

Silje Helene Aschehoug, PhD candidate

Silje has worked with environmental issues in Norway for more than fifteen years. Her work experience range from project management to research in industry sectors such as offshore, aviation and construction. Specialist areas include environmental and risk management, and sustainable product development. Her PhD was based at Department of Engineering Design and Materials at the NTNU. Presently, she works as a project manager and research scientist at Sintef Raufoss Manufacturing. She resides just south of Gjøvik where she lives with her husband and two children.



An important motivation for taking on this research was to help firms in their efforts to improve the sustainability performance of their products, as sustainability may be one way of adding value to products beyond traditional aspects like functionality, quality, and cost, and thus increase firms' competitiveness. Viewing product development and design as a process which rests heavily on information to achieve its main tasks, seeking out relevant information on sustainability issues may be a key to creating increased sustainability knowledge and awareness in product development and design. This may further enhance firms' ability and opportunity to develop and manufacture more sustainable products.

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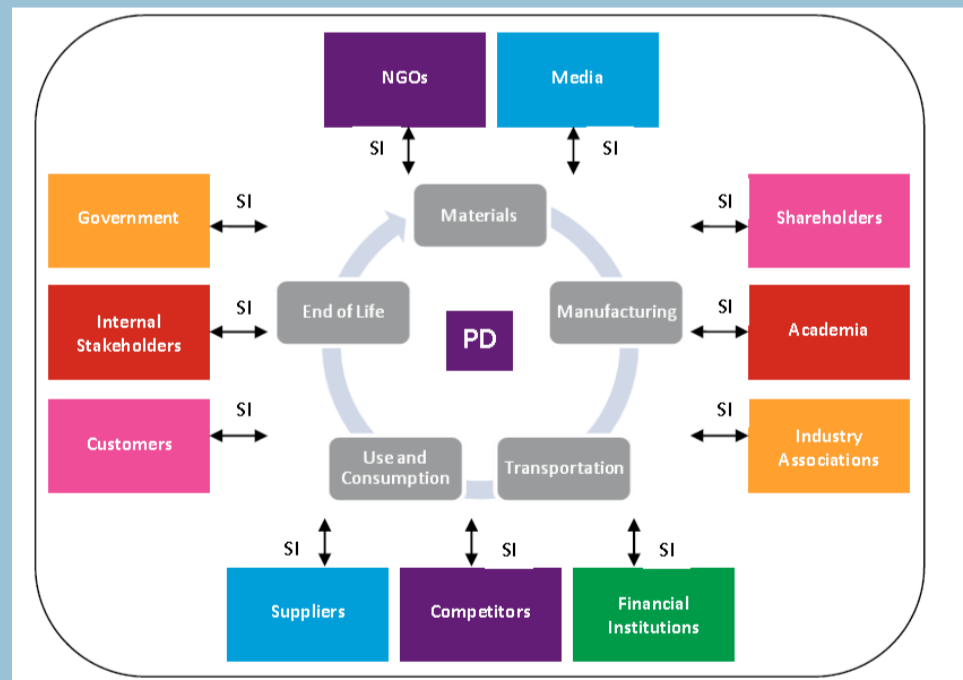
Such sustainability information is defined as “*Stakeholder information elements potentially capable of contributing to knowledge in product development and design, combining the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainability*”.

Facts

- 01.11.2008.
- Knut Einar Aasland (IPM)
- Casper Boks (IPD)
- Sigurd Støren (IPM)
- Sustainability Information in Product Development and Design

The PhD project has focused on the following questions:

- How can sustainability information relevant to product development and design be identified, collected, and compiled?
- What sustainability information relevant to product development and design is considered important and accessible to Norwegian manufacturing firms?
- What are the key variables and factors which influence perceived importance and accessibility in firms?



The main objectives of the PhD project is to identify the missing, but relevant sustainability information in connection to product development and design and to make it accessible to firms.



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