



MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN LCM

Life cycle management extends the scope of sustainability improvements beyond the scope of a single organization and its processes. This leads to an increasing need for understanding network co-operation between various actors and stakeholders of a life cycle, i.e. a systems approach. However, until now life cycle management practices have concentrated almost exclusively on life cycle accounting and technical improvements and failed to offer tools for the actual management issues of the life cycle. To be able to transform the collected life cycle information into suggestions for sustainability improvement, and to implement those improvements (whether technical, operational, or social), management among the actors and stakeholders of a life cycle is needed. Typically, among other things, right partners have to be found, networks created, responsibilities and information shared between partners, and many new skills learned throughout the network. Also, life cycle management practices need to be integrated with normal organizational management practices, e.g. physical asset management (including operations and production management), technology management, and project management. The challenge is therefore that the merge of technical and social sciences or disciplines is called for.

This session welcomes discussion on life cycle management from the perspective of management sciences. Possible topics include network and supply chain management issues, co-operation with network partners as part of logistics management, learning creation in a network and knowledge management, power and responsibility in a network with associated risk management, etc.

Instructions for submission of papers will be made available in July 2006 on www.lcm2007.org. Further information regarding the session is available from:

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