

EPDs in the States

International EPD Conference

4 June 2013

Rita Schenck, IERE



To cover today

- Introduction
- Drivers in the US
- US led Initiatives
 - PCR Guidance
 - Sustainable Apparel Coalition
- Outlook



Rita Schenck



- Founder & Executive Director of IERE
- Represented the US in negotiating the ISO standards on LCA in the 1990's
- rita@iere.org



What IERE Does



ACLCA

American
Center
for LCA



earthsure

EPD
Program



Community

Life
Cycle
Community



IERE

Other
Research
and
Education



ACLCA

<http://iere.org>

<http://lcacenter.org>



IERE

Energy Independence and Security Act (2007)

- Requires that the Federal Government purchase biofuels IF the biofuels can be shown to have a lower environmental footprint.
 - EPA's Renewable Fuel Standard
 - Fuel providers register with EPA



Low Carbon Fuel Standard (2007)

- Law in California
- Aimed at reducing fossil fuel consumption
- Already has reduced the use of 1.8 Billion gallons of fossil fuel
- In consideration for uptake by other states



Federal Purchasing (2009)

- Executive Order 13514
- Seeking carbon footprint and other information from vendors
- GSA's ZEF program



Wal * Mart (2009)



- LCA is the basis of its sustainability program
- Using LCA in Packaging Program now
 - Data on every single package
- Seeking LCA data for all its products





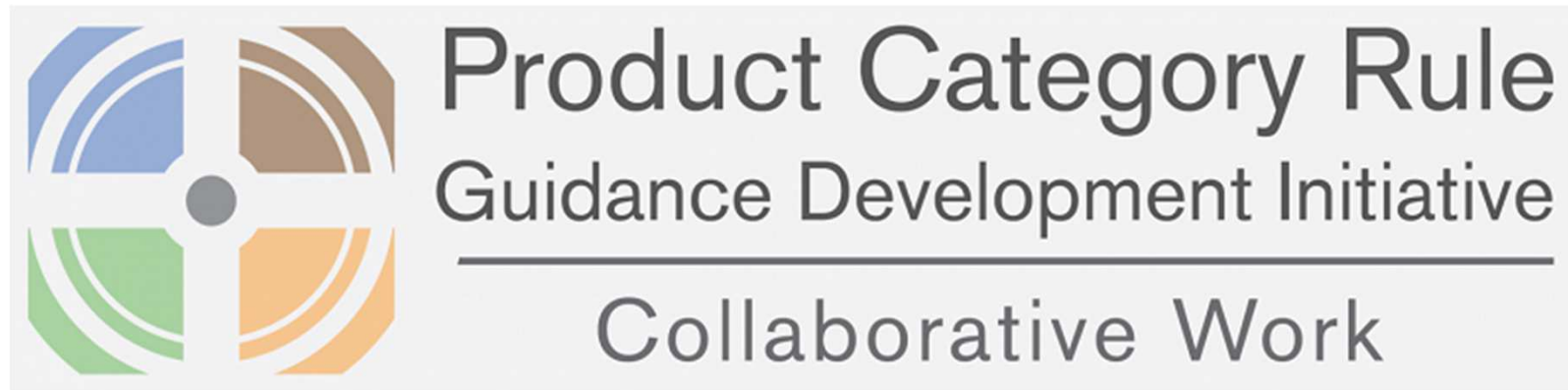
USGBC

EPDs in LEED Program (2012)

- Provides LEED points for facilities using products with EPDs
- Created a plethora of new program operators without LCA knowledge
- Several standardization efforts underway
 - ASTM (building products)
 - Leonardo Academy (EPDs in general)



US Led Initiatives



- PCR Guidance
 - Started as an initiative of ACLCA
 - Expanded to an independent program
 - Over 40 participants from nearly 20 countries
 - <http://www.pcrguidance.org/>



US Led Initiative



- Industry Group selling over 25% of all Garments and footwear on the Globe
- EPD Program in pilot phase
 - PCR Guidance to expedite development of PCRs
 - Soon PCRs for T-shirts, trousers and coats/jackets, with EPDs starting in September



Outlook

- Unlikely to have federal government led initiatives in the USA
- Drivers are business and NGOs
 - Significant initiatives that have gone global
- There is a “Wild West” feel to the field right now.

