Circular Economy
Closing the Loop

Chemical, Product, Waste Interface
PSLoop Open General Assembly
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Former Executive Director, ECHA – Geert Dancet
The Circular Economy Action plan defined these two-fold objectives:

- Enabling recycling and improving the uptake of secondary raw materials, by limiting unnecessary burdens, and facilitating the cross-border circulation of secondary raw materials to ensure that they can be traded easily across the EU; and

- Substituting substances of concern and, where this is not possible, reducing their presence and improving their tracking.
The Communication focuses on a number of questions. Two of the most important ones are:

• How do we reconcile the idea that waste is a resource that we should recycle and, at the same time, ensure that waste that contains substances of concern is only recovered into materials which can be safely used?

• Should we allow recycled materials to contain chemicals that are no longer allowed in primary materials? If so, under what conditions?
CPW Interface – Questions

Main Issues

- Insufficient information
- Presence of substances of concern
- Difficulties in applying End of Waste criteria
- Uncertain application of EU waste classification

Challenges

- Defining and tracking substance of concern
- Level playing field between: secondary and primary material EU-produced and imported articles
- Design for circularity
- Improving certainty in implementation
- Approximating the rules
- Better classification

The Communication identified possible options to overcome the barriers

Views from stakeholders → public consultation
Next Steps

• The Commission will receive feedback from the European Parliament, the Council and the other EU institutions.

• May 2018 – 12 week open public consultation to be held on the Communication and accompanying Staff Working Document.

• Any subsequent actions will be taken forward in line with Better Regulation principles.
Comments

- What does this mean for PSLoop?
- What to focus on in the consultation?
Thank you!