

COGSBP11 Implement Life Cycle Thinking Within an Organisation in Support of Sustainable Business Practice



Overview

This standard is about supporting the implementation of life cycle thinking in support of sustainable business practice. Life cycle thinking is accepting that a product or service can have an environmental impact across its entire life or life cycle, as a result of raw material utilisation, energy usage and waste production. Life cycle thinking is essential for organisations that are undertaking life cycle assessment as part of their commitment to environmental sustainability.

The role described by this standard requires that life cycle considerations relevant to an organisation are identified and promoted to others. It involves the creation of activities and materials to be used to stimulate life cycle thinking and an organisational culture willing to support a positive approach to sustainable business practice. The ability to communicate with others is an important part of the standard.

Target Group

This standard is for those responsible for supporting the development of sustainable business practice. It is likely to apply to technical staff and managers within organisations, those with responsibility for implementing environmental programmes.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 identify the **drivers** that support the implementation of life cycle thinking
 - P2 quantify the **barriers** that can limit the implementation of life cycle thinking
 - P3 use organisational life cycle data and information to create **awareness raising activities** and materials
 - P4 ensure **awareness raising activities** and materials meet the requirements of organisational **sustainability objectives**
 - P5 gain approval and support for awareness raising programme from decision makers
 - P6 identify and obtain the **resources** required to support planned awareness raising programme and its associated activities
 - P7 support the delivery of the **awareness raising activities** to promote life cycle thinking to **others**
 - P8 monitor and evaluate the development of life cycle thinking within the organisation
 - P9 provide additional support to correct any shortfalls in life cycle awareness within the organisation
 - P10 report on impact of awareness raising programmes to decision makers

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the principles of life cycle thinking
- K2 the legislation, industry standards and voluntary codes that support the development of life cycle thinking
- K3 how the implementation of life cycle thinking supports the economic, social and environmental principles of sustainability and sustainable business practice
- K4 how product or service life cycles are used as indicators of environmental performance
- K5 the processes used to assess and specify life cycles including the concepts of 'cradle to cradle' and 'cradle to grave'
- K6 how raw material utilisation, production, delivery, energy usage and waste contribute to a product or service life cycle
- K7 the processes used to collect data on environmental impact
- K8 the techniques used to analyse life cycle data and information
- K9 the sustainability objectives of the organisation
- K10 how to determine the attitude and understanding of others
- K11 how to develop materials to support awareness raising activities
- K12 the delivery and resource requirements of the different awareness raising activities
- K13 communication techniques and skills
- K14 how to monitor and report on promotional activities

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Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

Drivers include:

- 1 economic
- 2 social and ethical
- 3 environmental
- 4 customer and stakeholder perception
- 5 legislation
- 6 compliance
- 7 government policy
- 8 organisational governance

Barriers include:

- 1 economic
- 2 the attitudes of others
- 3 the understanding of others

Awareness raising activities include:

- 1 formal training events
- 2 the provision of publicity and information
- 3 workplace coaching and mentoring

Sustainability objectives include:

- 1 economic
- 2 social and ethical
- 3 environmental

Others include:

- 1 colleagues
- 2 customers
- 3 suppliers
- 4 stakeholders

Resources include:

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- 1 people
- 2 finance
- 3 technology
- 4 knowledge

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Developed by Cogent

Version number 1

Date approved October 2011

Indicative review date October 2014

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Cogent

Original URN COGSBP11

Relevant occupations Technical Staff; Manager

Suite Sustainable Business Practice

Key words implement; life cycle; thinking; organisation; sustainable; business; practice