

Contents

Preface	15
Introduction – Society and its Products.....	17
1 Environment and Design.....	29
1.1 Ecodesign: A Key Step Towards Sustainable Development	29
1.2 A New Policy for Companies	30
1.2.1 More than Environmentally Friendly	30
1.2.2 Integrated Product Policy (IPP) and Producer Responsibility	30
1.2.3 Consequences for the Price of the Product	31
1.2.4 Economic Instruments to Protect the Environment.....	31
1.3 Consumers and Markets	31
1.3.1 The Consumer Role in the Product Life.....	31
1.3.2 Product Design and Customer Requirements	32
1.3.3 Product Design and Marketing	33
1.4 The Design Process	33
1.4.1 Design for Quality	33
1.4.2 Innovation of Design.....	34
1.4.3 Product Development	34
1.5 Controlling Environmental Impact in Production	35
1.5.1 Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)	35
1.5.2 The Technologies of Eco-efficiency and Cleaner Production.....	35
1.6 Future Prospects for Ecodesign	36
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	38
2 Resource Flow and Product Design	39
2.1 The Environmental Dilemma of Resource Flows	39
2.1.1 Resource Use and Product Design	39
2.1.2 Categories of Resources	39
2.1.3 The Large Size of the Resource Flow	40
2.1.4 The Environmental Consequences of Large Resource Flows	41
2.1.5 Sustainability Principles for Improving Resource Management	43
2.2 Resource Availability	43
2.2.1 Minerals.....	43
2.2.2 Fossil Fuels.....	44
2.3 Resource Depletion.....	45
2.3.1 Problems Connected with Resource Depletion	45
2.3.2 Damage to Resources Caused by Depletion – Minerals and Fossil Fuels	46

2.4 Perspectives on the Resource Flows Dilemma	46
2.4.1 Resource Substitution	46
2.4.2 Three Perspectives – Individualists, Egalitarians and Hierarchists	47
2.4.3 A Policy to Reduce Fossil Fuel Use	49
2.4.4 Perfect Recycling – An Alternative to Resource Depletion	49
2.4.5 Social Impact, Quality of Life	52
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	52
3 Strategies for Ecodesign	53
3.1 Designing Ecodesign	53
3.1.1 Product Design Reviews – Tools and Strategies	53
3.1.2 Ecodesign Tools	56
3.1.3 The Ecodesign Strategy Wheel	56
3.1.4 Product Design as a Creative Process	58
3.2. New Concept Development	58
3.2.1 Dematerialisation	58
3.2.2 Shared Use of Products	59
3.2.3 Service Instead of Products	59
3.3 Choosing Low Impact Materials (Step 1)	59
3.3.1 Toxicity	59
3.3.2 Risk Management	60
3.3.3 Renewable Materials	62
3.3.4 Low Energy Content Materials	63
3.3.5 Recycled or Recyclable Materials	63
3.4 Reducing Material Flows (Step 2)	63
3.4.1 Dematerialisation	63
3.4.2 Avoid Highly Resource-intensive Materials	64
3.5 Design for Production (Step 3)	64
3.5.1 Decreasing Resource and Energy Flows	64
3.5.2 Cleaner Production Techniques	64
3.6 Design for Distribution (Step 4)	65
3.6.1 Distribution Systems	65
3.6.2 Estimating the Environmental Impact of Transport	66
3.6.3 Packaging Systems	66
3.7 Design for “Green” Use (Step 5)	67
3.7.1 Reducing Energy Consumption During Use	67
3.7.2 Reducing Waste Production During Use	67
3.8 Design for Long Life (Step 6)	67
3.8.1 Prolonging Product Life-time	67
3.8.2 Initial Lifetime Design Principles	68
3.8.3 The Product – User Relationship	68
3.9 End-of-life Design (Step 7)	68
3.9.1 End-of-life Design	68
3.9.2 Reuse of Products or Parts	70
3.9.3 Recycling of Materials	70
3.9.4 Incineration	70
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	71

4 Implementing Ecodesign	73
4.1 The First Steps	73
4.1.1 Steps to Introduce of Ecodesign.....	73
4.1.2 Tools to Help the Process	73
4.1.3 Some Principal Approaches	74
4.2 Management	74
4.2.1 The Importance of Knowledge Management	74
4.2.2 Managerial Changes	74
4.2.3 Job Design.....	75
4.3 Challenges, Difficulties and Opportunities	77
4.3.1 Challenges.....	77
4.3.2 Difficulties	78
4.3.3 Opportunities.....	78
4.4 Examples of Implementation of Ecodesign.....	78
4.4.1 17 Examples of Ecodesign	78
4.4.2 Comments on the Survey of 17 Cases	84
4.4.3 Companies which have Implemented Ecodesign	84
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	86
5 Introduction to Life Cycle Assessment	87
5.1 Principles of LCA.....	87
5.1.1 How to Assess Environmental Impact	87
5.1.2 Definitions of LCA	88
5.1.3 The Goals and Applications of LCA	88
5.1.4 Developments of LCA.....	90
5.2 The Qualitative (approximate) LCA.....	90
5.2.1 The Red Flag Method	90
5.2.2 The MET Matrix	91
5.3 Quantitative LCA Methods.....	91
5.3.1 The Components of Quantitative Methods.....	91
5.3.2 Goal Definition and Scope.....	92
5.3.3 The Functional Unit	92
5.3.4 System Boundaries	93
5.4 Inventory Analysis and Allocation	93
5.4.1 Inventory Table.....	93
5.4.2 Allocation	94
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	96
6 Life Cycle Impact Assessment.....	97
6.1 Impact Assessment Systems.....	97
6.1.1 The Components of Impact Assessment	97
6.1.2 Classification of Impacts.....	97
6.1.3 Characterisation – Equivalence Factors	98
6.1.4 Environmental Profiles	99
6.2 Normalisation	99
6.2.1 Normalised Effects.....	99
6.2.2 Calculating an Environmental Profile.....	100

6.3 Weighting	100
6.3.1 Comparing Impact Categories	100
6.3.2 Environmental Index	101
6.3.3 Weighting Principles	101
6.3.4 Weighting Triangle	104
6.4 Improvement Assessment	105
6.4.1 Uncertainties in the Impact Assessments	105
6.4.2 Which Process is Important	106
Abbreviations, Study Questions, Internet Resources	106
7 Ready-made Methods for Life Cycle Impact Assessment	107
7.1 Semi-quantitative LCIA Methods	107
7.2 The Eco-indicator and Eco-points	107
7.2.1 The Eco-indicator Methodology	107
7.2.2 Eco-indicator for Human Health	108
7.2.3 Eco-indicator for Ecosystem Quality	109
7.2.4 Eco-indicator for Resources	110
7.2.5 Calculating the Eco-indicator Value	110
7.3 Proxy Methods	111
7.3.1 Using Single Dimensions to Assess Environmental Impact	111
7.3.2 The MIPS Methodology	112
7.3.3 Calculation of MIPS	113
7.3.4 Strength and Weaknesses of MIPS	113
7.3.5 The Ecological Footprint Method	113
7.4 Ready-made Methods for Design of Industrial Products	114
7.4.1 EPS, Environmental Priority Strategies	114
7.4.2 Calculating the EPS Index for Emission of one kg of Mercury	114
7.4.3 EDIP Environmental Development of Industrial Products	115
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	116
8 LCA Information Management	117
8.1 Setting up an Information Management System	117
8.1.1 The System Components	117
8.1.2 Product Data Management, PDM	118
8.2 Data Analysis and Acquisition	118
8.2.1 Data Analysis of Quality and Completeness	118
8.2.2 Life Cycle Inventory (LCI)-data Analysis	119
8.2.3 Modelling the System	119
8.2.4 Acquisition of data	120
8.2.5 Data Quality	120
8.2.6 Reliability, Accessibility, and Relevance	121
8.2.7 Data Sources	121
8.3 Data Structuring and Documenting	122
8.3.1 LCA Data Models	122
8.3.2 The Production Unit	122
8.3.3 Data Documenting	125
8.3.4 Assuring Data Quality	125

8.4 Data Transfer	125
8.4.1 Documentation of Data	125
8.4.2 Working with Secondary Sources	125
8.4.3 Actions to Avoid Miscommunication	128
8.4.4 Aggregated LCI Analysis	128
8.4.5 Lacking Information	128
8.4.6 Unambiguous Data Transfer	128
8.5 Using Information Technology	129
8.5.1 Product Data Management, PDM	129
8.5.2 Web Based Product Data Management (PDM 2000)	132
8.5.3 Web Based PDM Systems	132
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	132
9 Applying LCA– Comparing two Windows	133
9.1 Prerequisites	133
9.1.1 The Objective of the Study	133
9.1.2 The Windows	134
9.2 The Aluminium “ALU” Window LCA	134
9.2.1 Life Cycle Inventory	134
9.2.2 Process Trees	136
9.2.3 Analysing Process Trees	137
9.2.4 Characterisation – Impact and Damage Categories	138
9.2.5 Normalisation	140
9.2.6 Weighting	142
9.2.7 Single Score	142
9.3 PVC Window LCA	143
9.3.1 Life Cycle Inventory	143
9.3.2 Process Trees	145
9.3.3 Characterisation	145
9.3.4 Normalisation	148
9.3.5 Weighting	149
9.3.6 Single Score	149
9.4 Comparing Life Cycle Assessments of PVC and Aluminium Windows	151
9.4.1 Objective	151
9.4.2 Characterization	151
9.4.3 Normalisation	151
9.4.4 Weighting	151
9.4.5 Process Contribution Analysis	152
9.4.6 Single Score	153
9.4.7 Sensitivity Analysis	153
9.4.8 The Influence of the Technology	153
9.4.9 Different Lifetime	153
9.4.10 Different Disposal Scenarios	154
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	155
10 Waste Management and Product Design	157
10.1 Waste Management Strategies	157
10.1.1 Reasons to Reduce Waste	157
10.1.2 The Amount and Kinds of Waste	157

10.1.3 Practices in Waste Management.....	158
10.1.4 Business and Waste	158
10.2 Integrated Waste Management	159
10.2.1 The EU Waste Management Hierarchy	159
10.2.2 Strategies for Optimising Product End-of-life	159
10.2.3 Solid Waste Incineration	161
10.3 Preparing the Product for End-of-life	161
10.3.1 Product End-of-life Analysis	161
10.3.2 Optimising the Product According to End-of-life System	162
10.3.3 End-of-life Costs	163
10.4 Life Cycle Assessment and Waste Management	163
10.4.1 Waste Management and the Beginning of LCA.....	163
10.4.2 Difficulties in LCA of Waste Management	163
10.4.3 Waste Management Models.....	167
10.5 Some Examples of European Waste Management.....	167
10.5.1 Waste incineration	167
10.5.2 Recycling Examples.....	167
10.5.3 Producer Responsibility and Waste Collection.....	168
10.5.4 Dematerialisation and Waste Reduction	168
Abbreviations, Study Questions, Internet Resources	168
11 Introducing Life Cycle Assessment in Companies.....	169
11.1 Conditions for LCA Analysis	169
11.1.1 Introducing Life Cycle Thinking	169
11.1.2 LCA should Support Sustainable Development	169
11.1.3 Supporting Decision-making	170
11.1.4 Four Requirements.....	171
11.2 The Decision-making Process	171
11.2.1 Tools and Methods Used for Decision Making	171
11.2.2 Distinguishing Between Tools and Methods.....	171
11.2.3 Product Development Process	172
11.2.4 Involvement of Stakeholders	172
11.2.5 LCA for Raising Awareness or for Decision-making.....	173
11.3 Introducing LCA Projects in Industry.....	174
11.3.1 Starting an LCA Project	174
11.3.2 Institutionalising LCA.....	176
11.3.3 LCA Today and in the Future	176
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	177
12 LCA Analysis of Systems.....	179
12.1 How to Use LCA for Systems.....	179
12.1.1 LCA for Products or Systems.....	179
12.1.2 LCA Analysis Method on Systems	179
12.1.3 Life Cycle Management, LCM.....	180
12.2 Logistic Process (Life) Cycles Analysis.....	181
12.2.1 A Four-step Procedure for Analysis of Systems	181
12.2.2 Planning the System.....	181

12.2.3 Setting Up the System	183
12.2.4 Running the System	184
12.2.5 Scrapping the System	186
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	188
13 Green Marketing and Eco-labelling	189
13.1 Communicating Environmental Performance.....	189
13.1.1 Communicating Environmental Performance	189
13.1.2 Information Using Labels.....	190
13.1.3 The Green Market.....	190
13.2 Eco-labelling	190
13.2.1 Three Types of Eco-labels.....	190
13.2.2 Why Eco-labels.....	191
13.2.3 Eco-labelling Programmes	192
13.2.4 Environmental Product Declaration, EPD.....	193
13.3 Green Marketing	193
13.3.1 How Green Marketing Influences a Company's Image.....	193
13.3.2 What are the Risks Involved in Green Marketing?	196
13.3.3 Translating Environmental Merits into User Benefits	196
13.3.4 Green Products	197
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	198
14 Management Tools for Product Life Cycles.....	199
14.1 The Management Systems Landscape.....	199
14.1.1 Management Systems	199
14.1.2. Environmental Management Systems (EMS)	199
14.1.3 Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)	200
14.1.4 Policies and Goals.....	200
14.1.5 Methods and Techniques Mapping (M&T)	200
14.1.6 A General EMS Model.....	202
14.2 Life Cycle Management (LCM).....	202
14.2.1 Life Cycle Analysis of Systems	202
14.2.2 Life Cycle Inventory (LCI)	202
14.2.3 Information and Data Management.....	203
14.2.4 LCA Process Management	203
14.2.5 Team Management.....	204
14.3 Survey of Management Tools.....	205
14.3.1 An Overview of LCA Related Management Tools	205
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	210
15 Product-related Environmental Policies	211
15.1 The Background.....	211
15.1.1 Environmental Problems	211
15.1.2 The Products	211
15.1.3 The Policy Instruments.....	212
15.2 EU Policies	213
15.2.1 The Integrated Product Policy, IPP	213
15.2.2 EU Directives Supporting the IPP	213

15.2.3 European Platform on Life Cycle Assessment	214
15.2.4 Implementing the Legislation	214
15.3 Local Authorities	214
15.3.1 The Role of Local Authorities	214
15.3.2 Green Procurement Policies	215
15.4 Companies	216
15.4.1 The Role of Companies	216
15.4.2 Sustainability Policies	216
15.4.3 Producer Responsibility	217
15.4.4 Reporting Business Performance	217
15.5 The Market	218
15.5.1 Green Procurement and Supply Chain Management	218
15.5.2 Selling an Environmentally Better Product	219
Study Questions, Abbreviations, Internet Resources	220
Glossary of Key Terms and Definitions	221
References	225
A LCA Applications	233
LCA 1 – Calculating MIPS for a Woman’s Polo-neck Sweater	235
LCA 2 – A Comparative LCA Analysis of a Passenger Car and a Municipal Bus using Different Simplified LCA Methods	243
LCA 3 – A Comparative Study on Single-use and Returnable Milk Packaging using an Economic Input/Output LCA Model	253
LCA 4 – An LCA Feasibility Study of a System – the GreenPower-45 Wind Turbine	263
B Case Studies	269
Case Study 1 – Dutch Flower Fair Association, The Netherlands	271
Case Study 2 – The Ahrend Company, The Netherlands	277
Case Study 3 – ZEBAU GmbH, Germany and Sweden	285
Index	295