

Putting the metrics behind sustainability at SAC.



Three tailored tools for sustainable product development



The Challenge

The [Sustainable Apparel Coalition \(SAC\)](#) is a global alliance of leading apparel, footwear, and home textile companies that focuses on providing their members with the tools and data necessary to manage supply chain and product sustainability. SAC has developed a suite of tools known as the Higg Index, aimed at helping their member companies and consumers to understand the environmental and social impacts of making and selling apparel products and services.

SAC asked PRé to create a number of additional tools for sustainable product development, to allow members and other interested parties to focus on product and material sustainability in their ecodesign approach.

PRé Solution

Material Sustainability Index

The first of the tools is the Material Sustainability Index (MSI), a database of textile materials and processing information that is based on life cycle data. The MSI focuses on characterising the impacts of raw materials production and manufacturing using a standardised index scoring algorithm. The tool allows users to easily access life cycle information about industry-average materials, and to create and score their own custom materials. The MSI is based on the best life cycle assessment (LCA) data currently available and scores each material using a broad range of impact categories. The tool is transparent and traceable, adding a high degree of credibility.

Design and Development Module

The second tool is the Design and Development Module (DDM). This tool focuses on product developers and designers, and allows

them to score individual products and product families using the Higg Index methodologies. The tool is designed to be intuitive and easy to use, as well as robust and scalable.

The DDM also includes a number of benchmarking features that allow users to compare their product lines to other lines or seasons in their product portfolio, or against industry averages.

Data Contributor

The Data Contributor is a tool that allows individual companies or industries to submit data to the MSI. The Data Contributor contains a portal for data submission and functionality for data review. The tool is configured to support a robust review process, ensuring that data quality is maintained throughout the submission and approval processes.

Business Value

- **Collaboration and transparency.** During the development of each of these tools, PRé worked closely with SAC staff, member organisations and other external organisations for specifications and design. This multi-stakeholder approach ensures that the tools are accessible, transparent, and credible.
- **Working smoothly with quality data.** Thanks to the implementation of user-friendly interface features for data submission, it's easy to add new industry data to the database. This makes the data gathering process, very efficient. Because the data management processes are centrally managed and reviewed, the data quality is kept high and robust.
- **Science-based sustainable product development.** The tools are based on life cycle assessment data and methodologies, and are designed to assist organisations in gathering, analysing, and using supply chain data to support sustainable product development.





Creating Business Value Through Sustainability Metrics

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.

PIONEERING 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.

INTEGRATION 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.

DELIVERY 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.

Get In Touch With PRé
We're always happy to discuss your sustainability challenges with you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our offices in the Netherlands and the US.

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We look forward to being your partner in putting the metrics behind sustainability.

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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

