



BUILD ELECTRONICS BETTER



# There's no end to a circle. A workshop on how to address circularity challenges in electronics

17 June 2024

Workshop B2 in Grenander 2

Electronics Goes Green 2024+, Berlin, Germany

## 1. Introduction and Keynotes

- Carol Handwerker, Purdue University
  - > Circular economy for hard disk drives: a lesson in grit
- Stephan Harkema, Holst Centre
  - > Circular strategies for printed electronics

## 2. Overview of IPC and iNEMI

- Grace O'Malley, iNEMI
- Fran Fourcade, IPC

## 3. Working Roundtables: Problems

- Kelly Scanlon, IPC

## 4. Socialization: Solutions

- All

## 5. Discussion and Next Steps

- Mark Schaffer, iNEMI
- Fran Fourcade, IPC



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# Pre-workshop Survey Input

## What does circularity mean to your company?

- Recycle, Refurbish or Reuse
- It is about closing the loop on the product life cycle and keeping materials at highest value as long as practical. This will ensure we meet the requirements of stakeholders and make progress to our circularity and climate goals.
- It means sustainable production for PCB.
- When done well: the opportunity for a comprehensive sustainable transformation
- Repairability, Usage of secondary materials, Reuse, Product pass, Resource efficiency during manufacturing
- It means to be able to use materials again in the next generation of products and avoiding the landfill
- Important target and future business model
- downstream materials are able to be tracked in a credible and standardized way to upstream material processors

## Are there specific material, data, or product roadblocks preventing improvement?

- Recovery process research is still at laboratory scale, pilot projects and industry level research are needed to promote efficient and environmentally viable recovery processes.
- No suitable tools designers and engineers can use easily.
- One can not in retrospect identify what an electronic device has of chemicals, materials etc.
- Availability of material composition data, recycled content information. Transparency on components in general
- Adhesion of printed Cu layers
- Maybe some components cannot be easily recycled or reused because of contamination issues.
- The low price is an obstacle for small and inexpensive devices. With a 30 euro device that does not have a high material value, there is limited room for economic maneuver - but it should be created.
- Coordinated labels for sustainability in electronics as well as coordinated calculation bases for e.g. repair index or recyclability of a product to generate a better comparison.
- The use of plastic which needs to maintain the flammability so it can only reused and or regrinded a certain amount of time.
- Not aware of any fundamental issues but it must be also financially benefiting to make it happen widely

**What is your circularity story today? Tell us about what you're doing now -- or have tried to do -- to address circularity challenges in electronics manufacturing.**

- My current challenge is to demonstrate that critical raw materials (CRM) can be extracted from photovoltaic panels and reused in the mining production process. By leveraging the infrastructure already in place for mining, this approach could revolutionize the way we handle PV panels and contribute to a more circular economy in the PV market.
- Try to understand our current market position in terms of circularity by assessing it.
- Created a global solution to solve it
- Have multiple circularity goals and have integrate circular design requirements in all new product and packaging designs.



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# Keynotes

# Circular economy for hard disk drives: a lesson in grit

**Carol A. Handwerker** is the Reinhardt Schuhmann, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Materials Engineering and Professor of Environmental and Ecological Engineering at Purdue University. Her research areas include: developing innovative interconnect technologies for microelectronics and sustainable thin film solar cells, improving Pb-free solders interconnects for high performance systems, and integrating sustainability in new materials design. Before joining Purdue in 2005, she was at NIST for 21 years, co-leading Advanced Packaging and serving as the Chief of the NIST Metallurgy Division. She was a co-PI of SCALE, the Purdue-led, multi-university, DOD microelectronics workforce development program, co-chair of the Workforce Development Roadmap in the SRC Roadmap for Microelectronics and Advanced Packaging Technologies, served on the NIST-Department of Commerce Industrial Advisory Committee, charged with recommending how to close R&D gaps and WFD gaps for the CHIPS R&D Program, was co-chair of the iNEMI Technology Roadmap for Sustainable Electronics for several years, and co-led the iNEMI Circular Economy project on Value Recovery from End-of-Life Hard Drives.





# **Creating a Circular Economy for Used Hard-Disk Drives: *A Lesson in Grit***

**Carol Handwerker**

**Purdue University**

**DoE Critical Materials Institute**

**iNEMI**

**iNEMI**<sup>®</sup>  
Advancing manufacturing technology

# Circular Economy for Used Hard-Disk Drives

## iNEMI Phase 2 project – completed Oct. 2018

- Demonstration of circular economy pathways for HDDs:
  - technologies, supply chain, economics, logistics
- In-kind funding model -
  - self-assembling and self-managing group setting common goals (Ostrom framework)



## *Members:*

Ames Lab, **Cascade Asset Management**, **Cisco**, Critical Materials Institute, **Google**, Green Electronics Council, **IBM-Geodis**, Idaho National Lab, **Microsoft**, **Momentum Technologies**, Oak Ridge National Labs, Purdue University, **Seagate**, **Teleplan**, University of Arizona, **Urban Mining Company**  
Discussions with: NIST, Tradeloop, NATO, NAID, Western Digital ...

iNEMI Program Manager: Mark Schaffer (marks@inemi.org)

PROJECT REPORT  
Value Recovery from Used Electronics

FEBRUARY 2017



**PROJECT LEADERS**

Carol Handwerker, Purdue University  
Bill Olson, Seagate

Wayne Rifer, Rifer Environmental, Retired from Green Electronics Council

**PROJECT PARTICIPANTS**

Sara Behdad, SUNY Buffalo  
Willie Cade, University at Buffalo, State University of New York  
Colin Fitzpatrick, University of Limerick  
Devin Imholte, Idaho National Laboratory  
Hongyue Jin, Purdue University  
Ian Lovell, Teleplan  
Tim McIntyre, Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
Ruby Nguyen, Idaho National Laboratory

Mostafa Sabbaghi, University at Buffalo  
University of New York  
Gary Spencer, IBM/Geodis

**iNEMI PROJECT MANAGER**

Mark Schaffer, iNEMI

**Value Recovery  
Project, Phase 2**



August 2019

**Phase 1 and 2  
Reports can be  
downloaded**

**[www.inemi.org](http://www.inemi.org)**

# Creating a Circular Economy for Used HDDs



Mining and Minerals Manufacturing



HDD Component Manufacturer

HDD OEM

Dismantle & Repair

Material Recovery



Maintain/ Prolong

Users

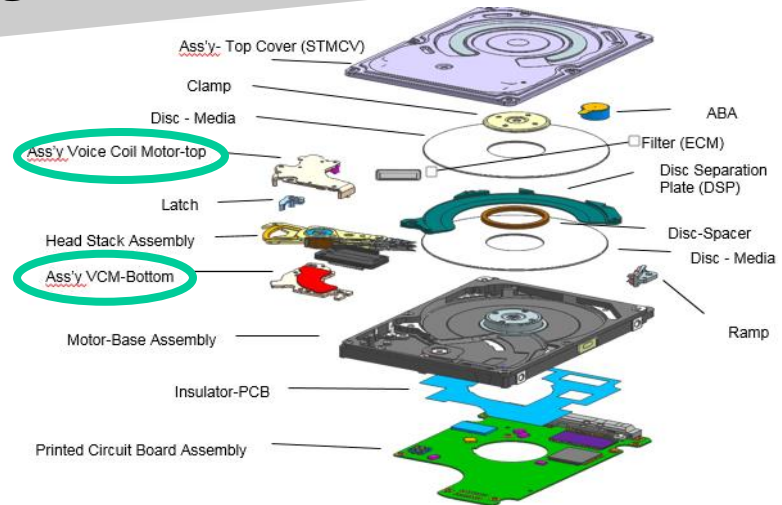


Collection

Energy Recovery

Landfill

Results of the Project and where we are today



# International Electronics Manufacturing Initiative (iNEMI)

- not-for-profit, highly efficient R&D consortium of 80+ leading electronics manufacturers, suppliers, associations, government agencies and universities
- **roadmaps** the future technology requirements of the global electronics industry
- identifies and **prioritizes** technology and infrastructure **gaps**
- helps eliminate those gaps through timely, high-impact deployment projects conducted by iNEMI members – **all in-kind funded**

# Creating a Circular Economy for Used HDDs

## An Example of a New Circular Economy

- Hard disk drives in hyperscale data centers
- System approach, leadership, trust, and quantification
- Must be representatives of all steps in the supply chain at the table
- Aim for the highest value recovered – anything less is risky
  - Reuse of HDDs – wiping, sale, repair
  - Reuse components = remanufacturing
  - Recycle materials – as REE powder, as metal

## Tools

- iNEMI – Major electronics consortium
- Ostrom Framework for Sustainable Social-Ecological Systems
- Shared goals, reinforced by action
- Honest communication, setting boundaries, constant testing of ideas and decision-making criteria

# Ostrom Framework

**Elinor Ostrom**  
**Nobel Prize in**  
**Economic**  
**Sciences 2009**

PERSPECTIVE

SCIENCE VOL 325 24 JULY 2009

## **A General Framework for Analyzing Sustainability of Social-Ecological Systems**

Elinor Ostrom<sup>1,2\*</sup>

A major problem worldwide is the potential loss of fisheries, forests, and water resources. Understanding of the processes that lead to improvements in or deterioration of natural resources is limited, because scientific disciplines use different concepts and languages to describe and explain complex social-ecological systems (SESs). Without a common framework to organize findings, isolated knowledge does not cumulate. Until recently, accepted theory has assumed that resource users will never self-organize to maintain their resources and that governments must impose solutions. Research in multiple disciplines, however, has found that some government policies accelerate resource destruction, whereas some resource users have invested their time and energy to achieve sustainability. A general framework is used to identify 10 subsystem variables that affect the likelihood of self-organization in efforts to achieve a sustainable SES.

# Fast Turn Project – Value Recovery from Hard Disk Drives

*Momentum within the community –*

**Seagate President  
‘Hard drives from hard drives’**

**Critical Materials Institute (CMI), iNEMI Phase 0 and Phase 1, Seagate, Google, Teleplan/Reconext, and Urban Mining Company were examining various approaches to value recovery for HDDs:**

- **new technologies for removing and reusing magnets from HDDs in new HDDs and for critical materials recovery**
- **economic, life cycle, and logistics analyses to examine the viability of various scenarios for used HDDs and other used electronics**



# Phase 2 iNEMI Project – Value Recovery from Hard Disk Drives

*Project Members had a common goal and formed a complete supply chain*

**HDD Manufacturers** – Seagate

**HDD Users** – Cisco, Google, Microsoft

**Authorized After-market Service Providers** – Teleplan/Reconext

**Recyclers and IT Asset Management Companies** – IBM - Geodis, Cascade Asset Management, Echo Environmental

**Secondary Market Buyers and Sellers** – connected through recyclers

**Magnet Value Recovery Companies** - Momentum Technologies, Urban Mining Company/Noveon

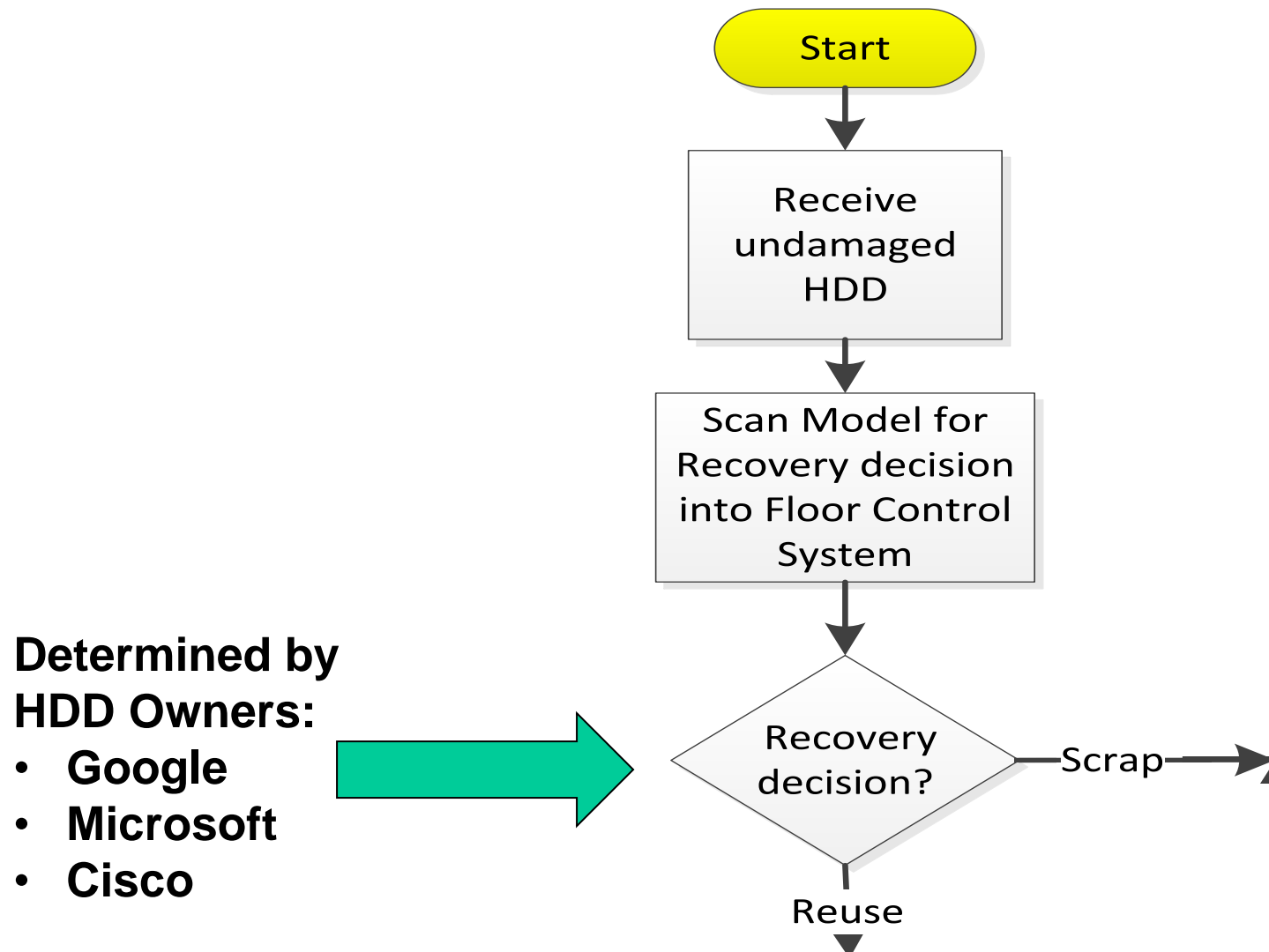
**After First-Market Users** - consumers, data center, enterprise, cloud, computer – connected through HDD Users + AM Service Providers

**Technology Developers** – research organizations (national labs, universities, all the above) – CMI – Ames, INL, ORNL, Purdue

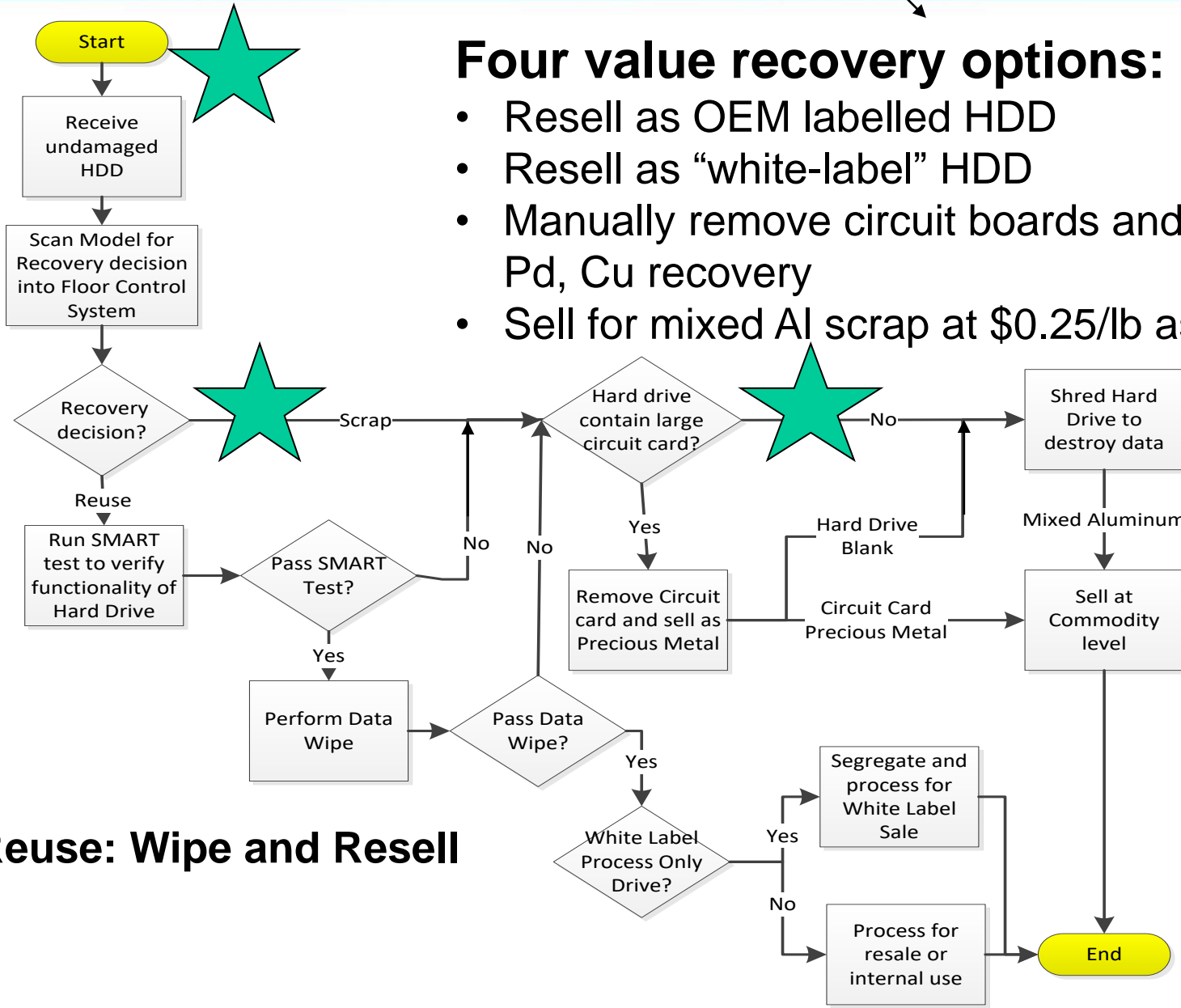
**Standards organizations** – GEC (EPEAT)

# Decisions about Common Pool Resources

Focus on **Key Decisions** and the People Who Make Them



# Pre-Project Decision Tree for Used HDDs



## Four value recovery options:

- Resell as OEM labelled HDD
- Resell as “white-label” HDD
- Manually remove circuit boards and sell for \$7-\$9/lb for Au, Pd, Cu recovery
- Sell for mixed Al scrap at \$0.25/lb as shred or whole

**Reuse: Wipe and Resell**

**Expand Options**

# Phase 2 iNEMI Project – New Technologies for Value Recovery

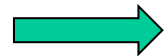
## Pre-Processing



- Voice Coil Magnet Assembly Reuse
- Automated Magnet Punching
- Shredding with Separation

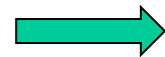
- Techno-economic analysis
- Life cycle analysis
- Logistics & supply chain analysis

## Magnet Powder

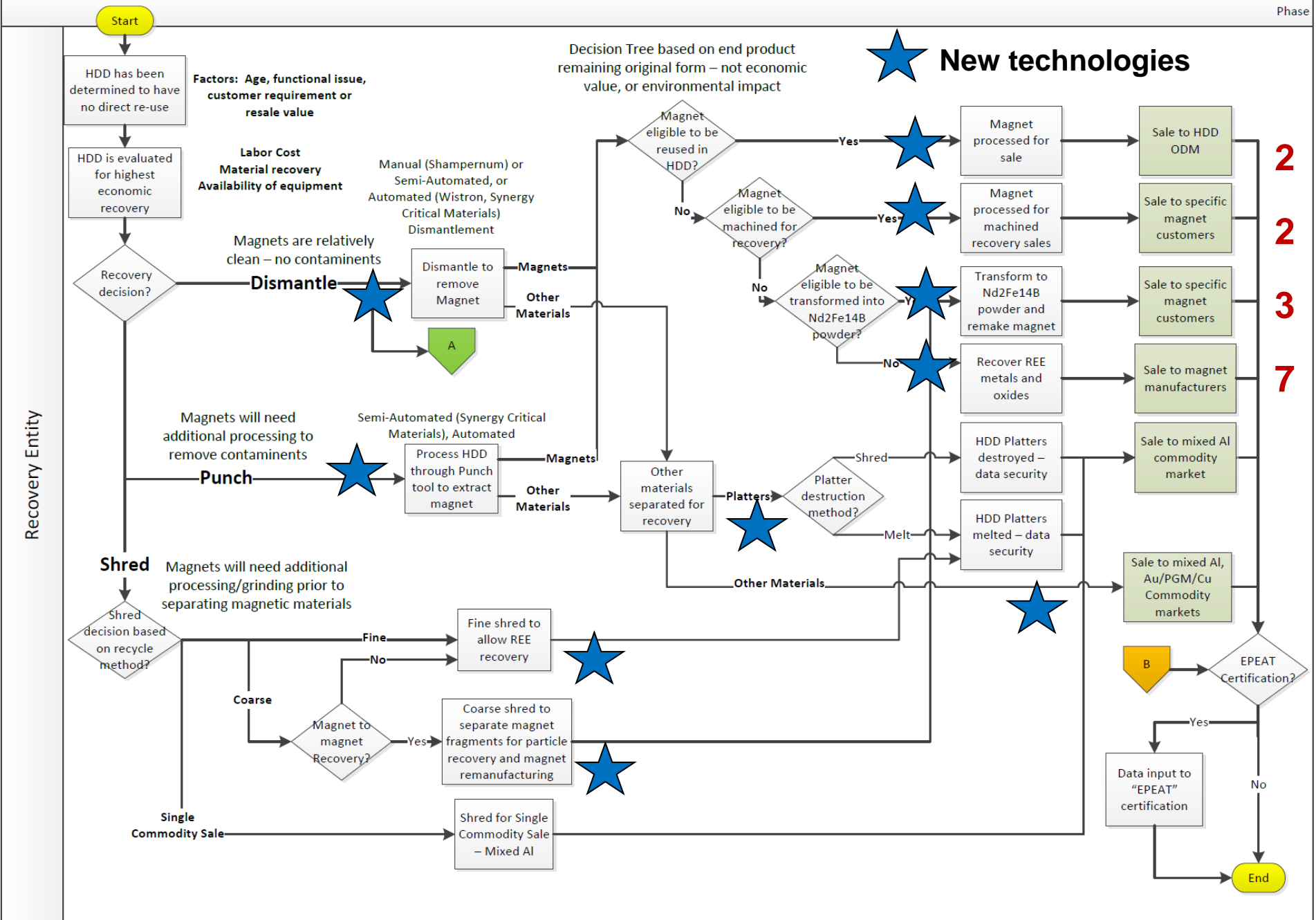


- Magnet to Magnet Processing: hydrogen decrepitation of magnets

## Metals Recovery

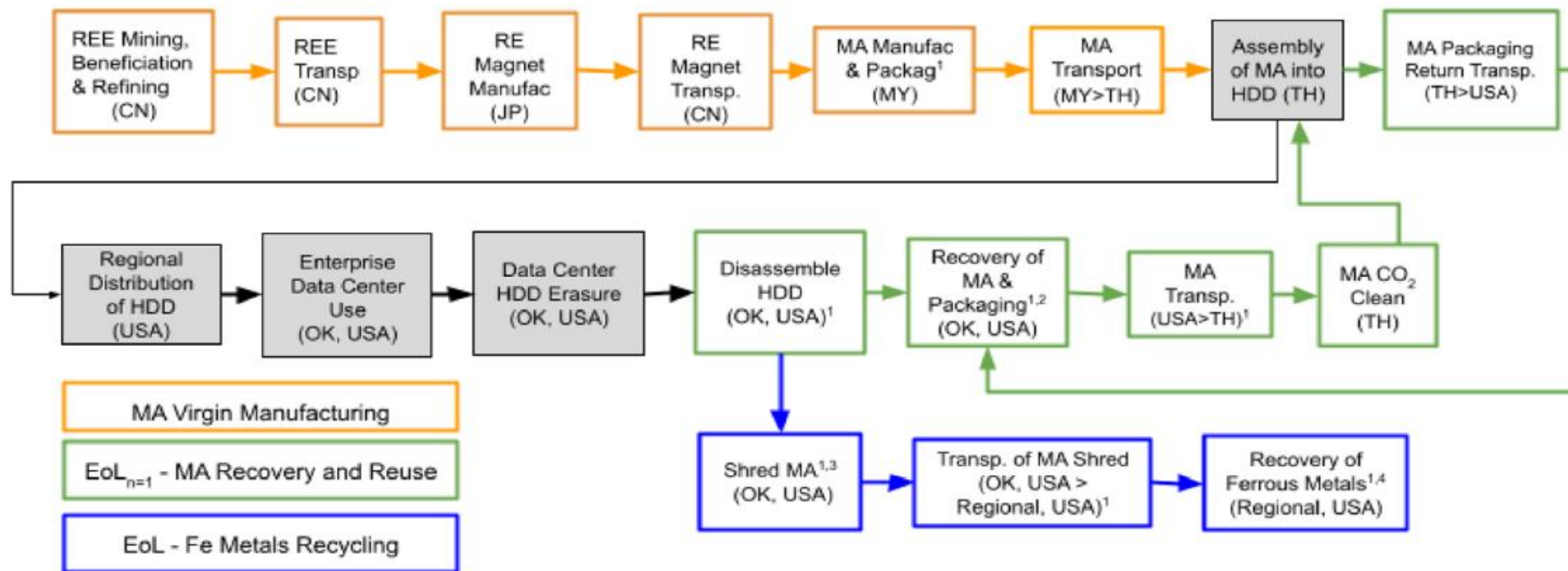


- Acid-Free Dissolution and REO Recovery
- Membrane Solvent Extraction
- Biosorption & Bioleaching
- Electrochemical Metal and REO Recovery from Complex e-Waste
- Selective Sulfation of Shredded HDD Magnet Fractions
- Super-Critical Fluid Extraction
- Low Temperature  $\beta$ -diketonate Separation Processes
- Electrochemical Deposition of High Purity RE Metals using RTIL



# Importance of this project

- **Team analyzed the logistics and economics of secure, verifiable data wiping and identified barriers to its acceptance**
- **Team demonstrated cascading CE pathways: reuse of HDDs, recovery of VCMAAs for reuse in new HDDs and REE recovery**
- **Team identified 5 pathways for high volume REE value recovery. Demonstration projects were created to assess overall feasibility.**
- **In the project and where they are now:**
  - **VCMA Recovery and Reuse: Seagate, Google, Teleplan/Recontext, Purdue – proof-of-concept tests – 6 HDDs**
  - **Magnet-to-Magnet Processing: Urban Mining Company/Noveon**
  - **Acid-Free Dissolution of REE Magnets: Seagate, Ames Lab**



Frost, et al. Resources, Conservation, and Recycling 173 (2021) 105694

## Pilot Project (2019)

- Google removed VCMA from 6,100 enterprise helium Seagate HDDs in Oklahoma USA.
- Seagate arranged an exemption for shipping VCMA “e-waste” into Thailand and shipped them to Seagate manufacturing facility in Thailand
- Seagate cleaned VCMA and used them in manufacturing 6100 new HDDs Sparked proof-of-concept Seagate project on PCBA reuse with Google and PCBA supplier
- Completed detailed LCA in 2021 with manual and automated disassembly showing automated disassembly needs to operate 24/7 + co-recovery of VCMA, PCBAs, and other components
- Logistics issues: Can be used only in one drive model still being manufactured. Time for HDD retirement varies so uncertain recovery rate. Cost of logistics too high with recovery in US and HDD manufacturing in Asia

# Where are we today?

## Seagate - 2023

### FY2023 Circularity Program Indicators



#### Extending Product Life

- 1.19 million HDDs and SSDs

#### Drives Returned to Service

HDDs: 1,174,939  
SSDs: 15,043  
Total: 1,189,982



#### Material Recycling

- Scrap Aluminum: 43.2 metric tons
- Scrap Magnets: 1.31 metric tons

## Reconext

In partnership with **Dell, Seagate, Goodwill**, Reconext developed a process to reclaim rare-earth magnets from used hard drives, leading to 8600 kg REE magnets recovered in 2021. Finalist for **Data Centre Sustainability Project of the Year** in 2022

Wipes and sells HDDs as after-market service provider for **Seagate and WD**

After-market service and pre-market loaners and try-out for **Cisco**

## Cloud Providers – higher priorities

- Net zero
- Energy efficiency
- Plastics recycling
- Higher volume, commodity materials
- Recycling of consumer products



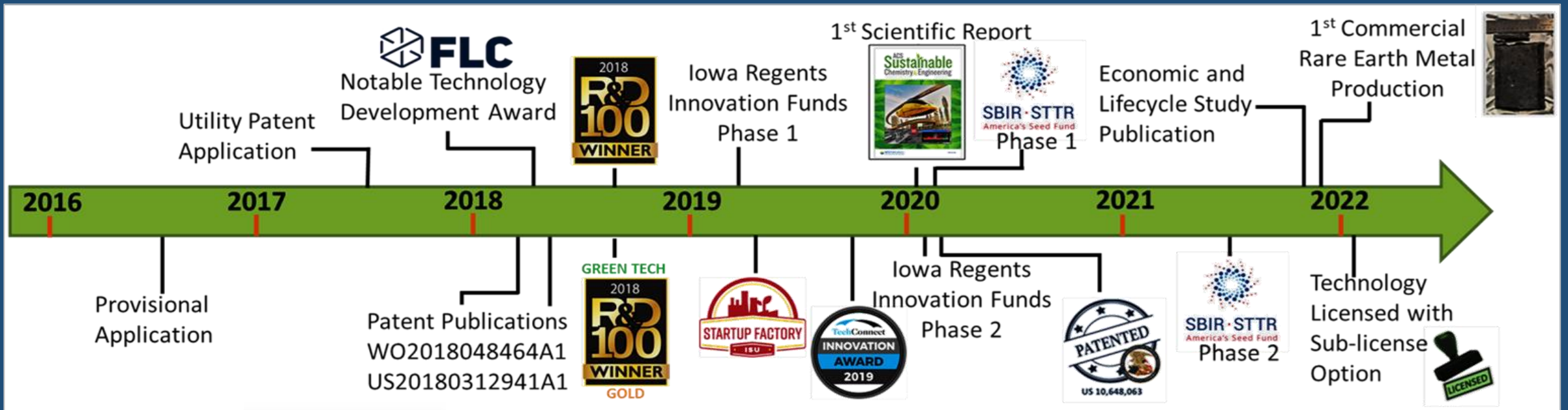


## **Noveon / Urban Mining Company**

- **Opened 150,000 sq ft facility (14000 m<sup>2</sup>) in Texas in 2023**
- **Need much higher volumes than available from HDDs: wind turbines, electric scooters, and others**
- **Developed and patented high performance magnets with less REE than original**
- **Still in operation**

**Note: Hitachi developed integrated HDD recycling facility in 2013 and shut down due to lack of HDD supply**

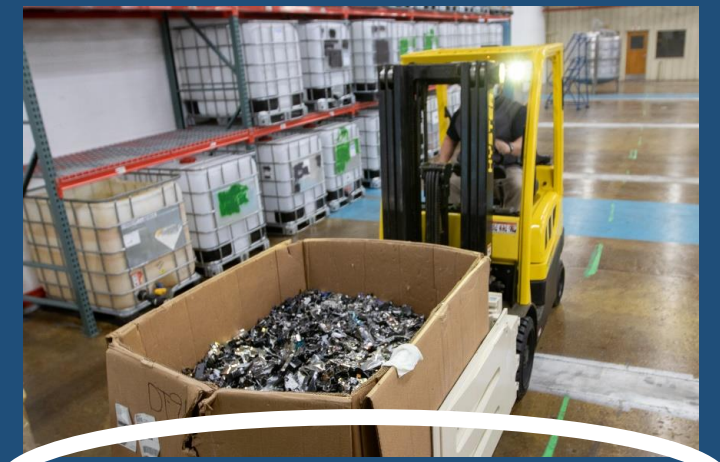
# Acid-Free Dissolution Maturation Timeline



Grams-to-kilograms scale



10s of kilogram

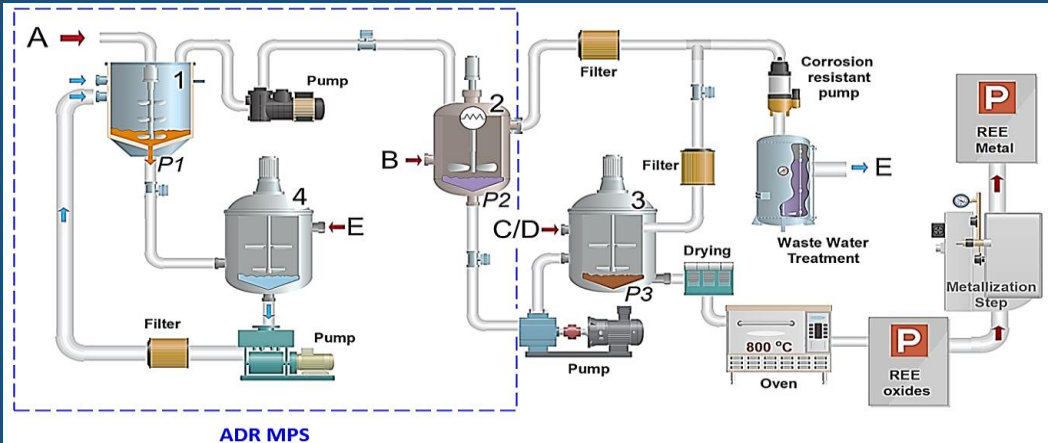


100s of kilogram

# Acid-Free Dissolution Start-Up: TdVib

## Process Modularization

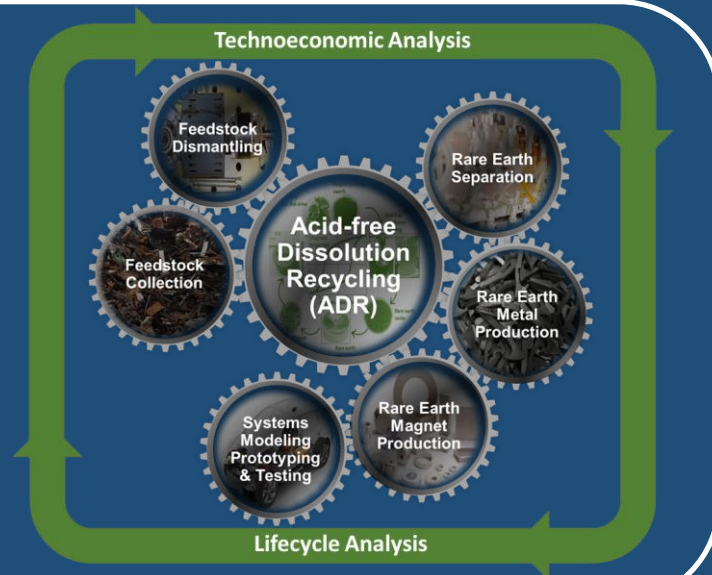
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY** Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy  
ADVANCED MATERIALS & MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE



## Electric Vehicles & Wind Turbines



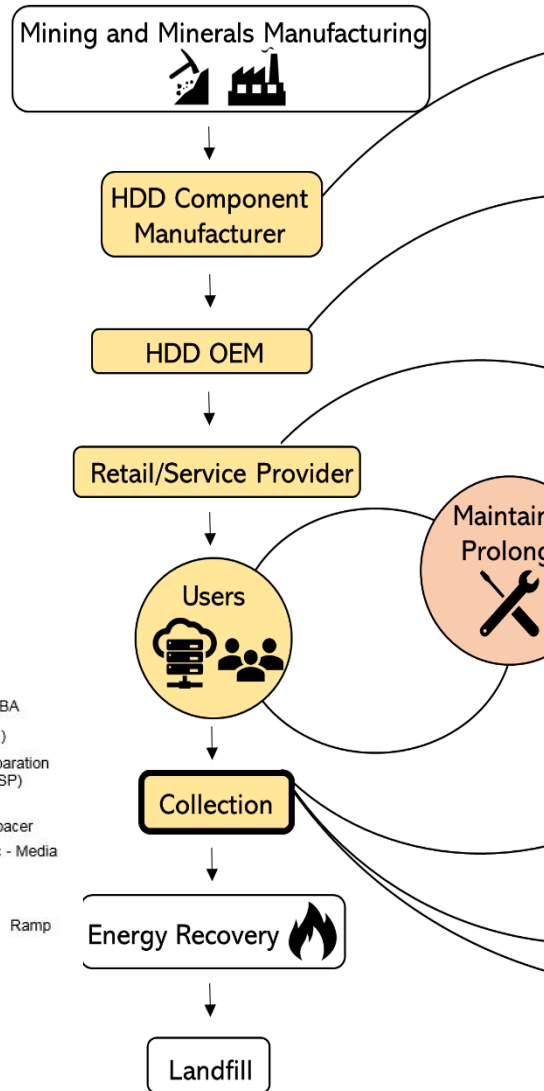
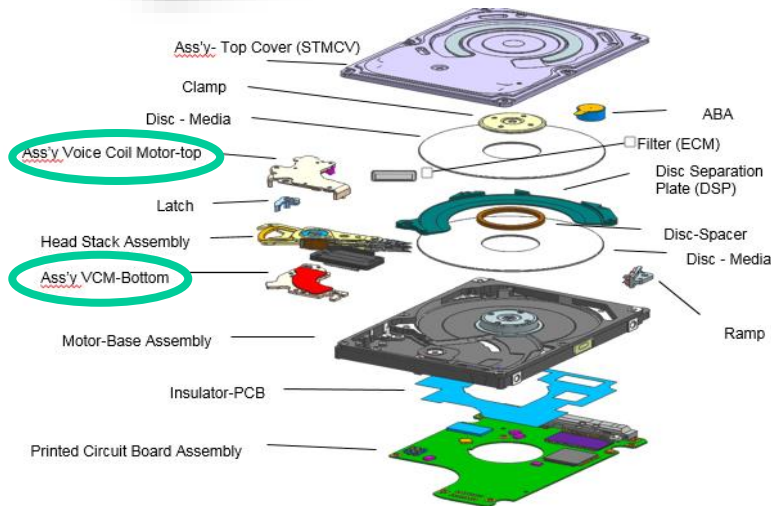
## Value-chain integration



## How to Engage

- Small-scale research
- Pilot-scale demonstration
- REE recovery service contracts
- Sub-licensing with/without MPS
- Others

# Creating a Circular Economy for HDDs



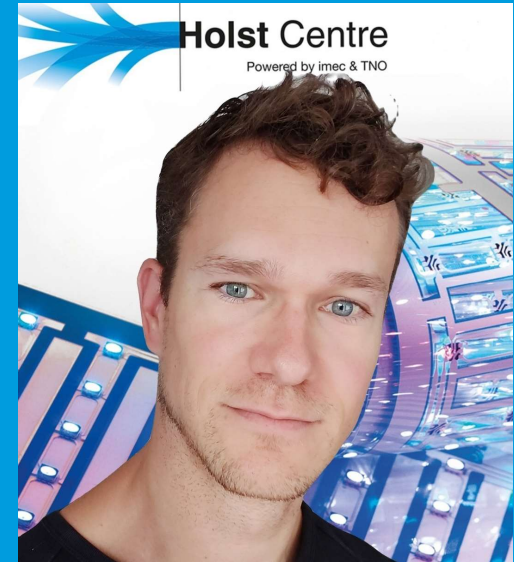
## Lessons Learned

- Project made us all smarter
- Have the full supply chain at the table – decision makers required
- Proof test the value for all companies in the supply chain – everyone must be honest
- Aim for the highest value
- Aim for the highest volumes
- Don't underestimate the difficulty or time to execute
- Analyze the logistics, LCA, TEA early and often
- Work fast - situations change
- Play the long game

# Circular strategies for printed electronics



Stephan Harkema is a highly motivated and creative program manager. He has a PhD in Polymer Chemistry and close to 20 years of experience in research & development. At TNO at Holst Centre, he has been working on high-tech applications in both private and public funded projects with high customer satisfaction rates. For roughly a decade, he has studied flexible OLEDs for lighting and signage applications and - in hindsight - made his first strides in sustainable developments by reducing the amount of Indium in those OLEDs. In 2017, his focus shifted to Structural Electronics, particularly to human-machine interfacing using Hybrid & Printed Electronics as well as light management. Since early 2021, Stephan has been leading a team that leverages TNO's broad range of expertise to develop sustainable solutions for in-plastics embedded electronics. His findings have been published in multiple peer-review publications and are protected through well over a dozen patent applications.



**Dr. Stephan Harkema**  
Program Manager

# Circular Strategies for Printed Electronics

## Workshop Circularity Challenges in Electronics Manufacturing

### Electronics Goes Green 2024

Holst Centre – Workshop IPC/iNEMI - Dr. S. Harkema



# Who we are?

- Independent, non-for-profit R&D institute
- Founded in 2005 by two organizations:
  - TNO (NL, 4400 people)
  - imec (BE, 4300 people)
- Around 260 own employees, all located in Holst Centre premises

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Holst Centre – Workshop IPC/iNEMI - Dr. S. Harkema



# Our Location: High Tech Campus in Netherlands



- **Site-sharing:** >200 companies, >12000 researchers
- **Own facilities:** R&D labs, pilot manufacturing facilities for Printed and Flexible Electronics
- **Facility-sharing:** Shared cleanroom and materials analysis



# Tech solution for a recycling problem? (Or just go back to the old days?)

## Automatic drip brewing



In 1954, the Wigomat, a German coffee maker, became the world's first electric drip brewer.

## Single-serve coffee machines: pod-based systems



## Former Nespresso boss warns coffee pods are killing environment - ABC News

- “end up on a landfill”
- “recycling doesn't really work”
- “Aluminium capsules have to be shredded, coffee has to be taken away with water, the varnish to be burnt and aluminium has to be re-smelted again”

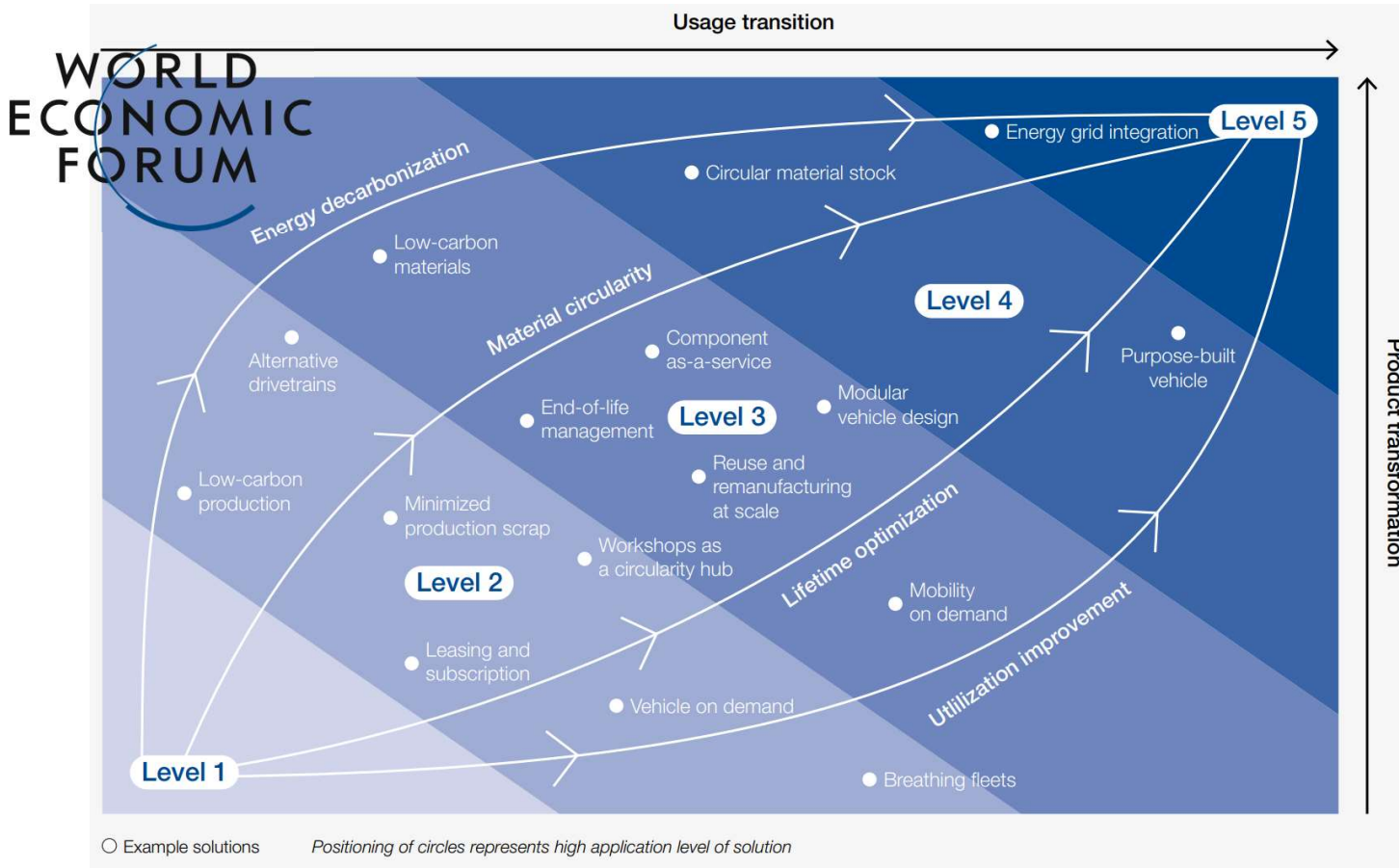
## Smart coffee brewers from beans



## Compostable pods

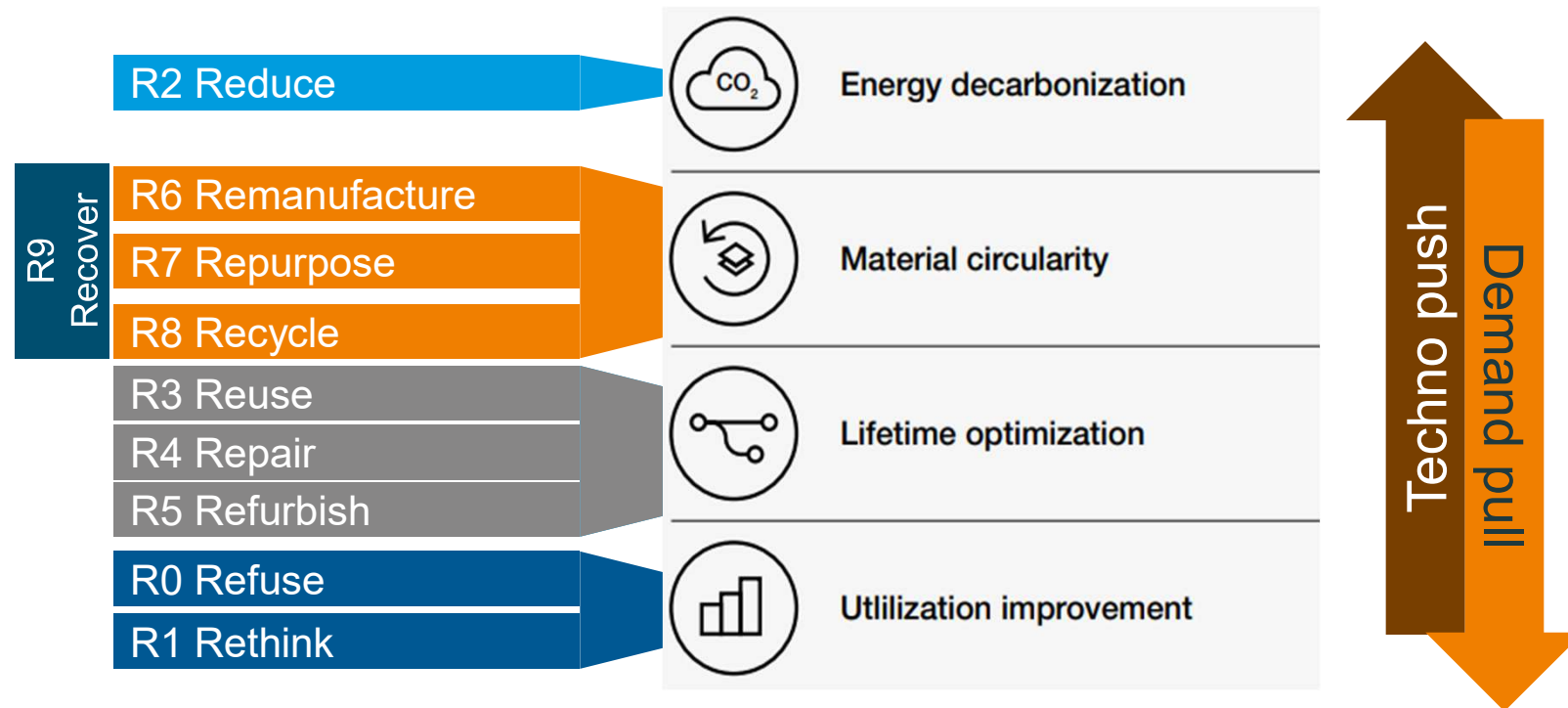


# Transformation pathways – key strategies towards circularity



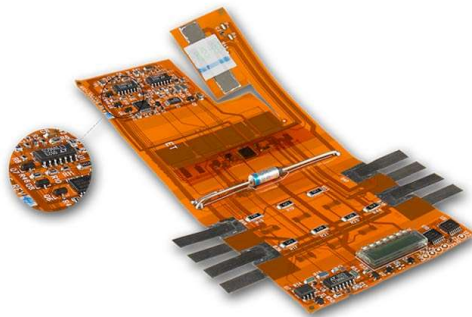
1. Energy decarbonization
2. Material circularity
3. Lifetime optimization
4. Utilization improvement

# Combining circular pathways



***The 10 R's framework is a powerful instrument to reach higher circularity along the 4 pathways***

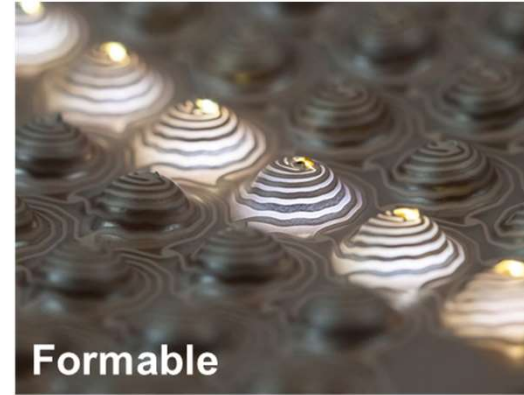
# Holst Centre vision for Sustainable (Printed) Electronics



- **Hybrid & Printed Electronics to replace PCB-based electronics in future product**
- Rethinking design, manufacturing and recycling processes will further add to the sustainable value creation:
  - **Refuse the PCB**, the product embeds the PCB (as HP&E) (**R0\***)
  - **Additive manufacturing of/on bio-based/renewable materials** (**R0,R2\***)
  - **Efficient processing** techniques, use **less material** (**R2\***)
  - **Repairability** enabled for encapsulated H&PE devices (**R4\***)
  - **Facilitate reprocessing of materials** by design to obtain the same (closed loop) or lower quality (open loop) secondary materials (**R8\***)

# What is Hybrid & Printed Electronics?

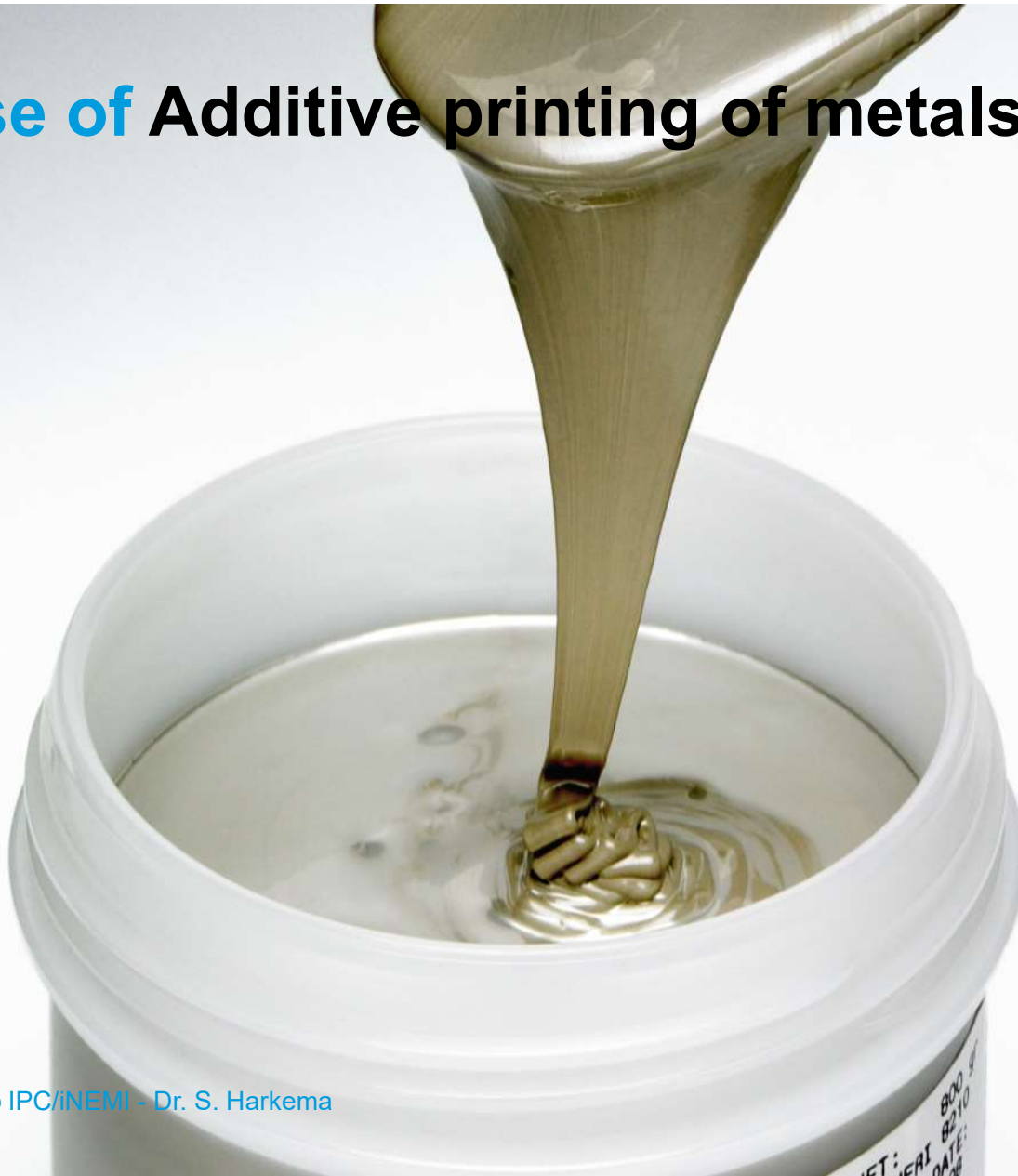
Create new form factors and designs freedom by **additive printing of metals...**



...and enabling new applications by combining these with traditional (SMT) components!

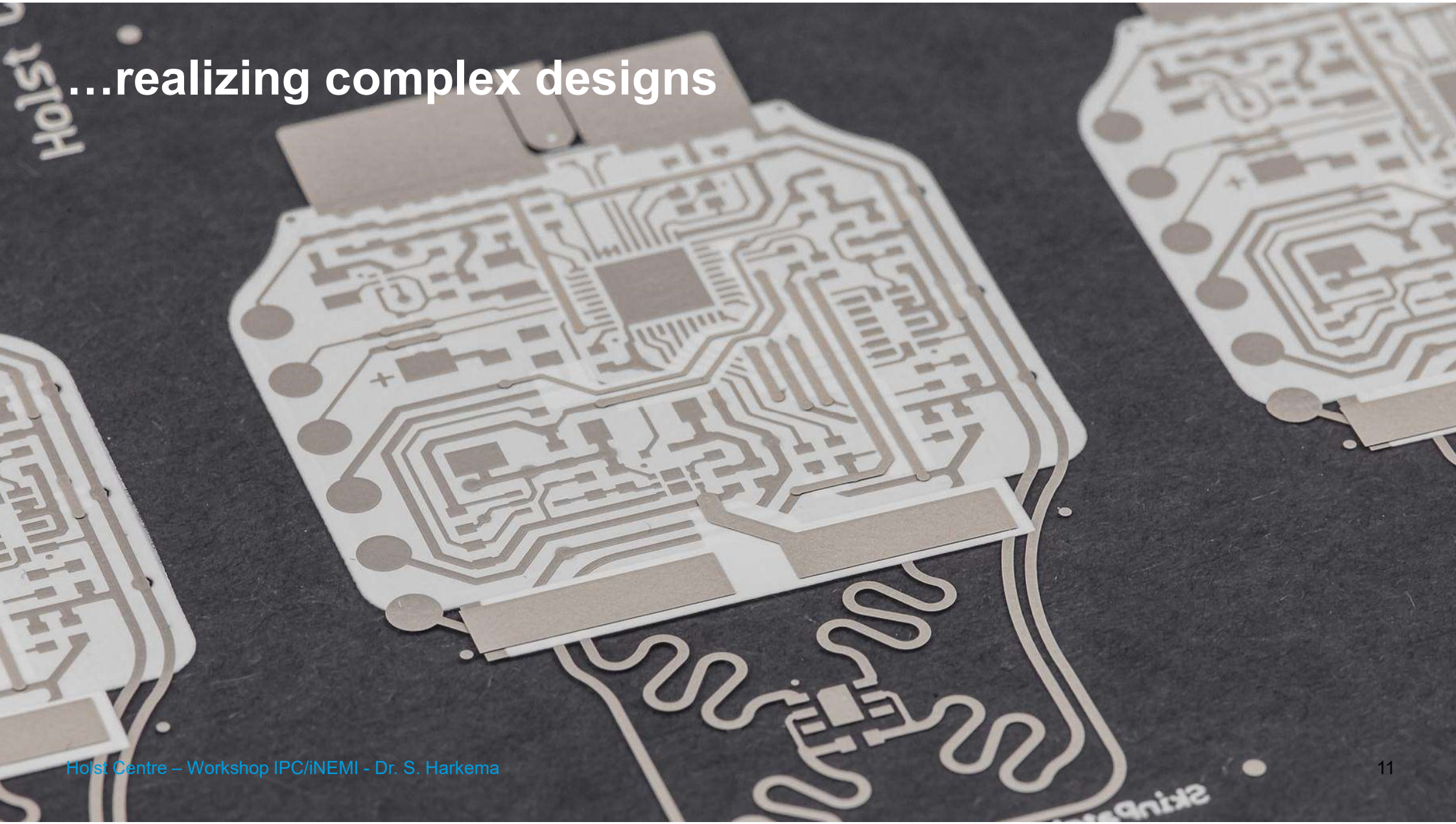


# Smart use of Additive printing of metals...



...on a variety of substrates





...realizing complex designs



## ...adding components in a smart way

Sensor

Microcontroller

Passive SMD  
Components

# Minimizing the dependency of PCBs (pathway “Lifetime optimization”: modular design)

Detachable & re-usable PCB  
High environmental impact  
Long lifetime (20 yrs)



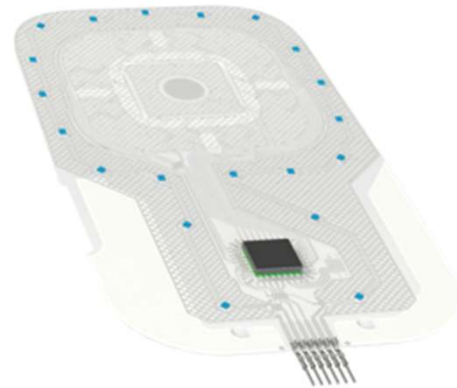
Disposable patch  
Low environmental impact  
Short lifetime (weeks)

# .. Or even fully integrate the PCB example IMSE® with system-in-package (TactoTek)



**1.**

Print decoration and electronics



**2.**

Mount components on **flat** film



**3.**

Form 3D shape **with** components



**4.**

Injection mold final single, seamless part

# What about our electronics?

Holst Centre

**62** million tonnes  
of e-waste in 2022

**82%** up  
from 2010

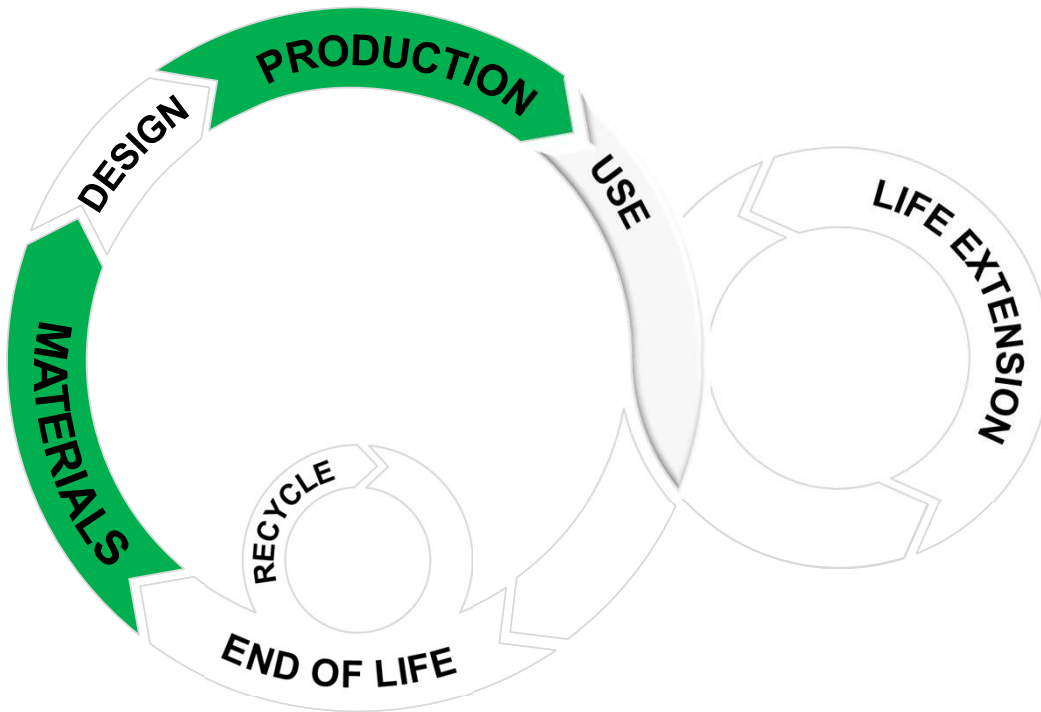


## How can we make our electronics more sustainably?

Old Fadama, Accra, Ghana, February 9, 2023. Simon Aniah, 24, burns scrap electrical cables to recover copper by the Korle Lagoon. © Muntaka Chasant for Fondation Carmignac

# Transition to lower impact materials pathway “energy decarbonization”

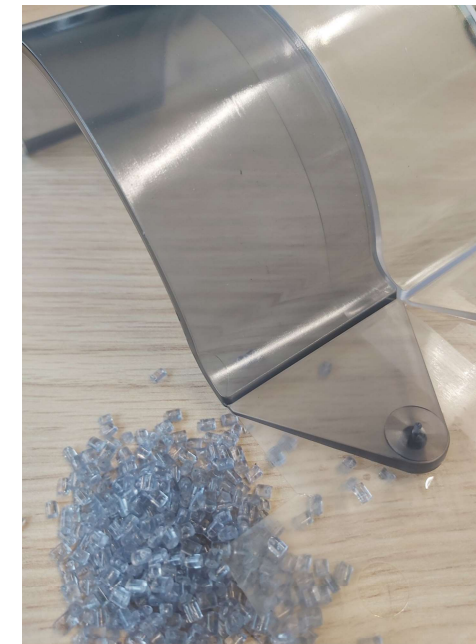
- Recycled, bio-based and renewable plastics & low-impact metals (Cu, r-Ag vs Ag)



LEDs soldered onto printed Cu circuitry



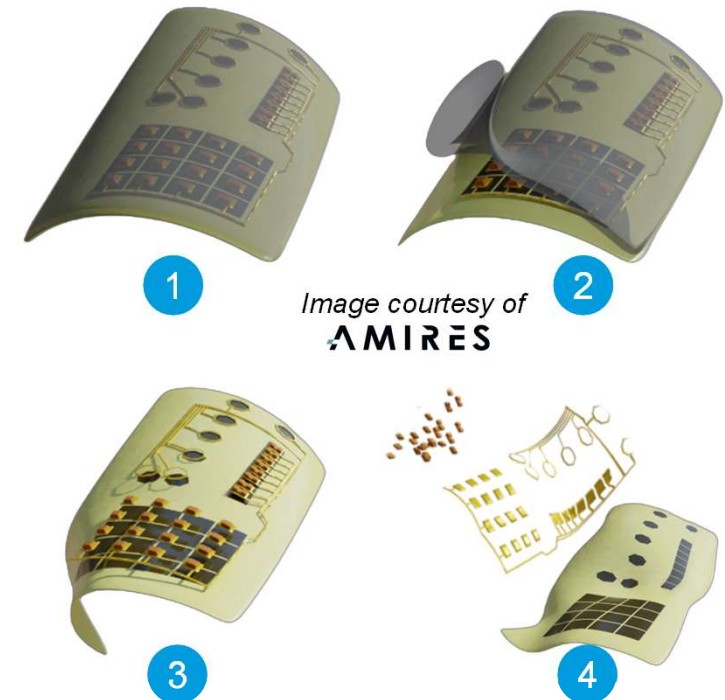
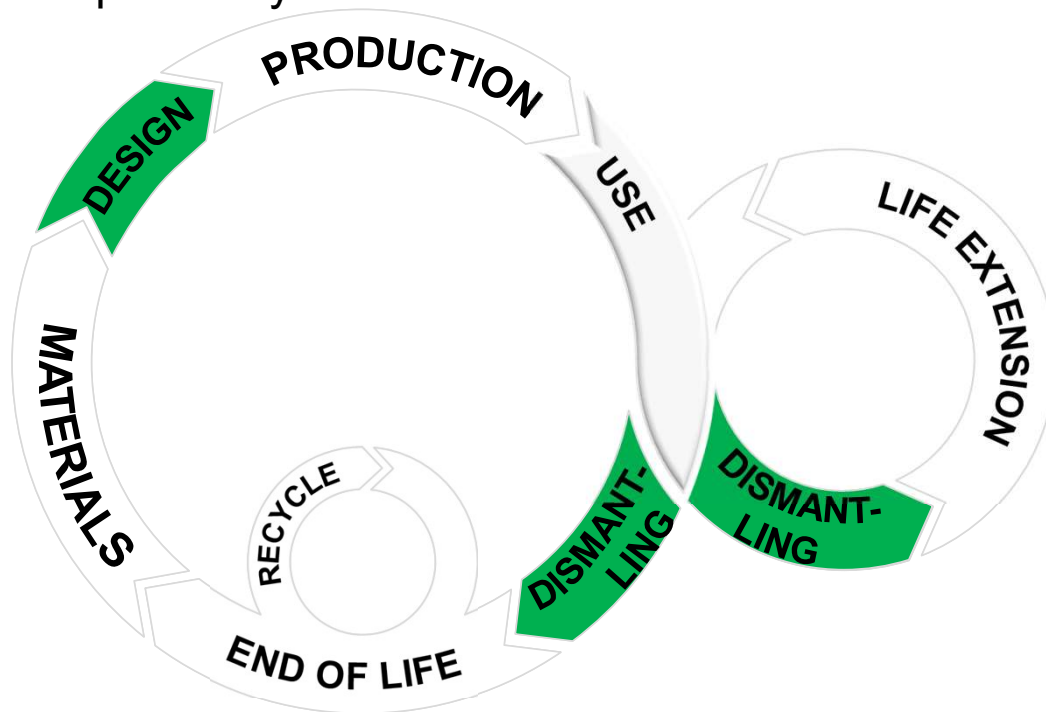
Overmolded flat interconnect (recycled PET)



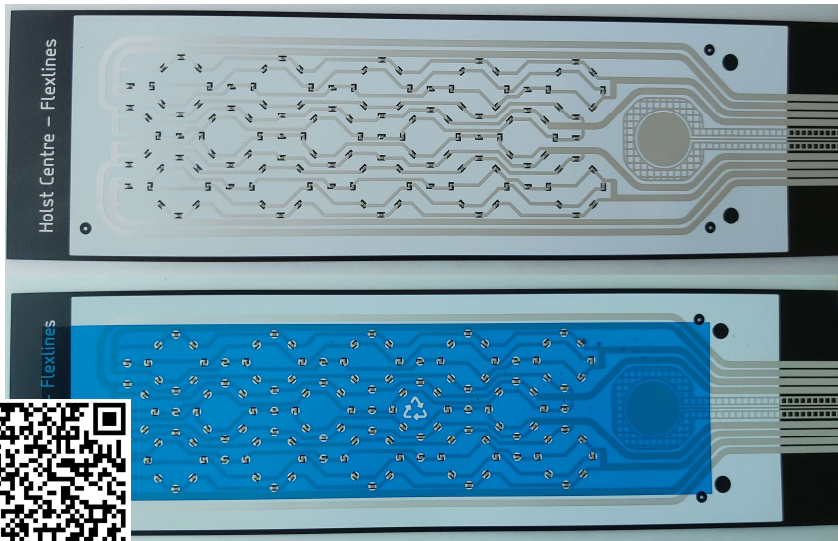
Overmolding with recycled PC

# Use of design-for-recycling (DfR) pathway “material circularity”

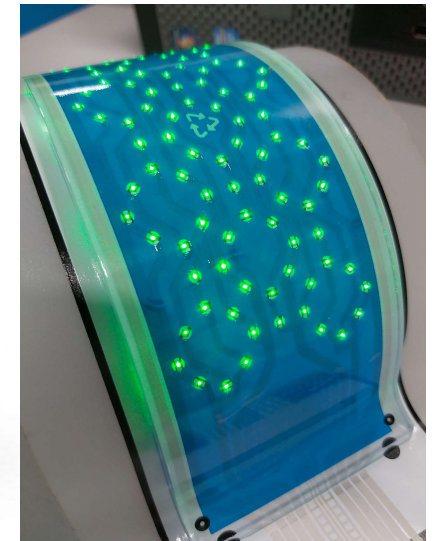
- Enable dismantling of product to liberate metals and components for improved recycling and repairability



# Example implementations of DfR in IME

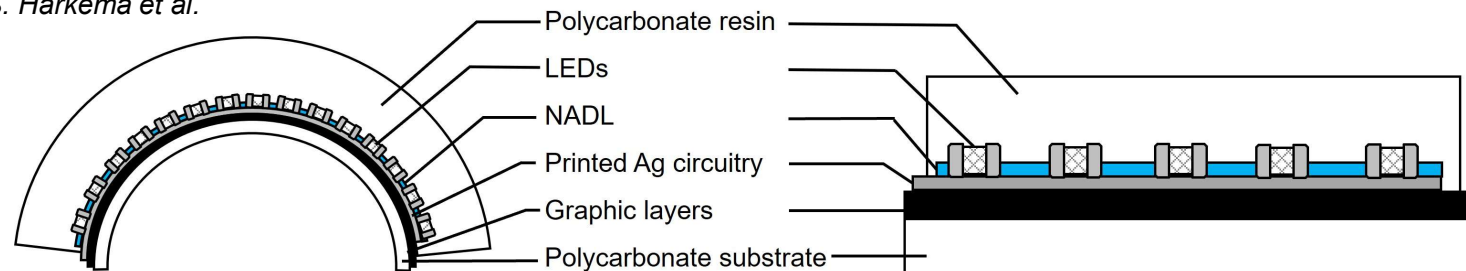


Journal of Cleaner Production 2024, S. Harkema et al.



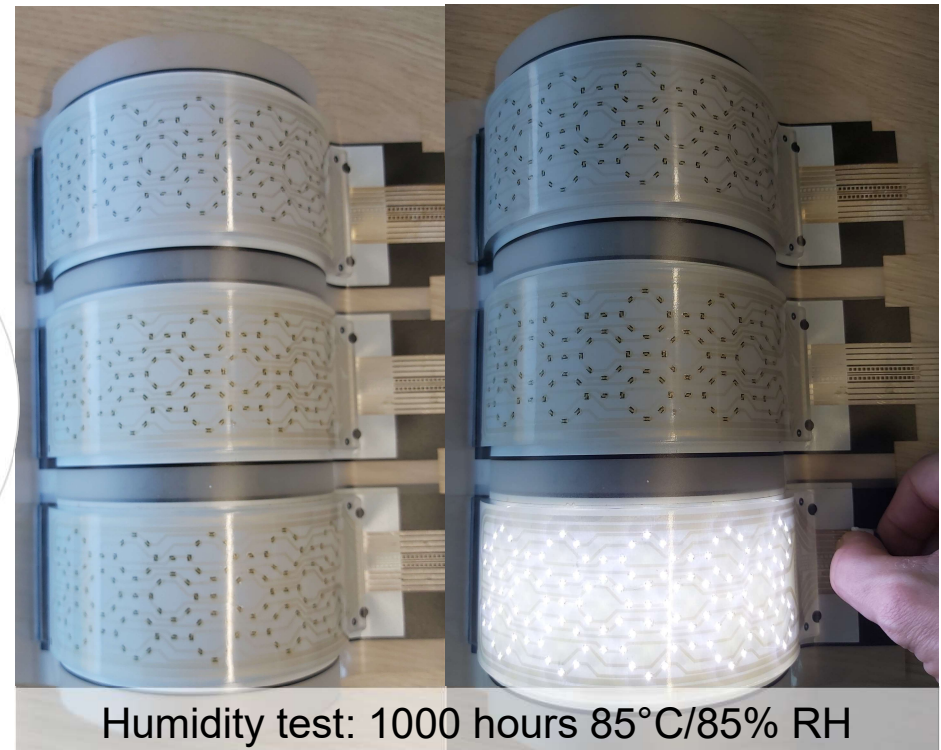
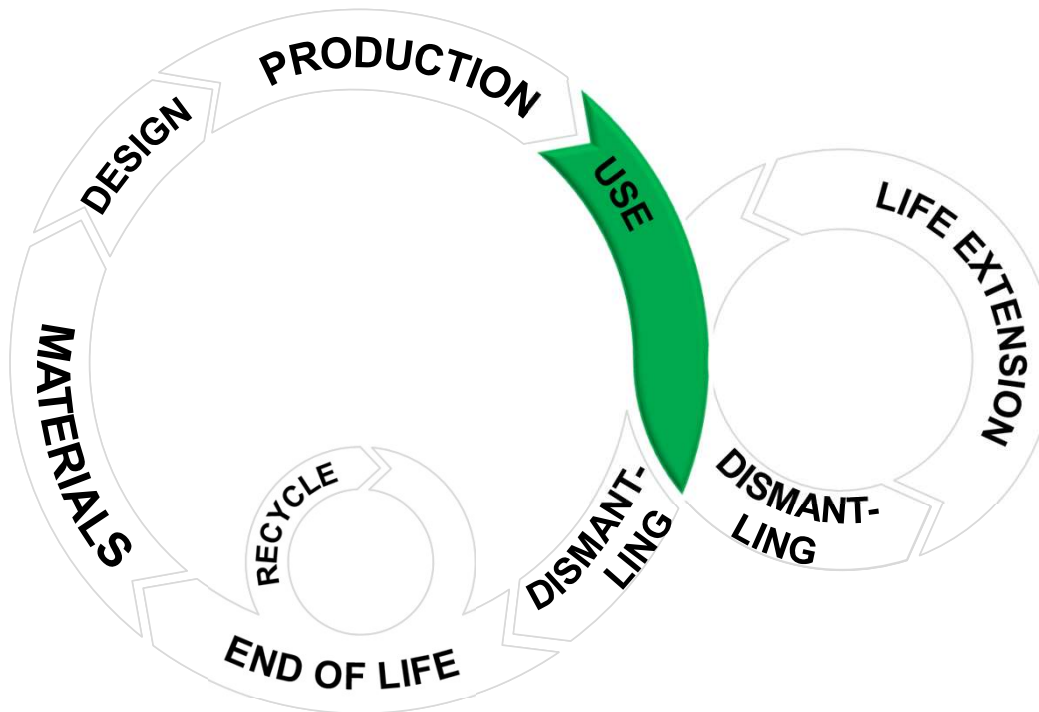
## Examples:

1. Non-adhesives (see above)
2. Weak adhesives
3. Reversible adhesives



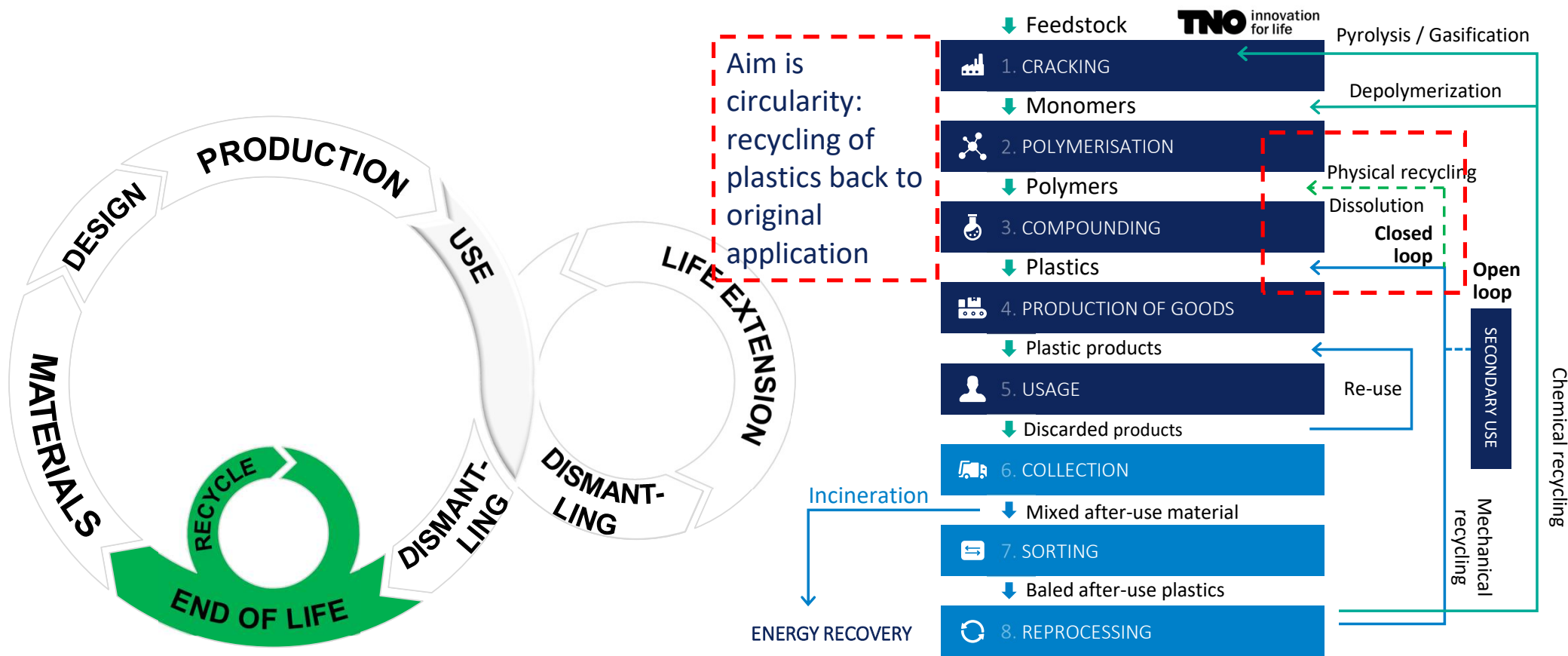
# Balance durability vs dismantlability

- Balance durability vs dismantlability: adding a dismantling layer should not impair reliability



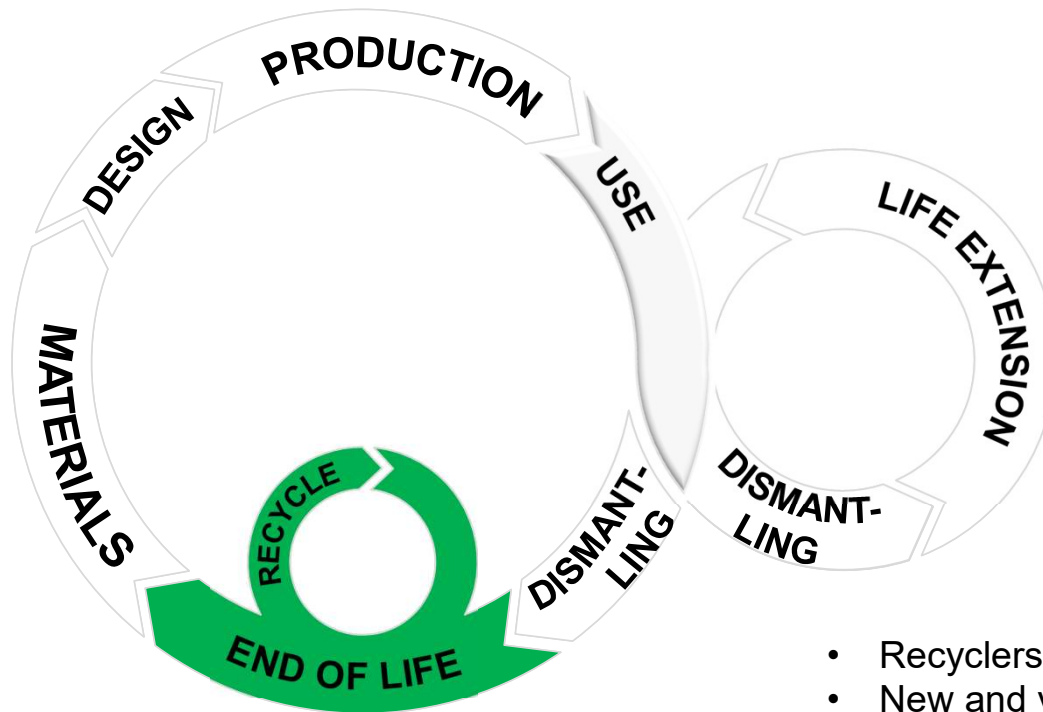


# Recovery of plastics

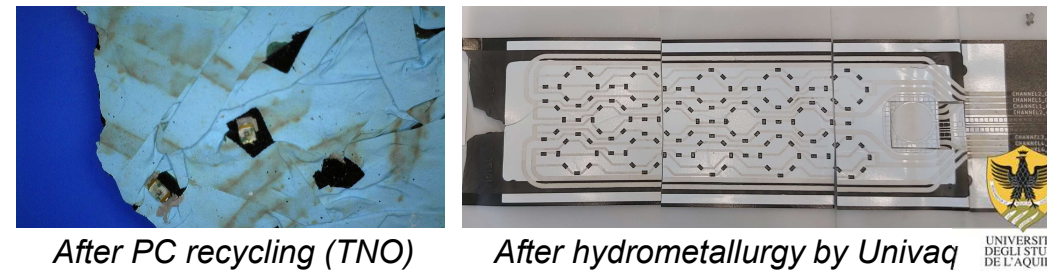
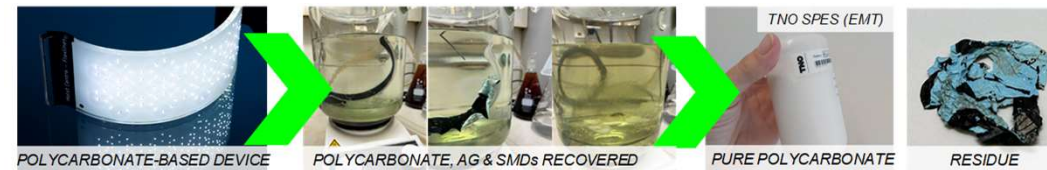


# Developing approaches for EOL treatment

- Strategy towards environmentally sound and economically viable recycling



Recycling of IME devices with/without dismantling

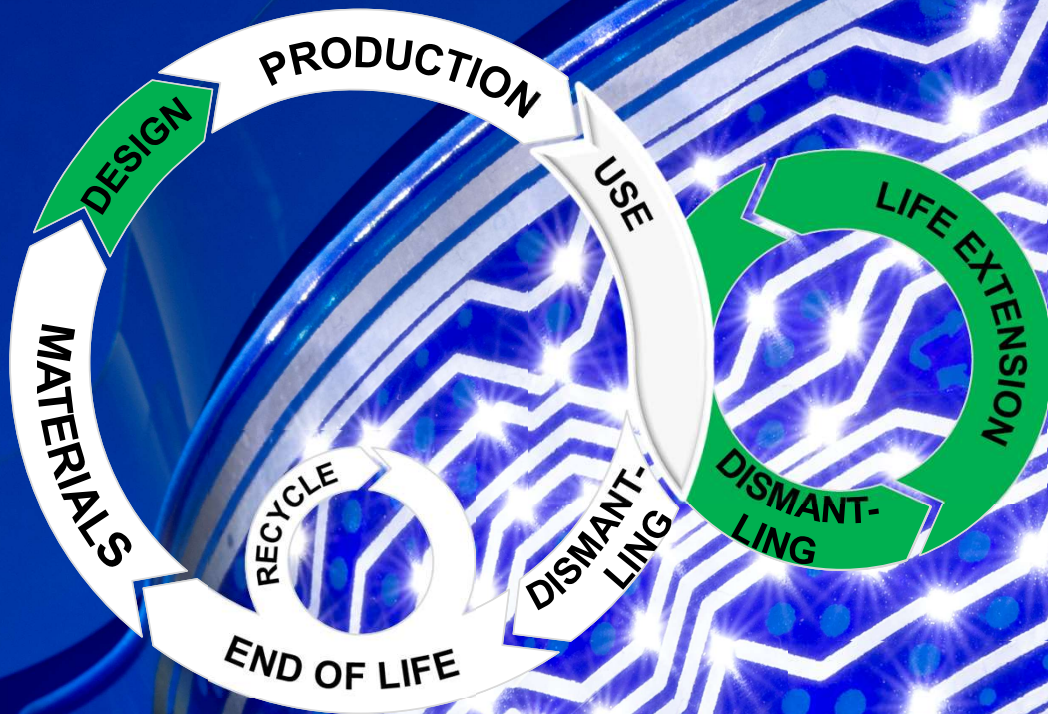


- Recyclers confirm: e-waste with high caloric value is not economically viable
- New and viable recycling routes are made possible by more dismantling

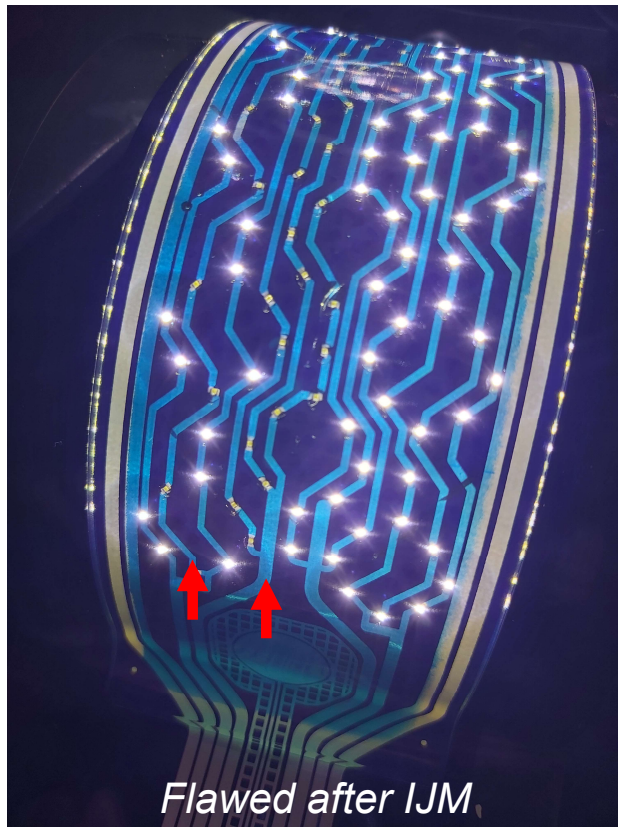
# Repaired IME device pathway “lifetime optimization”

Holst Centre

Powered by imec & TNO

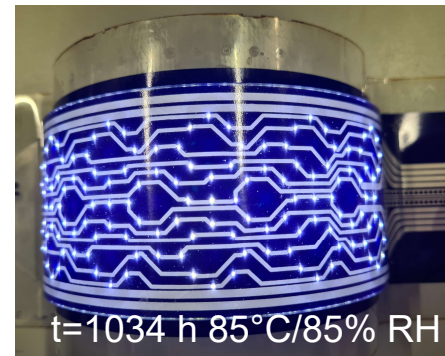
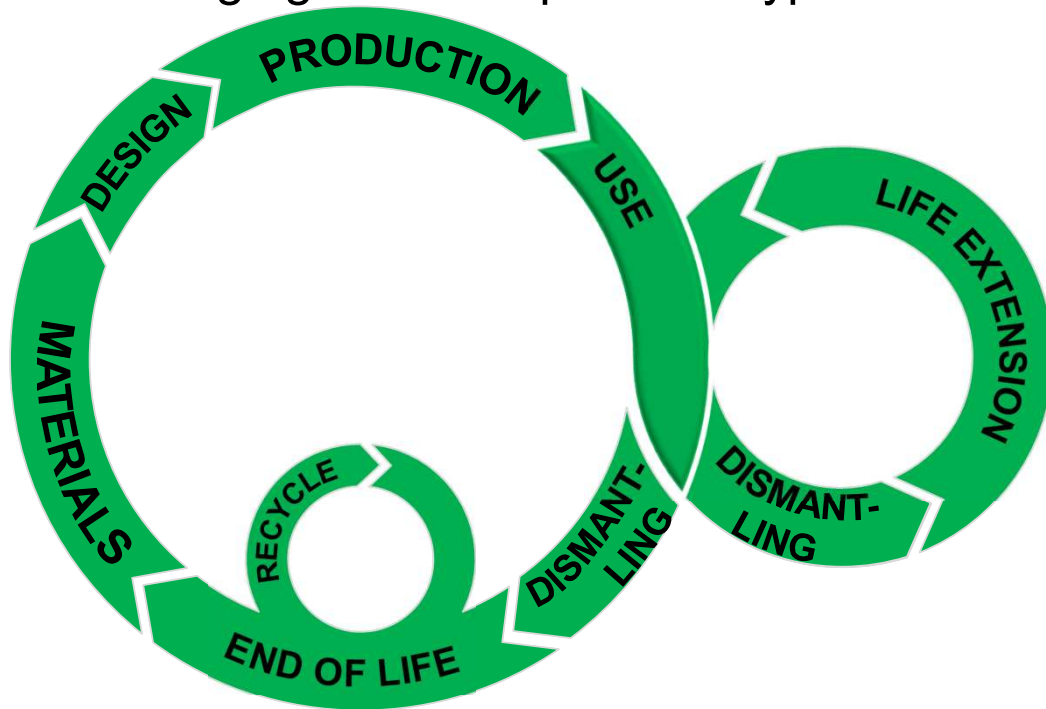


# Repair of IME manufacturing fail

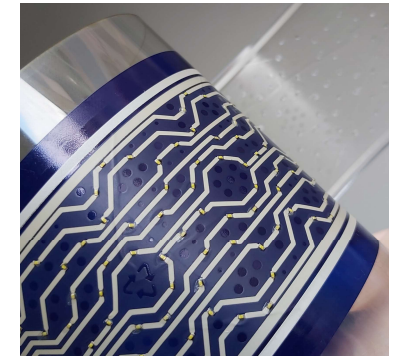


# IME: a circular technology?

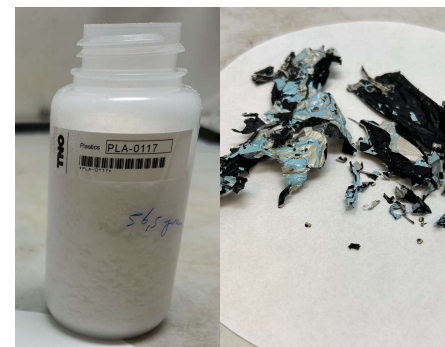
- Circular strategies successfully applied to a challenging and encapsulated type of H&PE



1 Durable



2 Dismantable



3 Recyclable



4 Repairable

# Rethinking the future of sustainable electronics together



Co-funded by  
the European Union

The Ecotron project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101070167



The Unicorn project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101070169



The Treasure project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003587



The CIRC-uits project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101091490



[holstcentre.com](http://holstcentre.com)



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# Overview iNEMI and IPC

## > Fran Fourcade

- IPC standards useful to solving the industry's circularity problems

## > Grace O'Malley

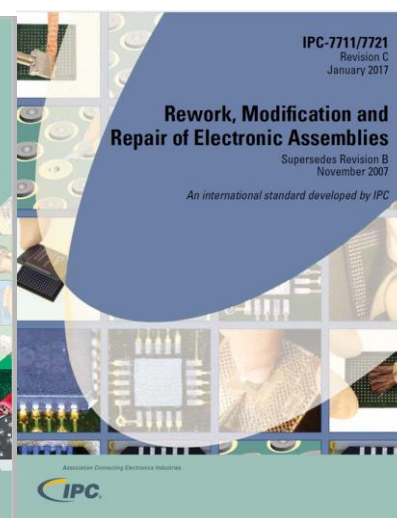
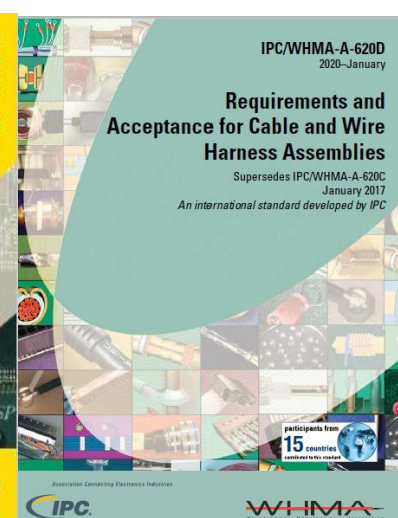
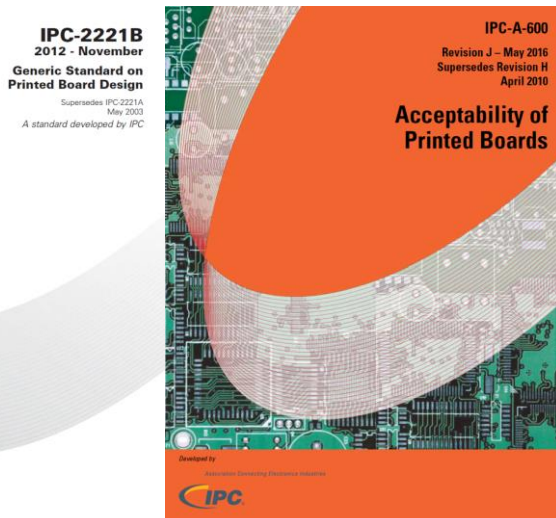
- iNEMI products and services useful to solving the industry's circularity problems



# About IPC Standards



- > Standards are a fundamental part of the design and manufacturing process
- > More than 300 standards in the IPC library
- > Used worldwide for designing and manufacturing electrical and electronic products and their materials
- > Standards used for training, certification and validation audit programs



# For Industry by Industry



- > IPC Standards are developed and maintained by industry volunteers globally
- > Participation at no cost
- > Any interested person can join a committee
- > Anyone can submit a comment
  - > Committee members
  - > Users of Standards
- > Procedures accredited by American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- > Standardization process ensures:
  - > Openness
  - > Fairness
  - > Antitrust protection



# International Electronics Manufacturing Initiative

Grace O'Malley  
CTO, iNEMI  
[gomalley@inemi.org](mailto:gomalley@inemi.org)

## Website

- [iNEMI Project information](#)
- [iNEMI upcoming events](#)
- [iNEMI Roadmap](#)

## Social

- [iNEMI TV on YouTube](#)
- Follow iNEMI on [LinkedIn](#)

iNEMI since 1996, gives it members the ability to anticipate and shape industry needs, ensure supply chain readiness and accelerate innovation.

- **Think strategically** by roadmapping future technology needs
- **Collaborate wisely**, working with a network of technical leaders to identify and focus on common industry challenges
- **Solve creatively** through collaborative technical projects that amplify any one individual organization's expertise and resources



# Industry-led Global Consortium for Electronics Manufacturing





## Access to iNEMI Roadmap

- Anticipate and prepare for the inflections points in strategic areas such as 5G, Advanced Packaging, Smart Manufacturing and Circular Economy
- Identify and drive innovation and supply chain alignment.
- Opportunity to understand and contribute to 10 year+ vision of the industry



## Engagement in iNEMI Projects

- Save time and minimize the risk of new technology adoption by leveraging resources across the supply chain to address common industry gaps and challenges
- Influence supply chain readiness and standards improvement through best practices and proven test methods development



## Leverage the iNEMI Network

- Global membership across entire electronics manufacturing value chain
- Project Teams and technical groups share technical knowledge and insight into common industry challenges
- Strong applied interactions between industry and leading research community in electronic manufacturing



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# Working Session: Problems

**Circularity means that electronics manufacturers have systems and processes in place that address remanufacturing, recycling, reparability, reusability, upgradability, and resource efficiency. Solutions driven by industry will help enable efficient and effective adoption of circularity through the electronics manufacturing value chain.**

**Attendees of this workshop should be procurement officers, policy experts, and technical experts who will work together in small teams to develop initial scopes for electronics industry solutions that address pressing circularity challenges.**

**At the end of the workshop, we will have foundational content – problem statements -- for new industry standards, tools, and workforce education.**



## Ingredients for Successful Problem Formulation

- > Write it down, appoint a notetaker
  - Paper and markers provided
- > Evidence and data to support your claim that this is a problem
  - No complaints allowed
- > Creativity
- > Consider possible solutions as you create the problems
- > Stay on time, appoint a timekeeper

## Process for Successful Problem Formulation

1. What is the problem?
2. Why is it problem?
3. Where is it a problem?
  - > By geography, supply chain segment, company size?
4. Rank your problems to identify top 3
  - > Consider the severity of the problem: how bad is it (e.g., financial impacts, number of companies impacted), how much time does it take from daily tasks/operations
  - > Consider the urgency of the problem: is this a compliance issue, is this affecting companies now or in the future?
5. Refine the list to be as specific as needed.
6. Create one statement per problem.

# Example of a Problem Statement

The most pressing problem in circularity for electronics is \_\_\_\_\_.

This is a problem for the electronics manufacturing industry because \_\_\_\_\_.

This problem affects the industry most in \_\_\_\_\_ (company size, supply chain segment, geography).



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# Working Session: Solutions

## Ingredients for a Successful Solution

- > Walk around the room and socialize
- > Advocate, appoint someone who can talk about the problem statements at your table
  - Be able to convince others that this is a problem that needs to be solved
- > Creativity
  - Consider solutions that can take the form of industry standards, workforce education, advocacy to policymakers, research, software tools, databases
- > Sticky notes and Markers

## Process for Creating Solutions

- > Write down your idea for a solution to the problem
  - Identify how this solution will address the problem
  - Use sticky notes to document your idea
  - Put your name(s) on your idea



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# Discussion

# Discussion

- > Total number of problem statements created
  - Any duplicates?
  
- > Total number of solutions identified
  - Any duplicates?
  - Can we prioritize based on the number of solutions (sticky notes) provided?
  
- > What did you learn today?

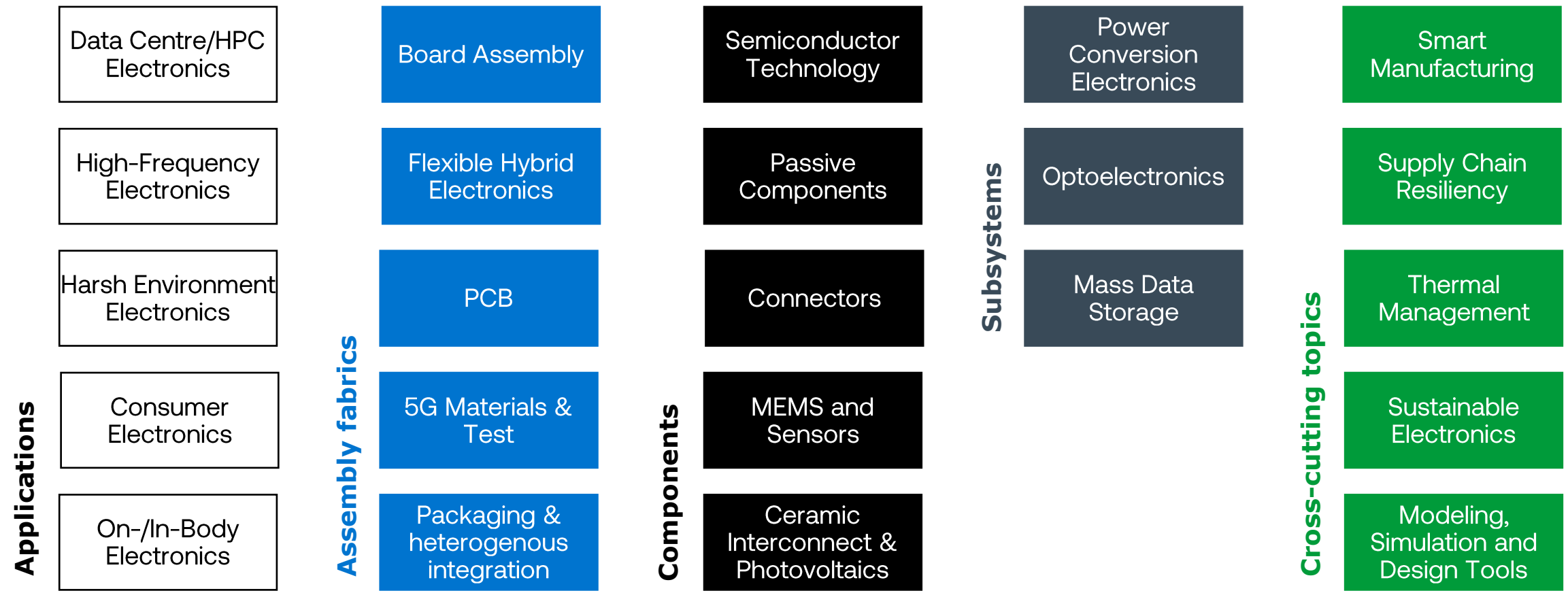
- > Review of iNEMI and IPC opportunities
  - Call for participation!

# iNEMI Roadmap: Technology Scope

Focus on Manufacturing and Supplychain challenges



## Complex Integrated Systems



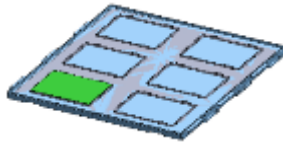
# iNEMI Projects - Value

## Examples of Project Outputs & Impact

Web based LCA tool



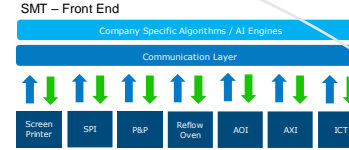
Design recommendations for effective handling tray for large formfactor packages



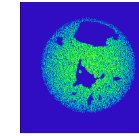
Tools

Best Practices

Best practices for data management enabling Smart Manufacturing adoption



Cost model and best practices for Data Center implementation



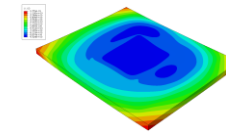
New industry test method



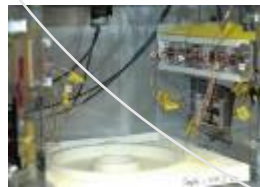
Test Method

Characterization

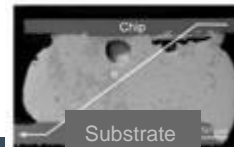
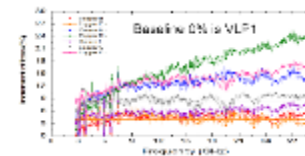
Characterization data to help develop model and drive design and manufacturing improvements



Validating faster more cost effective test methods

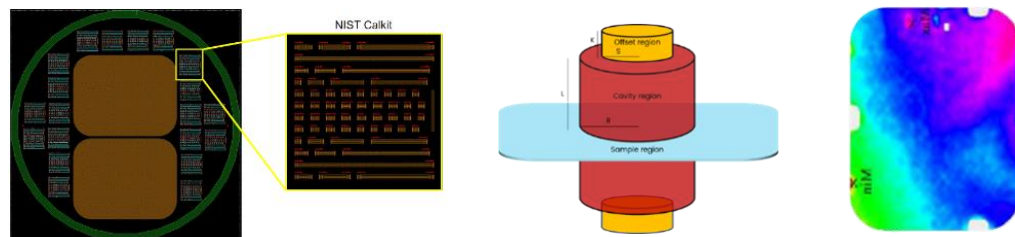


Characterization data to drive design and manufacturing improvements





## mmWave Permittivity Reference Material



### Motivation:

- 5G Solutions require ultra-low loss laminate materials and PCBs/substrates for efficient design of 5G communications equipment. Industry needs for standardized measurement methods were addressed by a 26-member iNEMI team in 2020-21. Identified an urgent need for the development of reference material that can be used reliably for low loss material measurements using commercially available tools

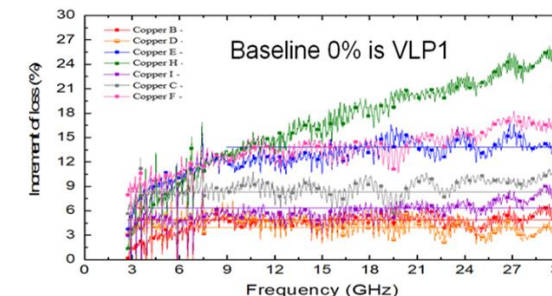
### Objective:

- Develop reference material for consistent Df/Dk measurement methodologies for characterizing ultra low loss laminate materials in the range of 30 – 100GHz

Chaired by Intel and NIST

[Project page](#)

## Reliability & Loss Properties of Copper Foils for 5G Applications



### Motivation:

- Copper foil manufacturers and PCB fabricators treat copper surfaces to improve adhesion to resin systems. This 'roughening' treatment whilst essential for PCBs to survive 'thermal shock' has a detrimental effect to signal loss and integrity, particularly for high frequency 5G applications.

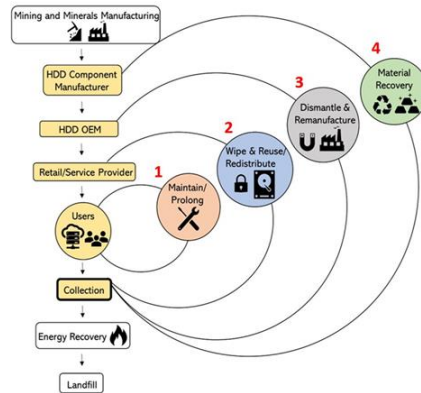
### Objective:

- Determine signal loss characterization for various surface topology & profilometry results, for a range of signal frequencies used in high frequency / 5G applications.
- Correlation between surface roughness and surface conductivity and signal loss at high frequencies.

Chaired by Dell

[Project page](#)

## Value Recovery from Used Electronics



### Motivation:

- Need to demonstrate design and resource management models whereby the value of a HDD could be maximized throughout its working life.
- Absence of use cases including decision trees, economic and LCA models showing the benefit of moving from the current “Reuse or Shred” of HDDs to a “Reuse and Recover”

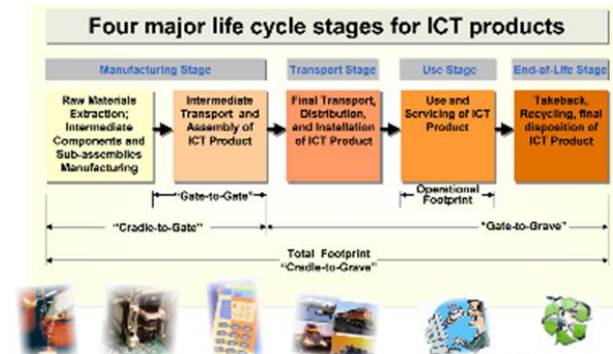
### Objective:

- Identify and demonstrate (5) paths for high volume REE recovery that support a developing circular economy

Chaired by Purdue University and Seagate

[Project Page](#) Contact:marks@inemi.org

## Eco-Impact Estimator Phase 4



### Motivation:

- Focused ICT tool useful for electronics manufacturing supply chain. Full featured LCA burdensome and not necessary for many applications
- Increasing need for eco-impact transparency and decision support

### Objective:

- Update and expand life cycle eco impact data for metals, plastics; add water usage data

Chaired by Nokia

[Project Page](#) Contact:marks@inemi.org

# IPC-7711/21 - Leading Standard for Rework, Modification and Repair of Electronic Assemblies

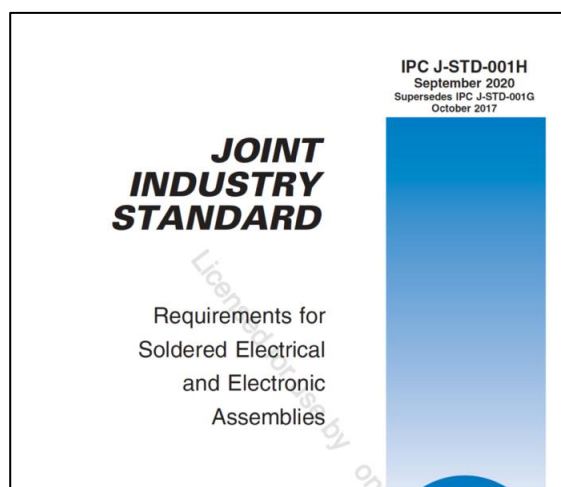
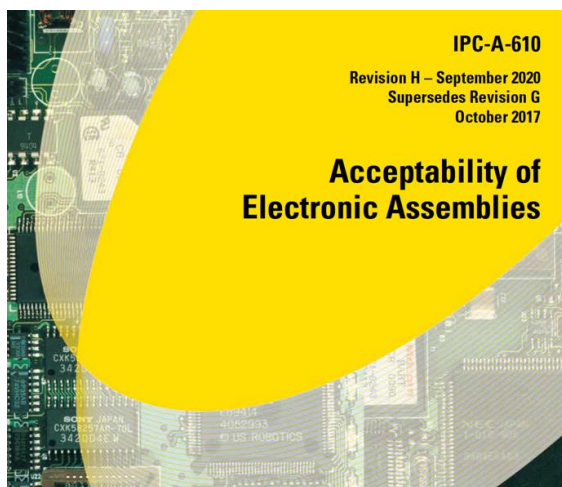
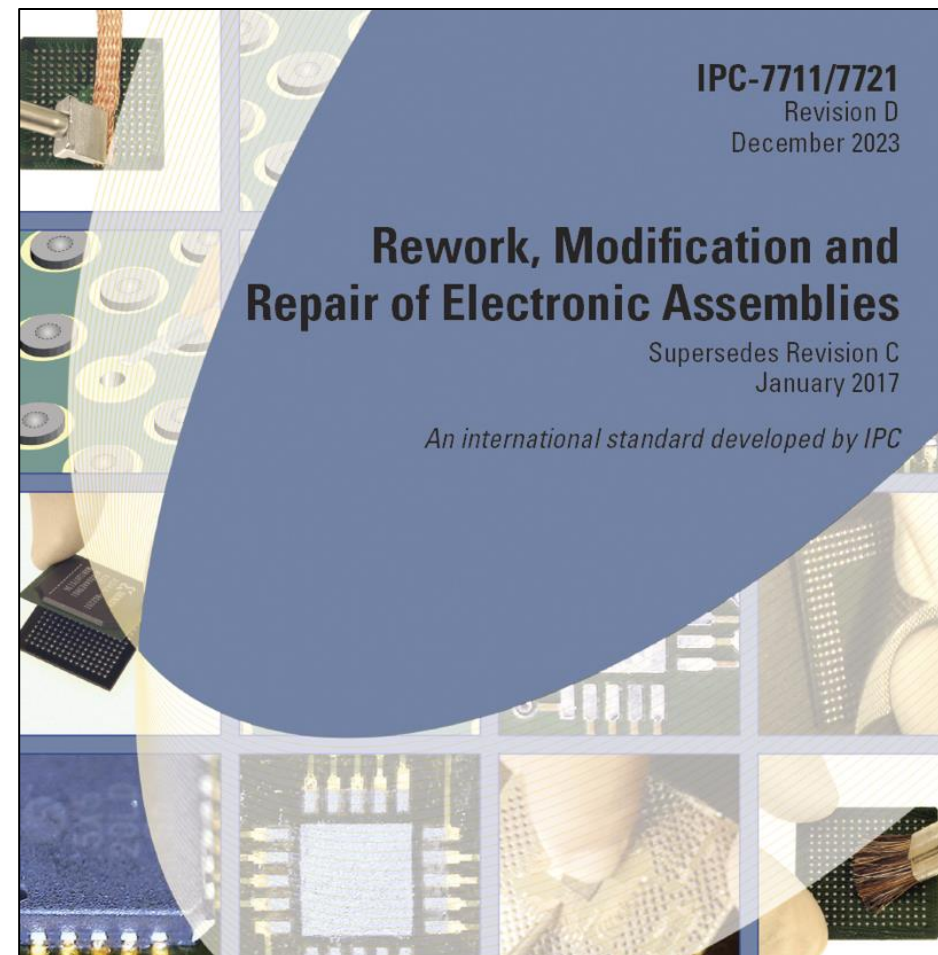


IPC-7711/21 is a key document in the rework and repair of electronic assemblies.

The acceptance criteria of the reprocessed assembly must comply with IPC-A-610 or J-STD-001 acceptance standards.

Defines the levels of conformance in relation to the classification of the assembly as well as the skill levels that operators require to perform the repair procedure.

**IPC-7711/21 REVISION D RELEASED DECEMBER 2023**



Provides criteria, material selection, methodology and procedures to ensure the reliability of products subject to rework, modification and repair.

December 2023 IPC-7711/7721D

## 4.2.4 Conductor Repair — Surface Wire Method

**Board Type:** R, F, C (See 1.8 Board Types)  
**Skill Level:** Intermediate (See 1.11 Skill Level)  
**Level of Conformance:** Medium (See 1.6.1 Level of Conformance)

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
 Clauses 1.9 Basic Considerations, 1.12 Workstations, Tools and Materials, and 1.13 High Temperature Solder Alloys provide important information and guidance about the use of this procedure, including but not limited to, SnPb and Pb-free.

**OUTLINE**  
 This method is used on printed boards to replace damaged or missing conductors on the printed board surface. A length of standard insulated or non-insulated wire is used to repair the damaged conductor.

**CAUTION**  
 The conductor widths, spacing and current carrying capacity must not be reduced below allowable tolerances.

- REFERENCES**
- 1.14.1 Cleaning
  - 1.14.4.1 Conditioning — Baking and Preheating
  - 1.14.5 Epoxy Mixing and Handling

- TOOLS AND MATERIALS**
- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Cleaner                  | Cleaning Wipes |
| Epoxy                    | Heat Lamp      |
| Polyimide Tape           | Knife          |
| Light                    | Liquid Flux    |
| Microscope               | Oven           |
| Scraper                  | Solder         |
| Soldering Iron with Tips | Wire           |
| Wire Guide Tool          |                |

- PROCEDURE**
1. Clean the area.
  2. Remove the damaged section of conductor using a knife. The damaged conductor should be trimmed back to a point where the conductor will have good bond to the

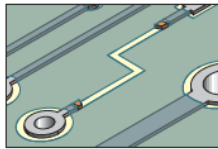


Figure 1 Scrap off any coating from the ends of the conductors

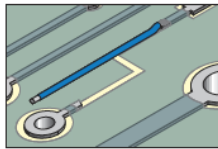


Figure 2 Lap solder the wire to one end of the conductor

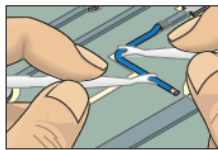


Figure 3 Form wire using wire guide

IPC-7711/7721D December 2023

## 3.4.1 Key and Slot Repair — Epoxy Method

**Board Type:** R, W (See 1.8 Board Types)  
**Skill Level:** Advanced (See 1.11 Skill Level)  
**Level of Conformance:** High (See 1.6.1 Level of Conformance)

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
 Clauses 1.9 Basic Considerations, 1.12 Workstations, Tools and Materials, and 1.13 High Temperature Solder Alloys provide important information and guidance about the use of this procedure, including but not limited to, SnPb and Pb-free.

**OUTLINE**  
 This method is used to repair minor damage to a key slot, or other cutout in a printed board or assembly. The area is repaired using high strength epoxy.

**CAUTION**  
 Care should be taken to limit the application of epoxy to the specific areas desired and to avoid damage to the conductive patterns, contacts and components.

- REFERENCES**
- 1.14.1 Cleaning

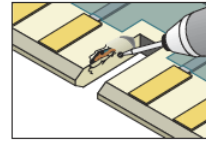


Figure 1 Mill away the damaged board base material



IPC-7711/7721D December 2023

## 5.8.1.2 Bottom Terminated Device Installation Pre-bump and Place with Stay in Place Stencil

**Board Type:** R, F, C (See 1.8 Board Types)  
**Skill Level:** Expert (See 1.11 Skill Level)  
**Level of Conformance:** Medium (See 1.6.1 Level of Conformance)

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
 Clauses 1.9 Basic Considerations, 1.12 Workstations, Tools and Materials, and 1.13 High Temperature Solder Alloys provide important information and guidance about the use of this procedure, including but not limited to, SnPb and Pb-free.

**OUTLINE**  
 The procedure outlined below is generic in nature and identifies the procedural steps which need to be accomplished to affect bottom termination component (BTC) installation. This process has been developed to eliminate the need for a split vision system for alignment of the BTC. Each step must be tailored to accommodate the attributes and characteristics of the specific system being used (system manufactures will customarily provide generalized operating procedures which must be further refined to achieve optimum results).

- NOTE**  
 The following preconditions should be accomplished prior to performing the procedures.
1. Develop a TTP for the specific BTC and BTC / Printed Board combination.
  2. Moisture sensitive components (as classified by IPC/JEDEC J-STD-020 or equivalent documented procedure) must be handled in a manner consistent with IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033 or an equivalent documented procedure
  3. Bake the printed board to remove moisture which may, if not removed, precipitate measuring or delamination.

- REFERENCES**
- 1.14.1 Cleaning
  - 1.14.4.1 Conditioning — Baking and Preheating

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**  
 Hot air or hot gas reflow system  
 Gas focusing nozzle (sized to package dimensions)  
 Gas supply (if other than ambient atmosphere)  
 Preheat method (oven, hotplate, high intensity lamp)  
 Handheld miniature squeegee

**OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT**  
 Bake-out oven (vacuum convection) Inert gas supply, if used

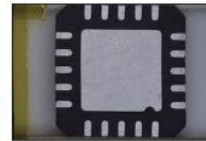


Figure 1

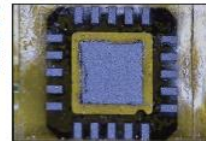
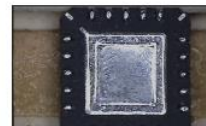


Figure 2



Figure 3



December 2023 IPC-7711/7721D

## 3.1.4 Through-Hole Desoldering — Full Clinch Straightening Method

**Board Type:** R, F, W (See 1.8 Board Types)  
**Skill Level:** Intermediate (See 1.11 Skill Level)  
**Level of Conformance:** High (See 1.6.1 Level of Conformance)

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
 Clauses 1.9 Basic Considerations, 1.12 Workstations, Tools and Materials, and 1.13 High Temperature Solder Alloys provide important information and guidance about the use of this procedure, including but not limited to, SnPb and Pb-free.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**  
 Soldering Iron  
 Continuous vacuum desoldering system  
 Desoldering tip  
 Chisel tip

**MATERIALS**  
 Flux-core solder Flux

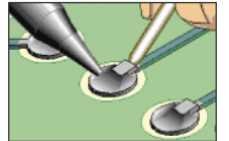


Figure 1



December 2023 IPC-7711/7721D

## 3.12.1 D-Pak Removal — Tweezer Method

**Board Type:** R, F, W, C (See 1.8 Board Types)  
**Skill Level:** Advanced (See 1.11 Skill Level)  
**Level of Conformance:** High (See 1.6.1 Level of Conformance)

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
 Clauses 1.9 Basic Considerations, 1.12 Workstations, Tools and Materials, and 1.9 Pb-Free provide important information and guidance about the use of this procedure, including but not limited to SnPb and Pb-Free.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**  
 Soldering system  
 Tweezers handpiece  
 Removal tips

**MATERIALS**  
 Flux-Core Solder  
 Flux  
 Cleaner

- PROCEDURE**
1. Remove conformal coating (if any) and clean the area of any contamination, oxides or residues.
  2. Install removal tips into tweezers handpiece.
  3. Start with tip temperature of approximately 315 °C (599 °F) and change as necessary.
  4. Apply flux to the thermal plane land and leads. (See Figure 1.)
  5. Clean the tip. Procedure 2.8
  6. Tin the bottom and inside edges of tweezers tips with solder. (See Figure 2.)
  7. Lower tips over component and squeeze handpiece contacting the termination and leads. (See Figure 3.)
  8. Confirm solder melt of all joints and lift component from printed board. (See Figure 4.)
  9. Release component from tips by wiping on a heat resistant surface.
  10. Re-tin tips with solder and return handpiece to its stand.
  11. Prepare land for component replacement. (See Figure 5.)
  12. Clean, if required, and inspect.

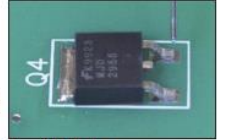


Figure 1 Apply Flux



Figure 2 Tin Tips with Solder

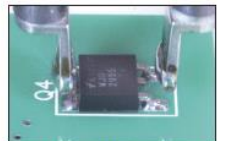


Figure 3 Lower Tips Over Component and Squeeze Handpiece



## Industry Need Identified:

Missing standardized set of guidelines for component conditioning procedures for part salvaging and reclaim/re-use: Component Reclaim Standard.

Companies involved in preliminary exploration:

- Retronix (UK)
- BEST (USA)

## Current Activities:

- Drafting the Project Initiation Number Form (PIN Form)
- **Seeking volunteers to start A-TEAM and push forward the development document.**

## Component Reclaim Standard

### Topics included:

- Material verification – storage, handling, etc.
- Inspection tooling and equipment – XRF, X-ray, etc
- Procedures for Baking, Preheating, Cleaning, Reballing, Retinning, Prepping
- Visual Inspection – coplanarity, etc.
- Electrical Testing – AABUS
- Marking and Repacking/Reeling
- Process Automation

# Some Standardization Activities Supporting Sustainability Data



- > 2-10 Electronic Product Data Description Committee
  - 2-12 Digital Twin Subcommittee
    - > 2-12a Generic Requirements for Digital Twin Task Group
    - > 2-12b Model Based Definition (MBD) for Digital Twins Task Group
    - > 2-12d Digital Sustainability Credentials Standard Task Group
- > 2-16 Digital Product Model Exchange (DPMX) Subcommittee
  - 2-16d IPC-2581 Users Task Group
- > 2-17 Connected Factory Initiative Subcommittee
  - 2-17a IPC-CFX Standard Task Group

- > 2-18 Supplier Declaration Subcommittee
  - 2-18h Conflict Minerals Data Exchange Task Group
  - 2-18j Lab Report Declaration Task Group
  - 2-18k Materials and Substances Declaration for the Aerospace, Defense, HE and Other Industries
- > 2-19 Supply Chain Traceability and Trust Subcommittee
  - 2-19a Critical Components Traceability Task Group
  - 2-19b Trusted Supplier Task Group
  - 2-19c Component-Level Authentication (CLA) Standard Task Group

August 2023

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**Connected Factory  
Exchange (CFX)**

Developed by the IPC-CFX Standard Task Group (2-17a) of the Electronic Product Data Description Committee (2-10) of IPC



IPC-2581C

**Generic Requirements for  
Printed Board Assembly  
Products Manufacturing  
Description Data and  
Transfer Methodology**

Developed by the Digital Product Model Exchange (DPMX) Subcommittee (2-16) of the Electronics Product Data Description Committee (2-10) of IPC

# Industry Participation

## How to get involved

- > Visit our Committee Homepage and submit a comment to a standard or join a committee today
  - > [www.ipc.org/committee-page](http://www.ipc.org/committee-page)
- > Joining a Committee:
  - Access to our collaboration platform **IPCWORKS**
    - > Work on development files
    - > Share information and store results
    - > Networking
- > Help us to move the industry forward by participating in any committee of your expertise





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# Next Steps



# Next Steps

Goal: create new solutions that address the problems identified; consider standards, workforce education, advocacy, research, and software tools that can solve these problems

- > A report on the results from this workshop
  - Webinar sponsored by iNEMI and IPC on Wednesday 17 July at 10:00 EDT / 16:00 CEST
  
- > More workshops and opportunities to convene
  - American Center for Life Cycle Assessment conference, Utah, September 2024
  - Electronics Sustainability Summit, Texas, October 2024
  - electronica, Germany, November 2024
  - Pan-European Electronics Design Conference, Austria, January 2025
  - IPC APEX EXPO, California, March 2025

# Sustainability Points of Contact



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