

Incentives of the LCI Workshop
Along the InLCA/LCM
Conference in Seattle –
September 24, 2003

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Presented at the International Workshop
on Data Quality

Karlsruhe, Germany

October 20, 2003

Workshop Objectives

- Initiate discussion on inventory collection methodology;
- Determine if there is general agreement to develop international inventory guidance [Yes];
- Carry the results forward to Karlsruhe.

Seattle LCI Workshop

- Distributed a brief background document prior to the meeting;
- Received 5 sets of comments;
- 37 people attended;
- 1:30 – 5:00 (1330 – 1700) meeting time;
- Presentations were followed by open discussion.

Agenda

- Three presentations were made on related activities:
 - UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative
(Guido Sonnemann)
 - Karlsruhe data quality workshop
(Christian Bauer)
 - ecoinvent database (example case)
(Gerald Rebitzer)
- Summary of Decision Points within LCI

Suggested Decision Points

- Co-product allocation
- Recycling allocation
- Exclusion of small amounts
- Exclusion of spills and losses
- Age-appropriateness of data
- Surrogate and estimated data
- Inventory for impact assessment
- Matching the goal to the method
- Collecting primary data
- Report format
- Iterative procedure of data collection
- Choosing boundaries
- Capital equipment/infrastructure exclusions
- Time and location meta data

Workshop Highlights

- Lively discussion on overall direction (limited time did not allow getting into details on the decision points)
- No disagreement with initial list (3 additions were made)
- Desire to lead to actual guidance (not waste our time)
- Revisit ISO as a starting point (“fix” it)

Highlights (continued)

- Survey LCA practitioners and users to understand current practice and needs
- Connect the effort with the LC Initiative (Task Force 1)
- Specify users:
Data “collectors” versus “recyclers”
- Develop an Action Plan