

## Software Corner

### Environmental Data, Analysis and Comparison for Corrugated Packaging

Since 1994, three European Associations have been working together to provide industry and its customers with up-to-date knowledge based on facts which concern the impact of industry on the environment. This knowledge helps to integrate environmental affairs into decision making. It is the basis for product and process improvements, thus enabling a responsible and pro-active industry attitude towards the environment.

#### The three Associations are:

- FEFCO (European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers)
- GO (Groupement Ondulé, European Association of makers of Corrugated Base Papers)
- KI (Kraft Institute, Association of the Virgin Fibre Based Producers of Corrugated Board Materials in Europe)

Each Association regularly collects environmental data from its members. The weighted averages of the collected data are published together in a report "European Database for Corrugated Life Cycle Studies". The Associations have developed standardised LCA (software tool) that is based on the data and methodology as described in the report.

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#### European Database for Corrugated Life Cycle Studies

The report contains:

- Descriptions of the production systems
- Methodology questions
- Data for consumption of raw materials, additives and water
- Data for emissions to air, water and waste

#### LCA software-tool for corrugated packaging

A special LCA software-tool for corrugated board has been developed for members of the three Associations; it is, however, also available for non-members through FEFCO. It is designed for users that have only elementary knowledge of LCA. It is based on SimaPro 4 from Pré Consultants. The software uses the most recent data from the report "European Database for Corrugated Life Cycle Studies" and the closed-loop approach as a basis for the calculations. It enables the user to enter data according to his own situation (box design, transportation distances, etc.) and analyses and compares different options.