

ISRI's Position on Design for Recycling – Promoting Environmental Sustainability¹

Overview

Design For Recycling® (DfR) embodies the concept that while products are in the design stage serious efforts should be made to eliminate or reduce the use of hazardous substances and any substances or materials that might impede the recycling process (such as adhesives or materials for which there exists no economically feasible means of recycling). Design for Recycling® also envisions products designed to produce, at the end of their useful lives, the highest percentage of recyclables possible.

When manufacturers consider all aspects of a product's total life cycle during the design stage the result is a product that contains the highest possible proportion of recyclables in the manufacture of new products, contains fewer hazardous substances and yields the highest possible percentage of valuable recovered materials at its end of life.

Design for Recycling® relies upon a market-based approach to enhance product design by creating a competitive environment among manufacturers to utilize the greatest possible amount of recycled materials in their manufacturing processes and to eliminate or reduce the use of hazardous materials and other materials that impede recycling.

- To the extent practicable, products should not be produced with hazardous materials.
- Promote the concepts of producing products that are more easily recycled and increasing the recycled content of all products whenever practicable.
- Establish coalitions of stakeholders whose purposes will be to:
 - a) develop and promote the principles of Design for Recycling®; and
 - b) explore all options to promote and foster the design and manufacturing of products suitable for recycling using currently available recycling technology and best management practices.

¹ As Adopted by the ISRI Board of Directors on February 10, 2017.