

Standardisation of Environmental Product Declarations

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1. EC Evaluation EPD study
2. Upgrading of ISO TR 140025 and revision
3. Time schedule
4. Objectives
5. Some elements of the emerging standard
6. Conclusions

1. EC Evaluation EPD study

- Unclear what uses EPDS will be promoted for..
- Study concl – *accepted tools* not supported
- EPDS – need goals, they are not goals themselves
- Data quality imp. – cant be based on average data – cant compare – need specific data
- Risk – used as alternative to ecolabels

1. EC Evaluation EPD study

- Not useful for consumers
- Useful for supply chain and conformity to legal requirements
- Need drivers existing or pending legislation –eg WEEE/ dutch building sector
- Still has to deal w. question of how and who sets the boundary... EC?/ISO/...

2. Upgrading of the Standard

- Initiative of EU Commission and MS
- ISO/TC 207 decided on revision

3. Time schedule

- Work started in Johannesburg last year in September,
- continued this year in June
- CD December 2003 or January 2004
- DIS March/April 2004 for public enquiry
- Publishing the standard by March 2005

4. Objectives

- Environmental declaration for communication
- Verifiable, accurate not misleading data
- Accurate comparison between products
- LCA based information for estimating a total environmental impact for an end product

5. Some elements of the emerging standard

- Business to business and business to consumers
- Reference to ISO 140040 on LCA
- Master LCA for product category
- Products with equivalent function
- Single company

5. Some elements of the emerging standard

- Developing the contents of a PSX document
- Select product categories
- Develop Master LCA for product category
- PSX: Specify common goal for product category LCA

5. Some elements of the emerging standard

- Preset
- Parameters
- Rules on additional information
- Requirements for reporting
- Write instructions on how to produce the data required for the declaration

5. Some elements of the emerging standard

- Independent verification
- Critical review to verify whether an LCA study has met 140040 requirements
- Independence of independent verifier and verification
- Special product requirements
- Incomplete LCA

6. Conclusions

To achieve the impossible between the goals and possible abuses :

- Environmental declaration for communication - Consumers ?
- Verifiable, accurate and not misleading data - self-declaration, non-measurable, propaganda
- Accurate comparison between products
- Compare non-comparables

6. Conclusions

LCA based information for estimating a total environmental impact for an end product

Patchy data availability