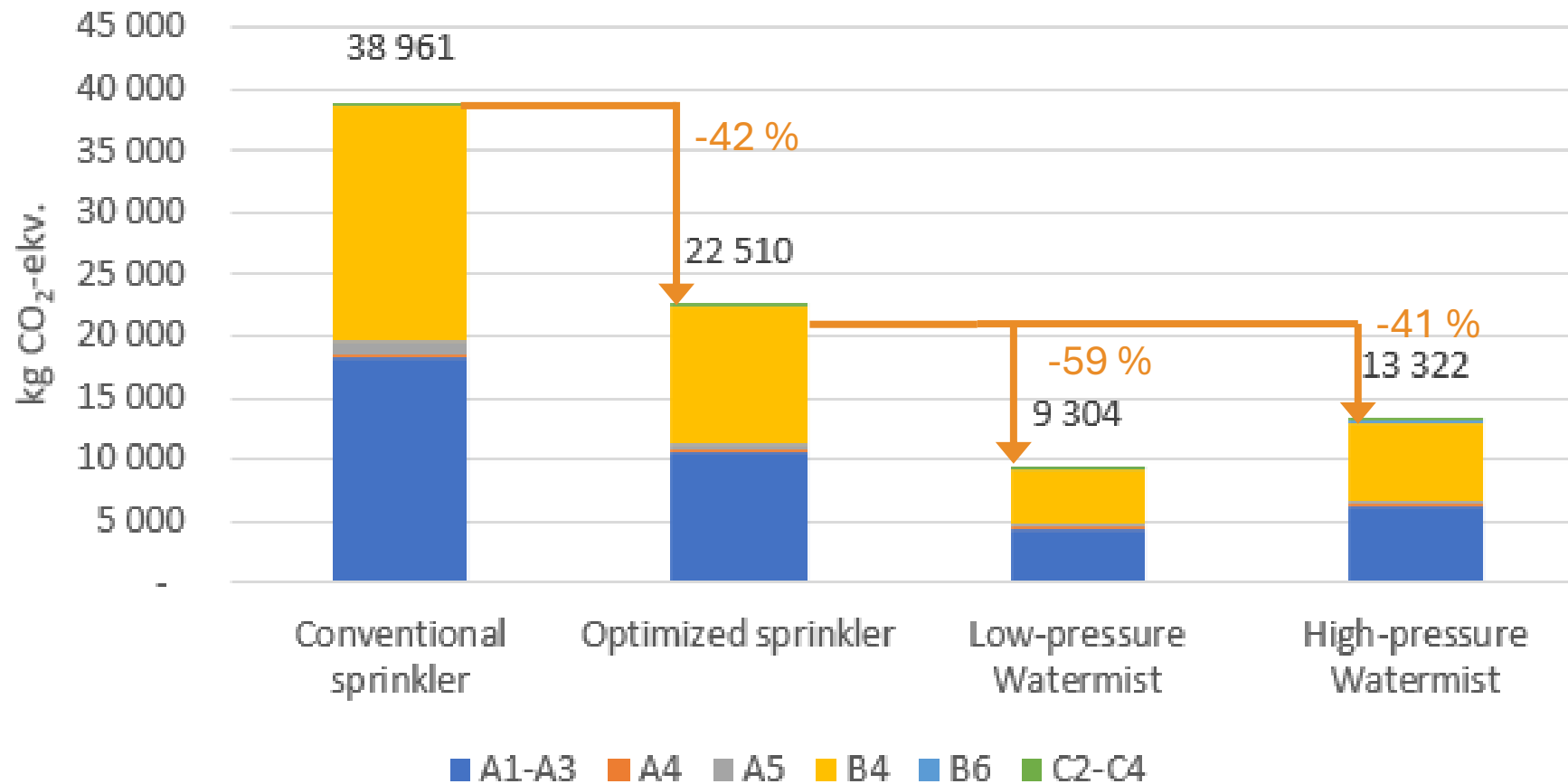


Lifecycle parameters

Produktstadiet			Gjennomføringsstadiet		Bruksstadiet								Livsløpets sluttstadium				Konsekvenser utover systemgrensen
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7*	B8	C1	C2	C3	C4	D
Råvarer	Transport	Produksjon	Transport	Anlegg-, bygge- og monteringsarbeid	Bruk	Vedlikehold	Reparasjon	Utskiftning	Ombygging	Energibruk i drift	Vannforbruk i drift	Transport i drift	Riving	Transport	Avfallsbehandling	Avhending	Material- og energigjenvinning og ombruk av materialer og eksport av egenprodusert energi

Tabel 12 – Orange celles is included

GHG emissions by suppression system and life cycle stage





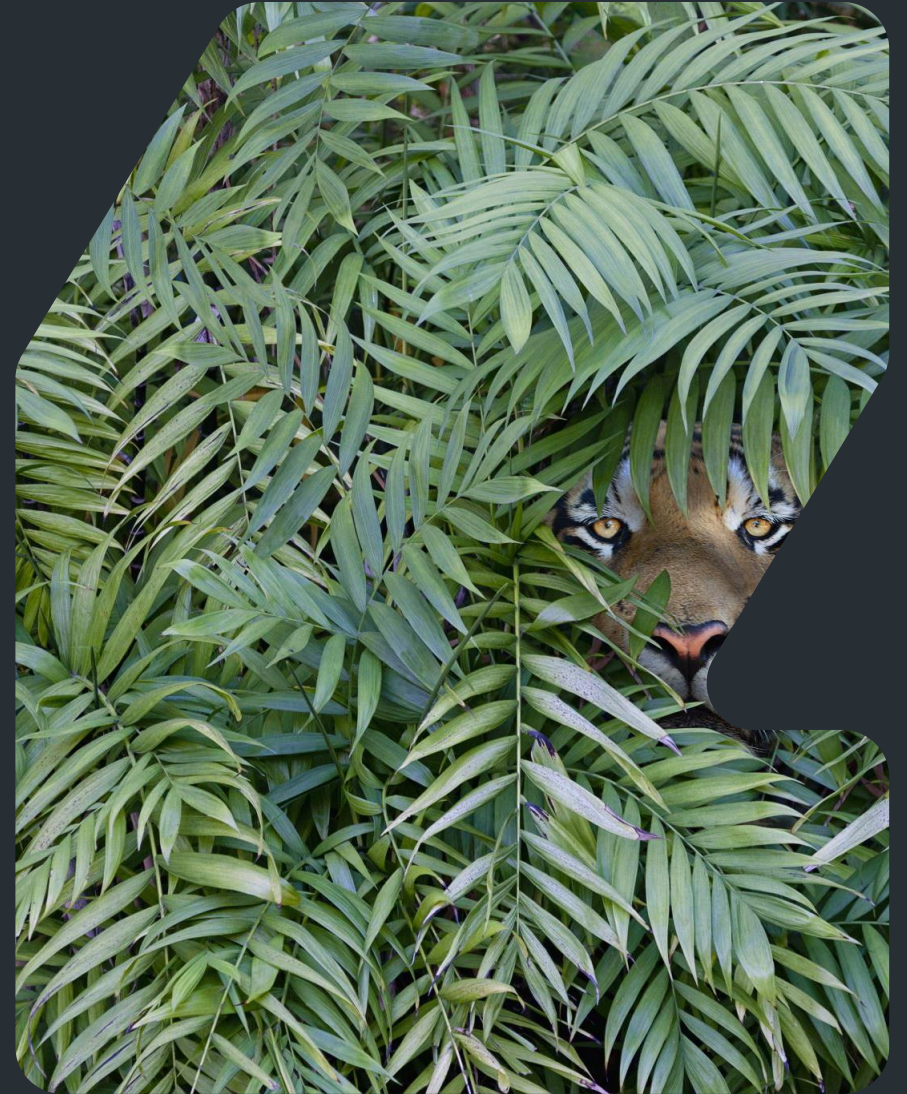
A Challenge to the Industry

- **Pipe Series**
- Exploring alternatives
- Challenge to suppliers: Regulations, testing, and approval
- **Prefabrication**
- Cutting waste and surplus
- Transport
- **Disposal and Re-use**
- Reuse potential
- Potential for material and energy recycling



Risk & Safety

- Being slightly conservative is understandable
- Climate and environmental factors also represent risks – at a broader scale
- Safety considerations always comes first
- GHG emissions should be included in a holistic assessment
- Solutions should be reviewed by specialists on a project-by-project basis!




**You're welcome to read our
complete report!**

Available on our website :

<https://www.multiconsult.no/gronn-vvs-skal-halvere-utslippene-fra-vvs-anlegg/>



A misty, foggy forest scene with tall evergreen trees and dense foliage, creating a serene and atmospheric background.

Thank you for your
attention

Multiconsult