

"Information support for Eco-design in CERES-GKN: too early or too late?"

by Dr. S. Evans
SIMS
Cranfield University, UK

Abstract

This paper describes a study of electrical and electronic equipment manufacturers in Europe and North America. The companies all claimed some success with integrating environmental concerns into the product design process. This paper focusses on an unresolved issue identified by these companies.

The need to implement environmental advice before the design becomes fixed and detailed appears to be incompatible with the ability of current tools to provide environmental advice, due to their need for stable and detailed information on the design. It is shown that practical solutions would be of significant benefit and the opportunities for information technologies to support eco-design is explored.