Working with Industrial Realities
Providing day-to-day value for industry project teams

Context

The *STYLE scenario** focuses on engaging process industry project teams. These can consist of scientists and engineers from research, development and manufacturing areas, facilitated by a project manager with input from other business areas. These are crucial people to engage in sustainability thinking, as they are in a position to influence sustainability with their development decisions. However, sustainability is often not their top priority, with issues such as short-term manufacturing troubleshooting taking precedent. If an organisation has sustainability specialists, they are rarely present in every project team, and many smaller organisations will not have someone dedicated to sustainability at all. The challenge is to find sustainability evaluation tools that project teams find value in using on a day-to-day basis.

Issues

- Many sustainability tools use terminology and concepts which are difficult to interpret by non-specialists.
- Tools can be very time consuming to use, so are seen as an unnecessary extra burden on a project team.

- Lack of calculations transparency in some tools limit teams being able to identify where improvements in the process can be made.
- Data availability is often low in early-stage process development.

Recommendations

- Qualitative, questionnaire based evaluation tools can be used in early-stage process development, limiting requirements for data and keeping the evaluations to a manageable duration.
- Tools for non-specialists require supporting documentation and fast-track training to explain the sustainability topics involved.
- Questionnaire based tools can be used in project team meetings to bring together those from different disciplines, and can help shape a collective 'success criteria' for the project, e.g. input from Purchasing staff may highlight the need to avoid use of a scarce resource.

For more information see www.spire2030.eu/style

STYLE Scenario: A project team is evaluating options for a resource or energy improvement for their process or product and they need a pragmatic tool to check the broader sustainability implications of each technological solution

European Commission

STYLE

SUSTAINABILITY TOOLKIT FOR EASY LIFE-CYCLE EVALUATION

SPIRE PROJECT