



# Questions and answers on sustainable services relating to Life Cycle Assessments

Would you like to find out more about Life Cycle Assessment testing and certification? We have answered the following frequently asked questions for you.

## **1. WHAT IS A LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT?**

A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is a systematic evaluation of environmental influences over the entire life cycle of a product. It considers the product's impact on climate change, fossil resource consumption and acidification, and enables companies to identify product and process optimization potential.

## **2. WHAT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ARE CONSIDERED IN A LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT?**

The environmental impacts considered include effects on climate change, acidification, eutrophication, resource consumption, ozone depletion potential and summer smog. Our assessment is based on current, state-of-the-art methods.

### 3. WHAT ADVANTAGES DOES A LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT OFFER MY COMPANY?

- It inspires the confidence of customers and business partners in your products' sustainability
- It signals your company's commitment to a sustainability strategy
- It saves costs through reduced consumption of energy and raw materials
- It helps identify your products' current and potential environmental impact
- It is an effective instrument for process and product optimization
- It provides reliable information about your products' properties for targeted marketing
- It gives you a competitive advantage

### 4. WHICH PRODUCTS CAN BE ASSESSED FOR THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT?

Life Cycle Assessments can be carried out for any product, from chemicals to **toys, building materials**, electronic devices or food. There are virtually no limits on product categories.

### 5. CAN I HAVE MY COMPANY EVALUATED INSTEAD OF A PRODUCT?

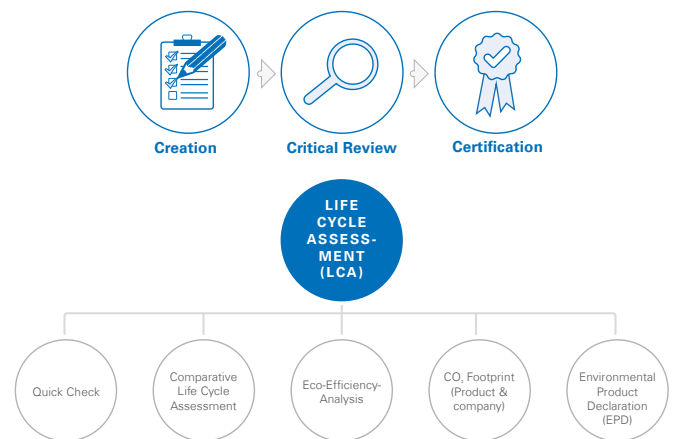
Yes, if you would like to analyze your company's environmental impact, we can compile a report on your Corporate Carbon Footprint (CCF). This allows you to calculate all your company's greenhouse gas emissions and the associated impact on climate change. It also enables you to identify optimization potential and develop new strategies.

### 6. WHICH LIFE CYCLE PHASES ARE RELEVANT IN LCAS?

Life Cycle Assessments for products and production processes can refer to in-house phases or include downstream processes such as recycling. In other words, LCAs can cover "cradle to gate" or "cradle to grave" life cycle phases.

### 7. WHAT SUSTAINABLE SERVICES EXIST IN ADDITION TO LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENTS?

We offer these and other services: Quick Check, Comparative Life Cycle Assessment, Eco-Efficiency Analysis, Product Carbon Footprint (PCF), Corporate Carbon Footprint (CCF), Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), **Green Certified Product**, Water Footprint and LCA/EPD Manager.



### 8. HOW LONG DOES A LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT TAKE?

Depending on the complexity and type of service, the project duration is usually between a few weeks to 6 months.

### 9. WHAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN COMPARATIVE LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENTS?

For a Comparative Life Cycle Assessment, it is important that the products compared have the same benefits and that a comparable good database is available. By calculating a variety of scenarios and variables, it is also possible to draw further conclusions about the different products beyond a simple comparison.

## 10. HOW IS THE LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT STUDY CONDUCTED?

Our procedure for a Life Cycle Assessment study based on DIN EN ISO 14040 and DIN EN ISO 14044 consists of four project phases:

### 1. Scope and goal of the study

Together with you, we define the goal and scope of the study.

### 2. Life Cycle Inventory

The Life Cycle Inventory documents all input and output data.

### 3. Impact assessment

For the impact assessment, the environmental effects of the input and output data are integrated into the Life Cycle Inventory results as additional information. This serves as the basis for the fourth and final phase.

### 4. Interpretation

The results of the Impact Assessment are now discussed and summarized as a basis for conclusions, recommendations and decision-making in accordance with the goal and scope definition. You will receive the results in the form of a report. For **certification**, the data and the study procedure must be checked in the form of a Critical Review - a critical examination according to DIN EN ISO 14040 and DIN EN ISO 14044. If we carried out the study, the Critical Review is done by external experts. In the event that compliance is confirmed, you receive a certificate.

## 11. WHAT DOES MY COMPANY NEED TO PROVIDE FOR THE LCA?

We need a contact person in the company who can complete our data collection form, which generally takes 1-5 working days, depending on the project's complexity. No technical expertise is necessary, as we provide as much support as possible.

### FOR FURTHER TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

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**YOU STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A NON-BINDING OFFER? THEN CONTACT OUR EXPERTS NOW!**

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