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A MEASUREMENT METHOD FOR POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRESS

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A software program (P2P) has been developed for measuring progress P2 resulting from product redesign, product reformulation, or product replacement. The program compares the pollution generated by the original product with that from the modified or replacement product. It can take into account the various lifecycle stages of the product if desired. The pollution prevented (or sometimes increased) as a consequence of the redesign can be delineated with respect to the media affected (air, water, and soil/groundwater). and with respect to three categories of pollution impact (human health impacts, use impairment impacts, and disposal capacity impacts). Information is also provided as to the "classes" of pollution prevented such as toxic organics, heavy metals, global warmers, nutrients, aquatic life toxicants, or hazardous wastes. Reports can also be generated that show on which EPA regulatory lists the "prevented" or the "increased" pollutants appear.

In the initial version of P2P (released in January 1995), pollution prevented is indicated simply in terms of mass. In a subsequent version now being developed, the relative "potency" of various pollutants within a class will be considered. Also, the method will be extended for application to P2 projects of all types, not just product changes.