

**Product-related Environmental and Social aspects in Supply Chain Management:
Lessons for the Electronics Sector**
14th June 2006
The Centre
Brussels
Belgium



Conference organised in association with the EC funded **Asia Eco-Design Electronics** (www.cfsd.org.uk/aede) project and **seeba** (www.cfsd.org.uk/seeba)

Sponsored by: The Centre, Brussels

Background

Supply Chain Management (SCM) has become one of the most critical areas for businesses. Global sourcing has become a necessity to remain competitive within today's markets, but control of the whole supply chain has become extremely challenging. Getting it wrong can result not only in poor quality parts, but products removed from the marketplace because of components that do not satisfy the legislation, or bad publicity and loss of market share because a supplier has very poor working conditions for its employees or is polluting the local environment. There are many examples of even the largest companies being caught out and even being put out of business by failure to control its supply chain.

Within the electrical and electronics sector there has been a massive shift of manufacturing to the developing countries over the last decade, of parts, subassemblies and products resulting in complex multi-level supply chains that somehow have to be managed. Design and product/software development is also starting to move to the developing world, resulting in a new type of business called a 'Hollow Company'. These companies basically subcontract almost everything out and just add their brand name. In parallel with this the EU and many other countries are introducing or have introduced legislation on how products are designed, what materials they contain and how they are handled at end-of-life. In almost all cases both the legal and financial responsibility has been placed on the producer.

This conference looks in detail at the environmental and social issues arising within global supply chains, and best-in-class practices used to manage the supply chain them. This is an event that all companies sourcing parts, products or services from developing countries should not miss.

Agenda

- 10.30 Registration
- 11.00 Introduction
Martin Charter, Director, The Centre for Sustainable Design, UK
Martin Porter, Director, The Centre, Brussels
- 11.10 Sustainable supply chain impacts on Asian companies: results of survey
Martin Charter, Director, The Centre for Sustainable Design, UK
- 11.50 Environment, market access and the electronics sector: a survey of China, Philippines and Thailand
Ulrich Hoffman, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Switzerland
- 12.30 Supplier's perspective: Thailand
Charuek Hengrasmee, President, Electrical and Electronics, Thailand
- 1.10 Lunch
- 2.10 EC perspective
TBC, EC, Belgium
- 2.40 Supply chain management challenge
TBC, Japanese Business Council for Europe (JBCE), Belgium
- 3.10 Coffee & Networking
- 3.30 Managing RoHS in the supply chain: lessons from Taiwan
Kris Pollet, Consultant, Belgium
- 4.05 REACH: global supply chain challenges
Keith Huckle, Product Stewardship & EHS Public Affairs, Dow Corning, Belgium
- 4.40 Discussion
- 5.15 Conclusions
- 5.30 Close

The programme may be subject to change on the day

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Project code: 7250 D40 DF025 (please state on all correspondence)

NOTE: University College for the Creative Arts at Canterbury, Epsom, Farnham, Maidstone and Rochester was formed on 1 August 2005 through the uniting of two leading specialist art and design institutions: Kent Institute of Art & Design and The Surrey Institute of Art & Design, University College.