

## Solvents and the Green Deal

### Circularity & Sustainability - Green Claims

**The European Solvents Industry Group (ESIG) members are keen to be a reliable partner in the Green Deal initiatives. Focusing on the Circularity and Sustainability aspects of the Green Deal, our members are supporting the transition to a Circular Economy by enabling product circularity and improving the substantiation of green claims.**

Whilst ESIG members are not producing any consumer products themselves, we would like to point out that we endorse our industry's commitment to bring products to the market that are safe and have a low environmental impact, including carbon footprint. Claims about the environmental footprint of products or services need to be substantiated to avoid "greenwashing" – i.e. false or misleading information on the environmental characteristics of products and services. Companies wishing to make claims about the environmental profile or performance of their products and services should be free to substantiate their claims through valid scientific methodologies, including Environmental Footprint (EF) and other Life-Cycle Analysis (LCA) and related methods. We believe that science based standard methods used within voluntary frameworks in order to allow meaningful comparisons are useful.

Any scheme used to substantiate green claims should thereby be sector specific, as the environmental performance of products cannot be assessed without considering their specific application. Flexible approaches to allow companies to extend their claims and product strategies with own methods beyond legal framework requirements are to be considered too, as long as they follow standard methods transparency is guaranteed. Any prospective regulatory action of the European Union must be carefully assessed not to cause further complexity, discourage free, yet responsible commercial communication, or confuse consumers. In our global economy any option should be assessments based on full life cycle thinking, in compliance with applicable ISO standards and any dedicated European measures should establish supportive instruments to the worldwide accepted ISO framework on environmental declarations.

**In order to substantiate our vision, ESIG has developed and is giving access to EF-compliant secondary datasets that are freely available for anyone looking for data belonging to the first life cycle step – the manufacturing of solvents.**

Node: [Process data sets - European Solvents Industry Group \(ESIG\) EF LCA Database](#)

ESIG website: different formats <https://www.esig.org/green-deal/environmental-footprint-compliant-secondary-datasets/>

**ESIG (European Solvents Industry Group)**  
Rue Belliard 40 b.15 B-1040 Brussels Belgium  
esig@cefic.be [www.esig.org](http://www.esig.org)

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For more information please contact:  
Cornelia Tietz, ESIG Secretary General  
cti@cefic.be.

About ESIG  
ESIG is a joint initiative of the European oxygenated and  
hydrocarbon solvents manufacturers.

