From Products to Service Systems
ECO-efficient LIFE-cycle Technologies Network

ECOLIFE II Newsletter - February 2003   N° 1

In this ISSUE:
- Introducing ECOLIFE II
- Corresponding Members
- Activities
- Next deliverables
- ECOLIFE II main outcomes
- News from partners and the outside
- Agenda

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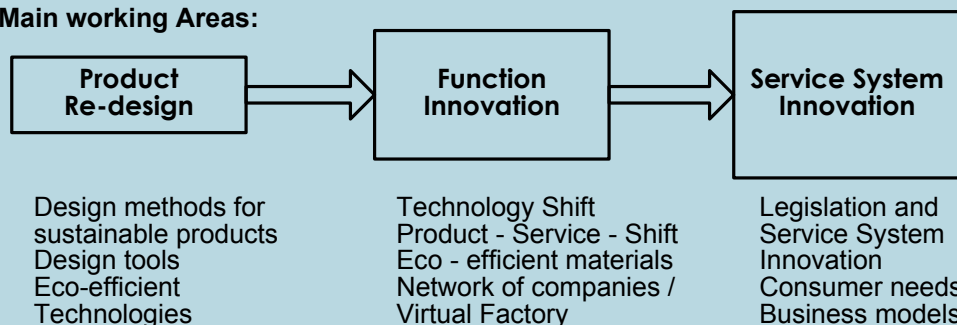**Coordinated by** SAT

INTRODUCING ECOLIFE II

Thematic Network on product-service life cycle of electr(on)ic products that focuses on the environmental and economic aspects of product design, functional innovation and service-system innovation

The European Commission (through a series of Directives - WEEE, RoHS, IPP), Member States and industry in Europe are currently addressing a series of major environmental challenges to minimise waste and resource consumption, restrict the use of hazardous substances, and offer more and better products and services to users of electr(on)ic products. ECOLIFE II will facilitate the co-ordination of EU and national RTD in this field. It will engage in the exchange of information between researchers in the EU and beyond,

provide easy access to state-of-the art RTD development, and reduce the duplication of studies.
Beside the three main areas Product Re-design, Function Innovation and Service System Innovation with its sub-tasks, challenging work will be done in the fields of information/knowledge management, product environmental communication and socio-economic aspects.

Main working Areas:

Product Re-design → Function Innovation → Service System Innovation

Product Re-design	Function Innovation	Service System Innovation
Design methods for sustainable products Design tools Eco-efficient Technologies	Technology Shift Product - Service - Shift Eco - efficient materials Network of companies / Virtual Factory	Legislation and Service System Innovation Consumer needs Business models

It is intended to enlarge the network and include interested companies and organizations to study these topics, transfer know-how and contribute their experiences.

To date we have the following corresponding members:
- Fiat Research Center (IT)
- TU-Berlin, Assembly Technologies and Factory Management (DE)
- CEL (IE)
- University of Miskolc (HU)
- Robotiker (ES)
- ABB Group Service Center (IT)
- ONYX Triade Electronics (FR)
- Enterprise Ireland (IE)
- TIN technology, UK
- CESI, IT

registration forms available on the project web page

ECOLIFE II Partners

SAT (AT)	Indumetal(ES)
APPLE (FR)	IVF (SE)
ARÖW (DE)	Motorola (DE)
BayZoltan (HU)	Philips (NL)
Becom (AT)	ProActus (UK)
CFSD (UK)	ReUse (AT)
divitec (AT)	RNC (FR)
Electrolux (SE)	Schneider (FR)
ENSAM (FR)	Shipley (UK)
FEBE (IT)	SINTEF (NO)
FhG-IML (DE)	Sony ECE (DE)
GAIKER (ES)	Szinva (HU)
GDA (UK)	TEMIC (DE)
Fujitsu (UK)	TU Cottbus (DE)
IKP (DE)	

Steering Board:

Bernd Kopacek, SAT
Per Wadstein, Electrolux
Joy Boyce, Fujitsu Services
Katrin Müller, Motorola
Ab Stevels, Philips
Kieren Mayers, Sony

ACTIVITIES

Kick off meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2002 in Vienna

All work packages were presented and a reminder on deliverables has been given. Following the Area presentations within work package 3 first exchange and discussions regarding necessary steps took place.

Expert meeting: Life cycle data for assessment of environmental performance
October 9, 2002, Brussels

EC-workshop in order to discuss the creation of reliable and publicly available databases with life cycle information on environmental aspects of EEE. Moreover, tools (e.g. software) for introduction of life cycle thinking in product design were discussed.
Mr. Bernd Kopacek attended the workshop and presented ECOLIFE II.

Press Briefing on Clean Technologies and Recycling Processes
July 16, 2002, Brussels

Clean Technologies and Recycling processes are key elements for an Industrial Sustainable Development Strategy. They are essential to increase saving of resources and energy, improve life cycle management of products and processes, and reinforce protection of the environment. In order to develop and implement them, important RTD efforts have been supported by the European Union Research COMPETITIVE and SUSTAINABLE GROWTH Programme. Furthermore, ECOLIFE I & II projects have been presented by Mr. Bernd Kopacek at this event. About 25 international journalists and Mr. Philippe Busquin besides other EC officials attended the briefing.

ACTIVITIES

Workshop for ECOLIFE partners regarding 6th Framework program
October 10, 2002, Brussels

A workshop was organized together with the Eureka CARE Electronics network, regarding the 6th Framework Programme. The objective of this event was to learn more about a successful project proposal for the Sixth Framework Program and provide some useful background information. Mr. Heico Frima, representative of the European Commission, gave a presentation about the intentions of the EU and the objectives of the new program. Moreover, participants had an opportunity to present and submitt their expressions of interest (EoI) to the Commission. Networking activities and discussions took place regarding a possible proposal of an integrated project or network of excellence within the 6fp.

ECOLIFE meeting - WP2&4
November 13, 2002, Brussels

The aim of this meeting was to discuss further steps for WP2 and WP4 due to the first project deliverables (state of the art technology report on month 18 and environmental information system on month 19) within these areas. Moreover, the compilation of all important organisations addressed by ECOLIFE II (overview has to be delivered on month 24) was tackled.

ECOLIFE General Meeting
January 30&31, 2003, Vienna

Main issues on the meeting were the state of the art technology survey, work to be done within AREA 1 (Product re-design), as well as the structure of the environmental communication guidelines. Moreover, the two questionnaires, distributed among project partners, concerning state of the art technologies and environmental communication activities of partners have been presented.

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Working papers (inputs to Standard-ization, Committees and EC)
- Green Electr(on)ics workshops on different subjects -
  to spread the outcomes to producers, suppliers, recyclers of electr(on)ic products ,
  service providers, research organizations, public authorities and NGOs.
- ECOLIFE II Webpage (including an overview of all important organisations, ...)
- Guidelines on environmental information systems
- Best practice guide on Eco - efficiency of electr(on)ic products.
- Comprehensive report on electronics-related and global environmental/social standards
- Green Paper on Sustainable Service Systems
- Report on Socio-economic Aspects

- AGENDA -

2nd general meeting June 12&13, 2003 in Trondheim, NO
3rd general meeting November, 2003 (date and venue to be decided)

Ecolife is coordinated by the Austrian Society for System Engineering and Automation.

Next Project Deliverables

due April 30, 2003
12 month progress report and cost statement for year 1 (period April 1, 2002 - March 31, 2003)

due September 30, 2003
State-of-the-Art Technology report (in written format and condensed on the web-page)
6-month progress report

due October 31, 2003
Guidelines on environmental information systems

due March 31, 2004
Overview of all important organizations (in written format and condensed on the web-page)

Guidelines on environmental information system

Many companies have set up their own environmental communication campaigns, with an important emphasis on the environmental benefits of products and services provided. However, a great variety of such tools has led to consumers expressing lack of trust and confidence. The construction of guidelines on effective environmental information systems should help to overcome these shortcomings. SAT has distributed a questionnaire in order to analyze the current situation and assess future trends. Based on these information the structure of the guide will be defined.

State-of-the-Art Technology report

The tasks to be carried out include developing methodologies and survey tools for data collection, identification and contacting relevant organizations, conducting web and literature database searches and producing analytic tables, survey results and written reports.
Regarding sustainable development the following questions should be answered by means of the database and its evaluation tool: Is the technology economic, environmental and socially feasible?
It has been decided to categories technologies according to their different life-cycle stages: Design / Manufacturing / Use / Recovery, End-of-Life / Management. For all these categories most important topics/technologies have been selected by the partners.
Partners will send their contributions (written reports) until April 4, 2003. A first draft of the state-of-the-art technology report will be ready by June 2, 2003. Further there will be an evaluation of these technologies using a portfolio matrix proposed by AROW. This technometric approach is a tool to map technologies according to their state-of-the-art by illustrating and visualizing the position on their Life-Cycle and the need for action to further develop the technology for a contribution to sustainable development in the Electronics Industry.
Moreover a technology database (based on the work of ECOLIFE 1) will be established. Forms to contribute to this database are available on the web page.

NEWS FROM PARTNERS AND THE OUTSIDE

Joy Boyce informed SAT that Fujitsu Services (UK) intends to leave the network by end of the first project year. Val Herman consultancy at Fujitsu Services will take over the agendas from Joy Boyce.