



COMILLAS
UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA



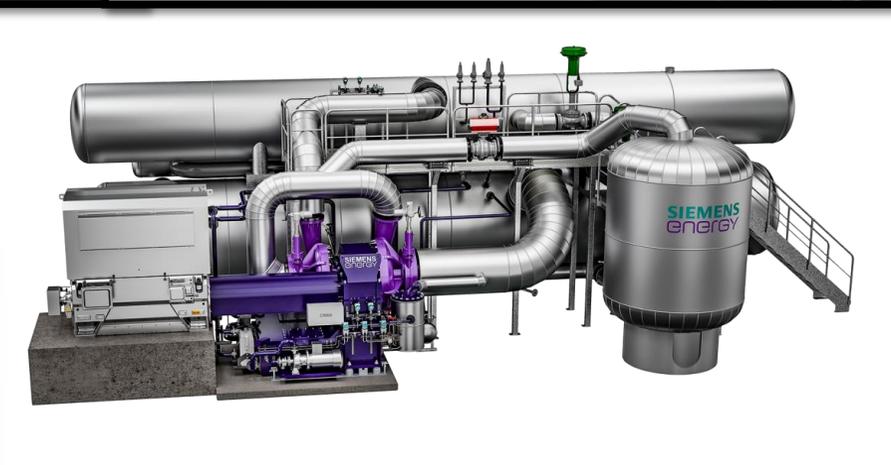
EU policy: past, present and future product design

Timo Gerres

CFMP Workshop:

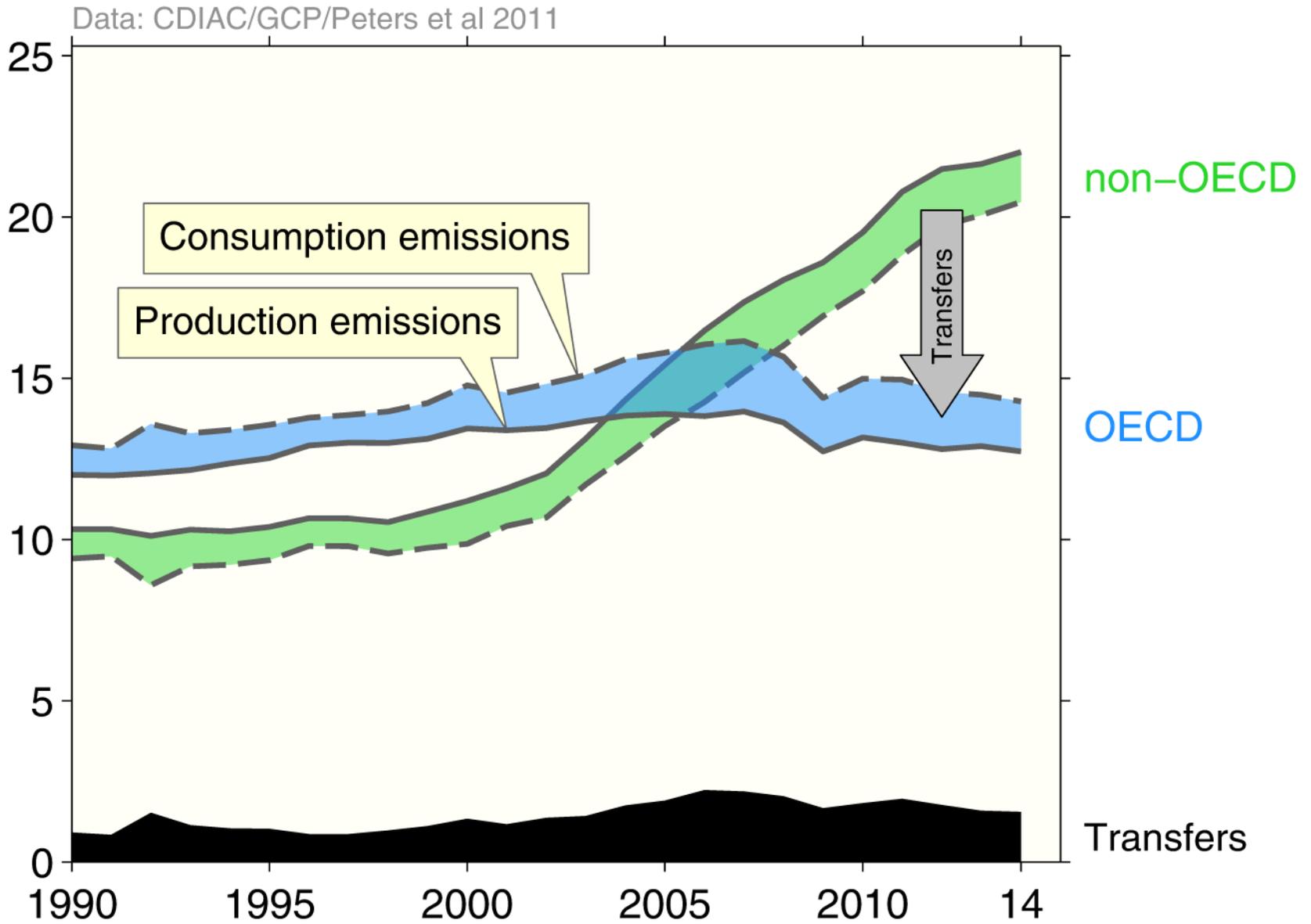
Towards High-Quality Material Recycling, Berlin

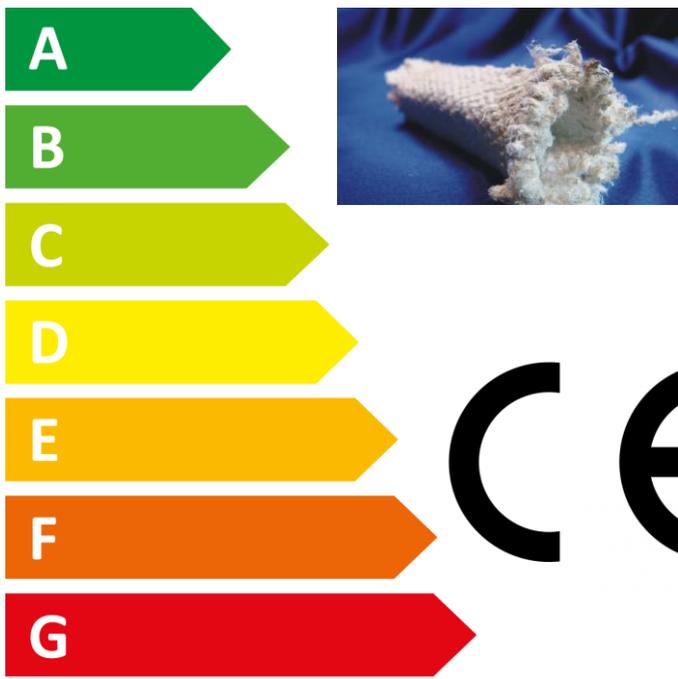
December 16, 2022





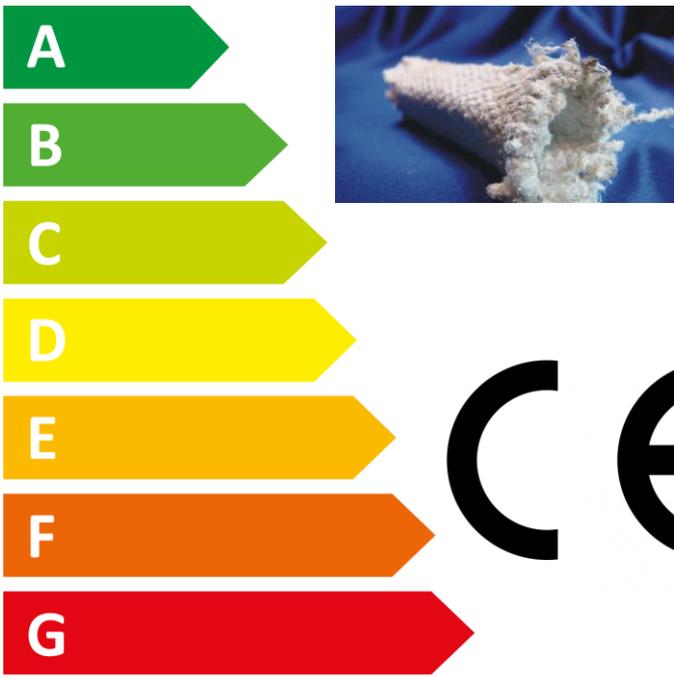
CO₂ emissions (Gt CO₂/yr)





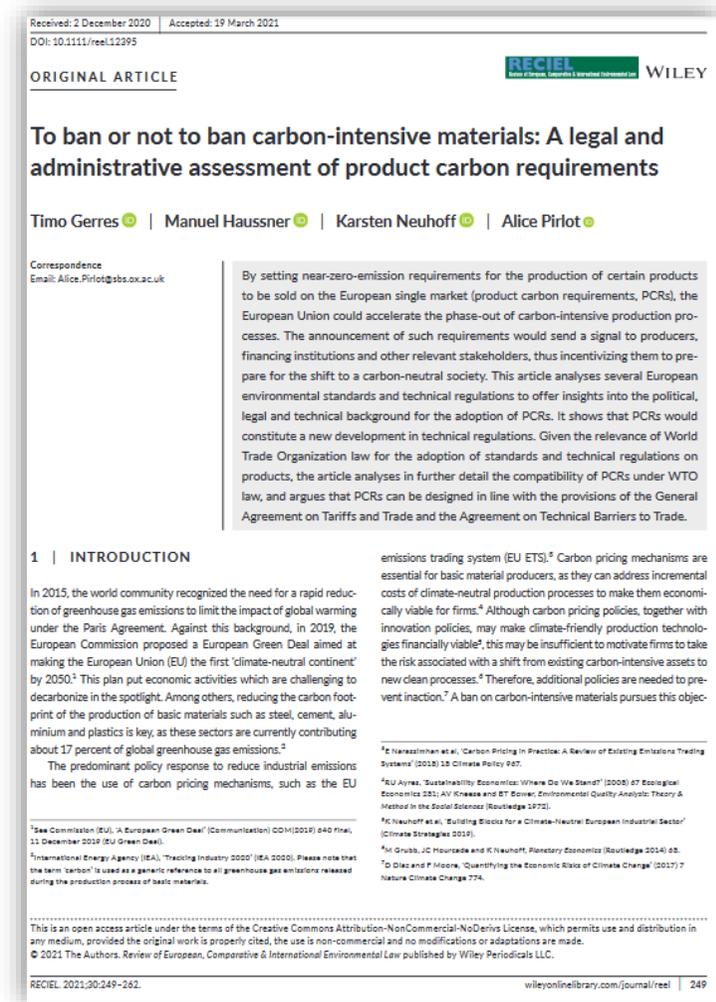
operational characteristics

“Production” characteristics



Our approach: Product Carbon Requirements (PCRs)

- Net zero production
- First implementation via voluntary standards
- May depart from Ecodesign directive
- Can be designed compatible to WTO law
- Accelerate phase-out
- Only indirect circularity incentive





EU proposal (March 2022): Ecodesign requirements for sustainable products

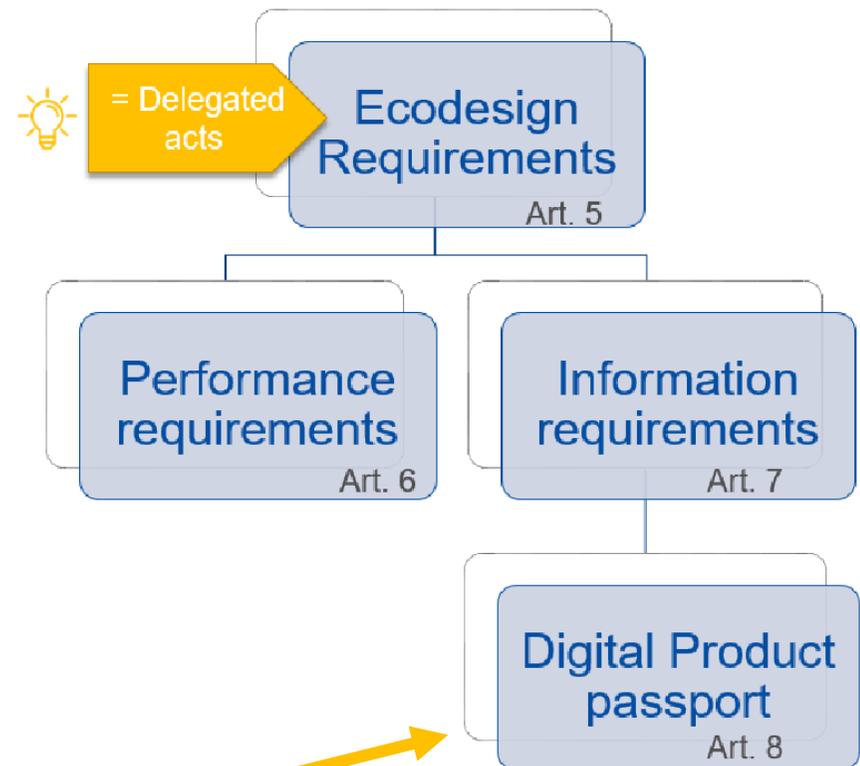
Motivation:

- **Product design does not sufficiently take into account environmental impacts over the life cycle**, including circularity aspects
- Too difficult for economic operators and citizens to **make sustainable choices** about products
- **Sub-optimal application** of the current **ecodesign** legislation

Ecodesign sustainable products requirements (ESPR)

Stricter requirements on:

- Durability, reusability, upgradability, reparability
- Substances inhibiting circularity
- Recycled content
- Remanufacturing & recycling
- Carbon & environmental footprint
- Information requirements





Personal take-aways: Sustainable product initiative

Digital product passport

- (Energy efficiency labels)²
- Inform consumers
- Maximise recycling @status quo

ESPRs

- Slowly from product group to product group...
- Ambitious? Let's move from inform to perform!
- Will they change product design?
- Lead us to PCRs?
- Enough? (Waste export bans COM/2021/709)



That's it folks!

Thanks for listening, let's hear your thought.

Timo Gerres

timogerres@iit.comillas.edu

www.iit.comillas.edu/people/tgerres

www.linkedin.com/in/tgerres