



## **CHIRA 1.0: Sustainable packaging design and assessment - for 30 countries**

### **Launch of the software tool for the assessment of recyclability**

**Aachen, 19. August 2022.** The Institute cyclos-HTP (CHI) is known for its highly respected international standard for evaluating the recyclability of packaging. The engineering and practical expertise forms the basis for the first version of CHIRA - CHI Recyclability Assessment 1.0, now generally available after several months of hands-on testing with users from the packaging value chain. The software is a tool for the differentiated assessment of recyclability and at the same time a multifunctional tool for ecological packaging optimisation. Users can use the tool to determine the recyclability of their packaging based on the proven examination and certification basis of the CHI catalogue and receive a highly accurate and reliable result. CHIRA 1.0 considers the state of the art as well as the current state of technology of the recycling infrastructure 27 EU countries as well as Norway, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

"This unique tool will significantly simplify and accelerate the assessment of recyclability," says Dr. Joachim Christiani, CHI Managing Director. "Sustainable packaging design is becoming increasingly important as it is key to a functioning circular economy." The eco-design of packaging and products will also have an economic impact in the near future: "Packaging that is not recyclable will soon have financial disadvantages. CHIRA helps to optimise packaging and make it recyclable," says Sandra Beckamp, Managing Director at CHI.

### **Differentiated assessment result**

In addition to the calculation of recyclability, CHIRA provides a differentiated evaluation result for the nine standard criteria of the CHI assessment catalogue as well as a commenting report. CHIRA shows the valuable material content available after recycling, the result of an NIR simulation, automatic density calculation and much more as a forecast. The forecasts for the individual criteria can be overwritten by specific measured values.

If a certificate is requested in addition to the CHIRA analysis, users export their input data set as a CSV file and send the required samples for comparison by the CHI experts and for potentially necessary laboratory tests. Thus, processing time and costs for certification can be significantly reduced.

### **Tool for ecological packaging optimisation and database for tracking sustainability targets**

CHIRA is also designed as an instrument for ecological packaging optimisation: The current packaging design is created in CHIRA, users can then vary individual design details such as colouring, labelling, closures, adhesives, fillers etc. and determine the changed recyclability with just a few clicks using the implemented copy function.

In the CHIRA packaging archive, even extensive assortments can be fully documented, organised, managed and tracked by article number.

Of course, CHIRA is constantly updated by the development team to reflect the latest research and technical innovation as well as legal requirements. The introduction of new recycling processes, the expansion of collection and recycling infrastructure in individual countries, research results on new materials and findings on the recycling (in)compatibility of material combinations are implemented as part of regular updates. Of course, the tool reflects the currently valid "minimum standard" of



the German Central Agency Packaging Register (Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister – ZSVR) and is also designed for its foreseeable further development.

CHIRA is a database-based desktop application and is available as a single and multi-user version. Furthermore, customised solutions can be implemented. For users such as packaging developers at different locations, the multi-user function offers the possibility of using a common database to share information with each other.

"For packaging developers, but not only for them, CHIRA is a must-have tool for daily use," concludes Joachim Christiani.

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