



EU project

## RISKCYCLE

Newsletter No.3

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Risk-based management of  
chemicals and products  
in a circular economy  
at a global scale

## What do we want to achieve?

The consortium of RISKCYCLE consists of international, European and national experts and stakeholders from different programmes and organisations.

The primary aim of RISKCYCLE is to identify future R&D needs required to establish a risk-based assessment methodology for chemicals and products that will help reduce animal testing while ensuring the development of new chemicals and product management patterns leading to minimized risks for health and the environment.

Products undergo a recycling process and make their way into a recovered material with unpredictable and not foreseen health and safety problems. The project is focussing on consequences due to the behaviour of chemicals and their release during recycling of the six fractions: paper, electronics, leather, lubricants, plastics, textiles.





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## Background of the project

Chemicals and additives in products being produced and marketed globally, make an international harmonised assessment and management essential. Chemical testing, research on risks, impacts and management options are carried out throughout the globe but quite fractionated to certain areas and sectors and much too often with little linkages between the different scientific communities.

The coordination action (CA) "RISKCYCLE" is aimed to establish and co-ordinate a global network of European and international experts and stakeholders to define together future needs of R+D contributions for innovations in the risk-based management of chemicals and products in a circular economy of global scale leading to alternative strategies to animal tests and reduced health hazards.

The partners joining this action seek to explore the synergies of the research carried out within different programmes and countries of the EU, in Asia and overseas to facilitate the intensified communication with researchers, institutions and industries about the risks of hazardous chemicals and additives in products and risk reduction measures and to improve the dispersion of available information.

The RISKCYCLE network will closely collaborate with related projects, EU and international bodies and authorities such as for example the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) and the Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks in Europe.

Updated information about the project activities and its results can be found on the project website. It provides introductory information about the project in several different languages, according to the origin of the participants to invite contacts with the interested parties in industry, academic institutions, regulators intergovernmental institutions, engineering companies and the public at a global scale.

The website is located on: [www.wadef.com](http://www.wadef.com)



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## Recent events

### 3<sup>rd</sup> RISKCYCLE workshop in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

The third RISKCYCLE workshop, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> May 2010, was held under the main topic “Environmental and health risks of chemical additives and recycling materials”. The hosts of the conference have been two Universities of Rio de Janeiro - UFRJ and UFRRJ – under the direction of Prof. Adriana Soares de Schueler (UFRRJ), Prof. Dr. Claudio (UFRJ) and Prof. Dr. Bernd Bilitewski (TUD).

The workshop provided the project partners with the possibility to get in contact not only with the involved scientists from the project partners, but also to discuss current issues and current findings with local scientists, politicians and representatives of associations from Brazil. The assembly of participants from different organizations can be seen in the group picture below.



**Figure1: Group picture of all participants of the workshop in Rio de Janeiro**

The global trade of chemicals and products containing chemical additives has resulted in a substantial release of harmful substances to the environment with risk to man and nature on a worldwide scale. With regard to life cycle thinking it is important that products undergo a recycling step after their use phase. Unpredictable and not foreseen health and safety problems may result, if the composition and the behavior of components and additives in recovered materials are unknown. The project is focusing on consequences due to the behavior of chemicals and additives and their release during recycling of six chosen fractions.







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## 4<sup>th</sup> RISKCYCLE workshop in Delhi, India

The fourth RISKCYCLE workshop was organised under the topic “Sustainable Waste Management of additives in products: A global challenge” and held from 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in New Delhi, India. The hosts of the workshop have been Col. Rakesh Johri and Dr. Suneel Pandey from The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi, who had prepared a workshop programme with very interesting presentation topics related to the key issues of the project. This workshop has again been a very useful and successful platform for all project partners to exchange information with involved local and international scientists, policy-makers and stakeholders. The following group pictures shows the majority of involved project partners and participants.



**Figure2: Group picture of all participants of the workshop in New Delhi**

The workshop was divided into two days of interesting presentations and discussion. Within six sessions of challenging content, the more than 40 participants could listen to 17 presentations related to the key issues of RISKCYCLE.

Environmental problems related to unknown behaviour of additives in recycling processes, intensifying efforts to minimize emissions during recycling processes by assessing and evaluating their risks in different steps of waste management and recycling activities have been part of the workshop agenda.

Additional information, like the presentations, pictures, summaries and the proceedings are available as download on our website.





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## Upcoming events

### Final RISKCYCLE conference

The final RISKCYCLE conference, titled "Risk-Based Management of Chemicals and Products in a circular economy at a global scale", will be held on 8 and 9 May 2012 in Dresden.



Selected results of investigations and case studies will be introduced and presented. The main topics for each session are as follows:

- Flow and emissions of additives - from production to reuse, recycling and waste for the following sectors: textiles, electronics, plastics, leather, paper and lubricants
- Fate and behaviour of chemical additives in recycling products
- Alternative toxicity testing for additives in products to reduce animal test in line with the objectives of the REACH directive
- Risk assessment methodologies and mitigation strategies for human health and environment related to additives
- Importance of additives in life cycle assessment of textiles, electronics, plastics, leather, paper and lubricants
- Bridging research needs with policy in the field of Risk-Based Management of Chemicals and Products

Conference registration and more information about the venue and accommodation possibilities are available on the project website.





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<b>Billboard of upcoming events</b>	
<b>2010</b> <b>May</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>1st Project workshop</u></b> workshop host: Hanoi University of Science (Vietnam)
<b>2010</b> <b>November</b> <b>15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>2nd Project workshop</u></b> workshop host: Shenyang University of Aeronautical Engineering (P.R. of China)
<b>2011</b> <b>May</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>3rd Project workshop</u></b> workshop host: Fundacao Coordenacao de Projetos Pesquisa e Estudos Technologicos (Brasil)
<b>2011</b> <b>October</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>4th Project workshop</u></b> workshop host: The Energy and Resources Institute (India)
<b>2012</b> <b>May</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Final conference</u></b> workshop host: Dresden University of Technology (Germany)
<b>2012</b> <b>August</b>	Formal end of the project after 36 months

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Project webpage: [www.wadef.com/projects/riskcycle](http://www.wadef.com/projects/riskcycle)



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