

perspective

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Dear Reader,

"Many thanks – a good and interesting read!"

"I found it informative, a good idea! ..."

"Could I get it in English, then I can forward it in my company ..."

"It is interesting, substantive, well-written and graphically pleasing."

"Please use this mail address, and then all my colleagues get it directly ..."

Thanks a lot for all your very positive feedback – this is a great motivation for us to continue with enthusiasm!

We will do our best to meet your expectations with this issue and the upcoming ones. This issue focuses on sound approaches in the context of the controversial EuP directive, on upcoming GaBi events (free update GaBi 4.2 and release of GaBi lite) and on emissions management.

Let's stay in touch!

Yours,

Michael Betz
 Managing Director of PE Europe

Ecodesign Toolbox for Energy Using Products (EuP) – a Project from Industry for Industry

From a talk with Hans de Keulenaer, European Copper Institute (ECI), Brussels, leader of the ecodesign toolbox project:

Hans, what was the initial idea of the ecodesign toolbox project?

The ECI realises that there is a large potential for improving the environmental performance of energy using products. We wanted to show in a transparent way the environmental effects in the manufacture, use and End of Life of products with increasing energy efficiency, which is an important focus of the EuP directive. We want to give the answers on the basis of reliable data, scientific models, homogeneous system boundaries and reasonable impact categories.

This sounds very complex and challenging, how did you do that?

It was clear for us that LCA is the appropriate approach. We looked for a tool that provides enough freedom in modelling the envisaged product families, but does not require us to do LCA from scratch. In GaBi we prepared flexible models of electric motors, transformers and cables. You can select the amount of the chosen materials to model the manufacturing phase and for example examine efficiency, load factor and life time for the use phase. The model then calculates the electricity loss based on technical dependencies and automatically provides respective LCA results per life cycle phase.

Are you likely to be the only user of this approach?

Certainly not! We initiated the project, but we assembled several partners from other associations and from industry, OEMs as well as SMEs. Academia participated to validate the methodology. With the GaBi i-report, which provides an automated completed eco-report per product setting, a perfect dissemination to all partners is possible: It allows material producers to show the effects of materials, equipment manufacturers to market high efficiency products with environmental declarations and also policy makers to demonstrate environmental impacts of policy measures on efficiency.

How will you proceed from here?

In phase 2 this year we will go for a generic model comprising electrical and thermal equipment, which are typically used in buildings. Also we will extend our models to include generic power generation models. In this way we can enlarge ecodesign of products to ecodesign of systems. Partners are invited to participate actively or as observers.

Contact: hdk@eurocopper.org

GaBi 4.2 – Free Update



The release of the update of GaBi 4 will take place in March and April 2006. This free update is part of the included service for all GaBi 4 customers and contains:

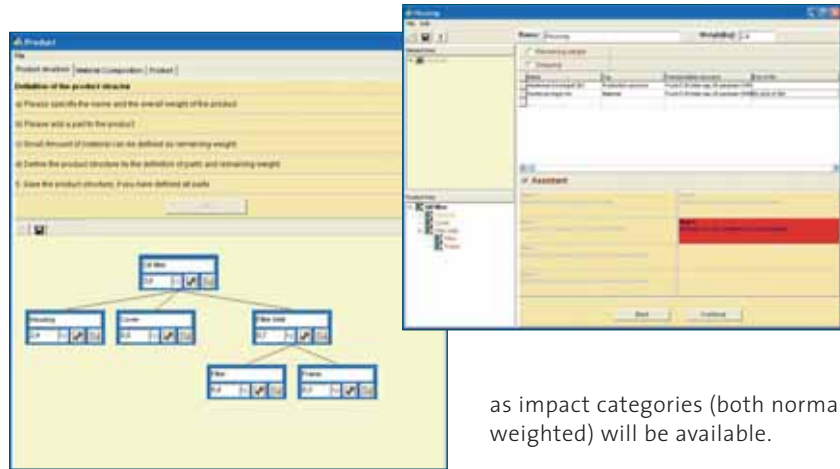
- a) Extension and update of database content
 - › extended information on CAS codes of flows
 - › additional information on net calorific value of flows
 - › implementation of the impact methodologies:
 - › EDIP 97 and update EDIP 2003
 - › Impact 2002+
 - › TRACI (general US)
- b) New software functionality
 - › modification of drag&drop functionality of data in-between databases
 - › expanded EcoSpold import and export
 - › updated program version as well as extension of the user manual

The update will be delivered to the clients via CD, if support is needed during installation please contact gabi@pe-europe.com.

With this update the roll out of new functional modules like GaBi DfX and GaBi 4 i-report & publisher will start as well.



GaBi lite – The easy way to LCA – Developing report



The new member of the GaBi software family “GaBi lite” was successfully introduced to the public during the LCM 2005 in Barcelona. In the meanwhile the programming of the software functionality has been completed by adding the chance to compare results within a user-friendly dialogue. The database delivered with GaBi lite will cover all fields of material supply, product manufacturing, energy generation, transportation and end of life.

The software allows the defining of product life cycles by setting up a manufacturing phase, a use phase and end of life of products following guided pathways. To analyze the results, LCI parameters as well

as impact categories (both normalized and weighted) will be available.

During March and April there will be the final “beta testing phase” by selected partners from industry and academia worldwide as well as within PE and IKP. The release of the GaBi lite software is scheduled for May 2006, prices will range from 300 € to 1200 € per version.

For more information please contact gabi@pe-europe.com



Client statement

Volkswagen AG is using the GaBi software since 1996. Over the years GaBi has become a core tool for product and process related environmental activities at Volkswagen. Linked to the companies IT systems, GaBi provides the VW experts with detailed data for strategic decisions.

Two reasons make GaBi 4 extremely useful for Volkswagen in its successful envi-

ronmental product development and risk management: The complete functionality of the software itself and the high flexibility of PE Europe's experts to continuously develop customer specific solutions.

*Stephan Krinke
Volkswagen AG*

+++ **US LCI database:** PE is investigating the efforts to make the datasets from the US LCI DB consistent with nomenclature used in GaBi 4. As a result, discussions with NREL have commenced. +++ **Ecoinvent 1.2:** From March on, PE will provide GaBi 4 clients who already have the ecoinvent database with

the updated version 1.2. The database will be available in two versions which are “ecoinvent plain” and “ecoinvent integrated”. The latter is compatible with the nomenclature of the GaBi 4 databases. +++ **LCI web-questionnaire released:** This brand new feature allows data collection for LCI/LCA work by

interacting with an almost unlimited number of data collectors distributed worldwide. User administration and work-flow support features make it ideal for LCI projects in large companies or international industry associations. More info follows in the next edition. +++

Logistics and Transport

The WEF's L&T Corporate Citizenship Initiative has decided to use SoFi as a sustainability benchmarking platform. The group members representing the global leaders of the logistics and transport sector can now easily compare their own key performance indicators with the best and average values of their competitors. Benchmarking their own company's performance is the first step towards picking up speed in sustainable development.



Successful Start!

"Sustainability Management System (SMS)" – the Set-Up of an Operational Sustainability Management System with an Integrated Software Solution

In January, the SMS project got off to a successful start with two opening workshops. To stay 'hands-on' and to test and adapt the findings in practice, four Austrian companies were enlisted to work on this project: Brau Union Österreich, Rembrandtin Lacke, Rogner Bad Blumau and Stift Schlägl.

The aim of the SMS project is to publish a user handbook, "Sustainable Management with a System", thereby making it accessible to the wider public, so that in future even more companies will become aware that "Sustainable

Management" pays off in the long-term in every respect.

The project is being carried out within the framework of the "Fabrik der Zukunft" programme line – a cooperation between the Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology and the Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft FFG.

Full press release on:
www.sofi-software.com



Meeting the Carbon Challenge

A project team of Greenstream Network, Ruukki and PE Europe has created "SoFi for Emissions Management" – a comprehensive solution for the EU Emissions Trading Scheme. After a short development period of less than 9 months – only made possible by the joint effort and efficient work from all parties involved – "SoFi for Emissions Management" has become an essential support tool for emissions managers.



Key questions for all companies concerned by the Kyoto protocol and the EU Emissions Trading Scheme are:

- › How to build up a consistent, well-documented and audit-proof database for your company's emissions monitoring?
- › How to get a perfect overview of the emissions, allowances and the bottom-line of all your installations at any time?
- › How to detect risks and potential allowance shortages or surplus allowances as fast and as comprehensively as possible?

These are questions of losing money or earning it. To get answers to these questions, feel free to contact us:

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p.koeberle@pe-europe.com



GRI G3 Sneak Peek, Munich



The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) lifted the curtain on its revised sustainability reporting guidelines – G3 – in a series of 'Sneak Peek' events. In the role of an organisational stakeholder, PE Europe attended the only presentation in German-speaking countries. PE Europe welcomes GRI's attempt to simplify this reporting standard.

As stakeholders' assessments of a company's sustainability performance often result from comparison with the company's competitors, future revisions should lead to simplified core guidelines and to-the-point sector supplements.

For details see: <http://www.grig3.org>

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+++ **Copenhagen, 28th Feb:** PE Europe presented "SoFi for Emissions Management" at the international conference "Carbon Market Insights 2006". Our software solution attracted much attention among the more than 1000 delegates. For conference proceedings see <http://www.pointcarbon.com>. +++

+++ **The German Emissions Trading Authority (DEHSt) has finally released its software for filing monitoring reports.** Now that the format of the reports is determined, we will offer our SoFi Emissions Management customers a customised export function to communicate with the DEHSt software.

This new interface will help to reduce the workload of emissions managers significantly. (see <https://www.emissionsbericht.dehst.de>). +++

Huckster-Consult

Huckster-Consult (HC) is specialised in consulting other companies in sustainability and global reporting matters. Since February 2005, HC is general representative for SoFi in Austria – the best software for sustainability reporting, environmental reports and emission management.

At the moment HC cooperates with the Austrian Institute of Sustainability consulting four companies by using SoFi software.

More information:

http://www.huckster-consult.com/partnerschaften/pe_europe.html

Huckster-Consult
... inspires your business

Capacity building on LCA and Sustainability in Thailand



An international workshop on 'Capacity building on LCA in APEC economies' took place on 15 - 16 December in Bangkok with more than 170 participants from Thailand and neighbor countries. Organizers were national bodies from Thailand and Japan.

As follow-up events, a seminar on LCA and GaBi software (16th January) and a workshop on sustainability management and reporting (17th January) were held. These

were organized by the National Metal and Materials Technology Center (MTEC), Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI) and PE Consulting Group (first workshop) and TEI in collaboration with PE (second workshop).

PE continues to support practitioners from research, education and industry in capacity building by partnership programs and support of user groups.

GaBi 4 Analyst to increase reliability of LCA results

ASIL S.p.A. manages a waste water treatment plant and faces problems related to sewage sludge disposal. The company decided to carry out a life cycle assessment to identify the environmentally most preferable disposal scenarios.

A special difficulty was related to the different magnitudes of uncertainties regarding numerous input and output flows, such as the concentration of leachate at landfill disposal, the pollutant release into agricultural soil in case of composting and emissions of heavy metals if the sludge was thermo-valorized in a cement kiln. Advanced functionality of GaBi 4 has been applied

by FEBE ECOLOGIC, the LCA consultant of ASIL, to manage this problem. With the support of GaBi 4, a Monte Carlo analysis was carried out to quantify the probability of the deviation of final results because of the additive uncertainties of single data. This statistical analysis verified the stability of final results thereby supporting ASIL in its decisions in a more reliable way.

Contact: balazs.sara@febe-ecologic.it



**Hangzhou
Green &
Clean Environmental
Technology Co., Ltd.**

The company was established 2004 in Hangzhou, capital of the Zhejiang Province in China and is the profiled sales agent for GaBi software of PE Consulting Group in China. The managing director Mrs. Xiaohong Gu is an authorized Cleaner Production Auditor. The company offers consulting services such as LCA consulting in cooperation with PE and cleaner production services to reduce the costs and environmental impacts of enterprises. The customers come from the chemical, papermaking, pharmaceutical, and mechanical industries, among others.

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New: GaBi 4 user web meetings

In cooperation with its sales partners, PE will start to offer web presentations. GaBi 4 users have the chance to get informed about new developments, participate in small teaching sequences on special functionality and exchange experiences.

These meetings will take place every 3 - 4 months and will be offered in Europe, North America, South America, and Asia.

The meeting dates are given in the calendar. To sign up for these events please check with www.gabi-software.com or send an email to gabi@pe-europe.com



Eco-Efficiency Conference from June 28 to June 30 2006



From June 28 to June 30 2006, PE Europe will co-organise the 2nd International Conference on Quantified Eco-Efficiency Analysis for Sustainability in Egmond aan Zee, The Netherlands. In workshop 5, Dr. Robert Gabriel from PE will give hands-on experi-

ence and present solutions for efficient implementation of eco-efficiency concepts in every-day business. After the great success of the first conference in 2004 with several hundred participants, the organising committee expects even more interest in 2006.

For information and registration, visit the conference web page:
<http://www.eco-efficiency-conf.org>.



PE Europe and IKP, University of Stuttgart are sponsoring the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative for LCA projects in developing countries.

The UNEP SETAC Life Cycle Initiative has finished evaluating the proposals submitted. The candidates will be informed shortly if their proposal has been selected. More information will be provided on the web as well.

<http://www.uneptie.org/pc/sustain/lcinitiative/home.htm>

» Fairs » Events » Dates 2006

In the table below you will find up to date information, when and where we and the employees of our cooperation partner IKP (University of Stuttgart) are present on exhibitions, conferences, etc. Make use of the possibility to meet us there and arrange an appointment. Our contributions to the events are indicated by an "X". Abbreviations: P = Presentation › W = Workshop › B = Booth

Event	Location	Date	Contact person(s)	P	W	B
Environmental Law and the Sustainable Use of Plastics & Rubber Rapra Technology Ltd	Shawbury, Shropshire (UK)	04 Apr 2006	Michael Betz (PE)	X		
Emissions Management Workshop	Stuttgart (DE)	26 Apr 2006	Peter Köberle (PE)		X	
GaBi 4 user web meeting	Internet Region Europe	27 Apr 2006 12:00 UTC	Harald Florin (PE)	X		
SETAC Europe 16th Annual Meeting	The Hague (NL)	07 – 11 May 2006	Johannes Kreissig, Harald Florin (PE), Julia Pflieger, Anna Braune (IKP)	X		
CUTE (final conference and presentation of results)	Hamburg (DE)	10 – 11 May 2006	Michael Faltenbacher, Marc Binder (PE) and Oliver Schuller (IKP)	X		
GaBi 4 user web meeting	Internet Region Asia	11 May 2006 06:00 UTC	Masahiro Osumi, Harald Florin (PE)	X		
SMT / Hybrid / Packaging conference	Nuremberg (DE)	30 May – 01 Jun 2006	Constantin Herrmann (PE)	X		
GaBi 4 user web meeting	Internet Region America	08 Jun 2006 15:00 UTC	Tom Gloria (FiveWinds) and Harald Florin (PE)	X		
International Workshop "Material Design and System Analysis – Integration of Economic and Environmental Aspects into the Development Phase"	Karlsruhe (DE)	16 – 18 Jun 2006	Jürgen Stichling (PE)	X		
Emissions Management Workshop	Stuttgart (DE)	21 Jun 2006	Peter Köberle (PE)		X	
2nd International Conference on "Quantified Eco-Efficiency Analysis for Sustainability"	Egmond aan Zee (NL)	28 – 30 Jun 2006	Robert Gabriel (PE), Anna Braune, Stefan Albrecht, Cecilia Makishi (IKP)	X	X	X
Hydrogen fuel cells and alternative transport energies conference	Perth (AU)	11 – 13 Sep 2006	Michael Faltenbacher (PE)	X		X
Seminar "Integrierte Produktbilanzierung"	Bayreuth (DE)	12 – 14 Sep 2006	Matthias Fischer (IKP) and Michael Betz (PE)	X	X	
FED conference	Kassel (DE)	21 Sep 2006	Constantin Herrmann (PE)	X		X
InLCA / LCM 2006	Washington DC (US)	04 – 06 Oct 2006	Marc Binder, Harald Florin (PE) and Matthias Fischer (IKP)	X	X	X
Renewable Energy 2006	Makuhari Chiba (JP)	09 – 13 Oct 2006	Maiya Shibasaki (IKP)	X		
22nd International battery, Hybrid and Fuel Cell Electric vehicle Symposium and Exposition (EVS)	Yokohama (JP)	23 – 28 Oct 2006	Johannes Gediga, Masahiro Osumi (PE)			
SETAC North America Annual Meeting	Montreal (CA)	05 – 09 Nov 2006	Marc Binder, Harald Florin (PE)	X		
CARE Innovation	Vienna (AT)	13 – 16 Nov 2006	Constantin Herrmann (PE)	X	X	X
7th International Conference on EcoBalance	Tsukuba (JP)	14 – 16 Nov 2006	Maiya Shibasaki (IKP) and Masahiro Osumi (PE)	X		

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