Putting the metrics behind sustainability at IISRP.

International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Products (IISRP)

Industry Average LCA

The Challenge
IISRP is an international trade association with 60 members and affiliates across 22 countries, and represents over 80% of global synthetic rubber production. Across the globe, environmental information has been requested of member organizations by their customers on a more frequent basis. PRé worked with IISRP to gain environmental insights in their member’s supply chain, establish industry average baselines, and empower members to respond to customer inquiries regarding product environmental impacts.

The solution
PRé conducted LCAs for four types of synthetic rubber for IISRP including polybutadiene (BR) rubber, styrene-butadiene rubber (S-SBR), emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber (E-SBR) and styrene-butadiene styrene (SBS) rubber. PRé collected production data from 18 companies at 38 facilities across three geographic regions (North America, Europe, and Asia). Four life cycle assessment reports were created on the production weighted average product, which identify key drivers of environmental impacts for each of the four products. Four metrics were analyzed including total energy demand, climate change, eutrophication and acidification.

In addition to the industry average life cycle assessment reports, PRé created two datasheets for each individual facility that provided data. First, a short report containing the LCA results as well as the life cycle inventory (LCI) of the specific product was created that can be provided to external parties requesting LCA and LCI data. PRé also created more specific reports that the company can use to communicate results internally, which includes anonymized details on how each individual company compares to other participants in the study.

Business Value
• Creation of a simple way for companies to respond to customer requests for LCA data through the creation of data communication sheets containing emission factors for each product
• Insight into the main drivers of environmental impacts in the synthetic rubber supply chain based on an industry average product
• Understanding of how individual companies perform compared to other participants in the study
• Development of reports for both external and internal communication
Sustainability Metrics Consulting
Sustainability in business has become a core business concern and a driving factor in creating business value. PRé offers a range of consulting services, provided by a team of experts who will work with you to choose, create and deliver the right metrics for your sustainability goals.

Developing Innovative New Metrics For New Challenges
Societal and stakeholder expectations for implementing sustainability in business are becoming more demanding. Sometimes, off-the-shelf metrics cannot help you answer their questions. PRé has extensive experience in life-cycle-based metrics pioneering implementing cutting-edge new product metrics and developing completely new, scientifically sound and robust metrics. PRé has been the driving force behind many ground-breaking initiatives like ReCiPe or the Handbook for Product Social Impact Assessment.

Integrating Sustainability Metrics In Your Business
To create business value from sustainability, your business needs to integrate sustainability metrics across its business functions. You can’t improve what you can’t measure. PRé has the expertise required to help you choose the right metrics and to integrate sustainability into your day-to-day operations. PRé also supports you in increasing the efficiency of your LCA work and in empowering your LCA practitioners.

Expert LCA Knowledge To Measure Sustainability Performance
LCA has proven to be a robust and science-based way to measure and communicate your sustainability performance. PRé can review your LCA studies, deliver EPDs, footprints and other metrics, and provide you with completely new LCA studies to measure your impact. Our consultants are renowned for their expertise in specific topics, such as impact assessment, uncertainty, normalisation, toxicity, social sustainability and databases. PRé offers training courses and in-house training that build a solid knowledge base to help you conduct LCA studies yourself.

Those Who Have Gone Before – Market-leading Businesses That Are Creating Value From Sustainability Metrics
PRé has built a worldwide reputation as a leader on environmental and social impact assessment. We work with organisations and institutes such as the European Commission, European Space Agency, Heineken, BASF, Philips, L’Oréal and DSM.

About PRé
PRé has been a leading voice in sustainability metrics and life cycle thinking, since 1990, pioneering the field of product and supply chain sustainability metrics. We’ve developed some of the world’s most widely recognised and applied environmental impact assessment methods, as well as the world’s leading LCA software, SimaPro. From the very first, we have not only focused on developing the science of LCA, but also its application – helping companies create value by using state-of-the-art measuring, monitoring and analysis methodologies to improve their sustainability performance.

Find out more about what we can do for your organisation at www.pre-sustainability.com