



ecos

Recycled content and the mass balance approaches

Mathilde Crepy | Head of Environmental Transparency | 11.05.2023

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ECOS MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

National member organisations

Austria

- Umweltdachverband
- GLOBAL 2000

Belgium

- Bond Beter Leefmilieu Vlaanderen (BBLV)
- Canopea
- Repair Together
- Repair & Share

Bulgaria

- Institute for Ecological Modernisation (IEM)

Croatia

- DOOR – Society for Sustainable Development Design

Cyprus

- Terra Cypria – The Cyprus Conservation Foundation

Czech republic

- Zelený Kruh (Green Circle)

Denmark

- The Danish Society for Nature Conservation (DN)
- Green Transition Denmark (Rådet for Grøn Omstilling)

France

- Zero Waste France
- Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF-France)
- Halte à l'Obsolescence Programmée (HOP)
- CLER – French Energy Transition Network
- Ethikis

Germany

- Bund Für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND)
- Bundesverband Bürgerinitiativen Umweltschutz (BBU)
- Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)
- Nature Friends Germany (NaturFreunde Deutschlands)
- Deutsche Umwelthilfe
- Runder Tisch Reparatur

Greece

- Ecocity Greece

Hungary

- Clean Air Action Group (CAAG)

Ireland

- Community Reuse Network Ireland (CRNI)

Italy

- Kyoto Club
- Legambiente
- Giacimenti Urbani

Latvia

- Friends of the Earth Latvia (Zemes Draugi)

Lithuania

- Žiedinė ekonomika

Luxembourg

- The Luxembourg Ecological Center (Oekozenner Lëtzebuerg)

Malta

- CircE – Circular Economy Malta

Netherlands

- Stichting Natuur en Milieu (SNM)
- Leefmilieu

Norway

- Bellona Norway

Poland

- Polish Foundation for Energy Efficiency (FEWE)
- ClientEarth Poland

Portugal

- ZERO
- Circular Economy Portugal

Romania

- 2Celsius

Slovakia

- REPAIRABLY

Spain

- ECODES

Sweden

- The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC/SNF)

Switzerland

- WWF Switzerland

United kingdom

- Energy Saving Trust (EST)
- UK Sustainability Network for Standardisation

USA

- Green Science Policy Institute

International member organisations

Bellona

- Bellona Europe

EEB

- European Environmental Bureau

FoEE

- Friends of the Earth Europe

HCWH

- Health Care Without Harm Europe

HEAL

- Health & Environmental Alliance

RREUSE

- European umbrella for social enterprises with activities in reuse, repair and recycling

T&E

- European Federation for Transport & Environment

WWF-EPO

- WWF – European Policy Office

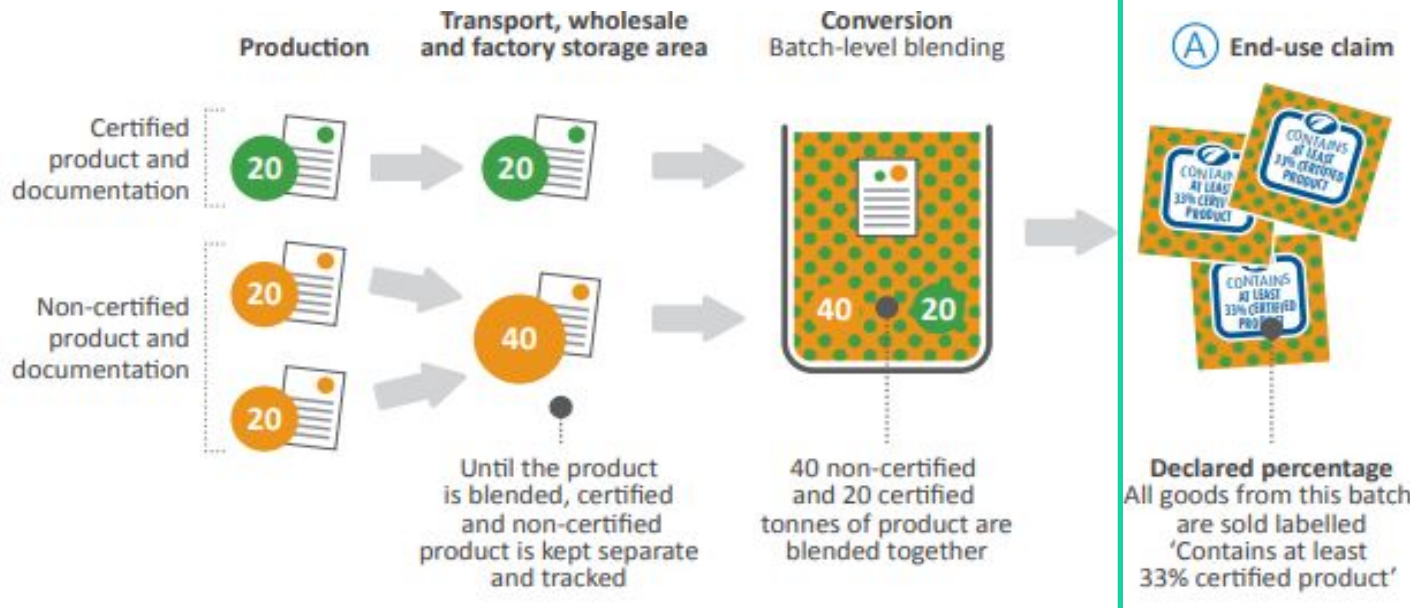
ZWE

- Zero Waste Europe

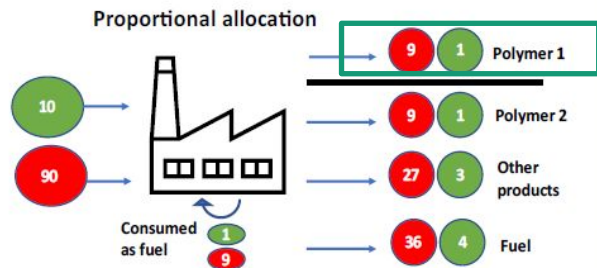
The mass balance approaches



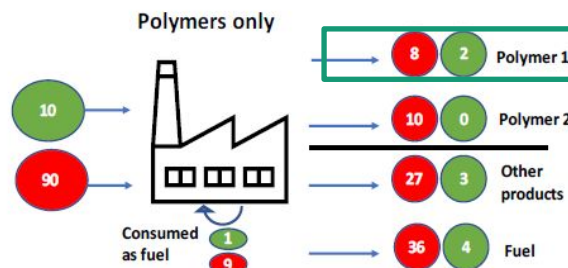
- Umbrella concept covering a wide variety of situations
- Mixing at various levels (batch, site, multi-sites)
- Various attribution rules of recycled content



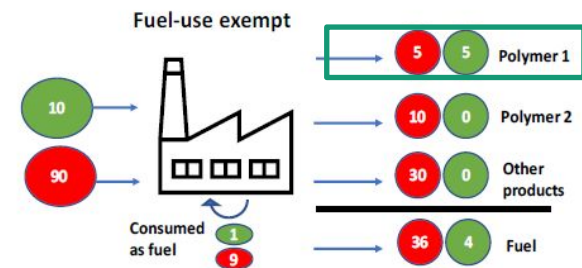
Dilution factors and cooking the books



Claim: 10%
recycled content



Claim: 20%
recycled content



Claim: 50%
recycled content

The more diverse the outputs + the more flexible the methodology:

- the easier to meet legal requirements on recycled content
- the more unfair competition with simple/short recycling
- the less likely the benefits for the circular economy

In an ideal world...

- It's all about building trust, reflecting the reality and achieving sustainability
- Mixing needed? Even attribution of recycled inputs across outputs
- No actual knowledge about products? No claim – mass balance = claims at company, not product level
- It's ok not to be able to claim 100% recycled content!
- CoC system boundaries: post consumer waste to final product
- Careful granting flexibility! Flexibility once? Status quo for ever



Thank you

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Environmental Coalition on Standards

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