An understanding of your organization’s environmental impacts, even at a high level, will help concentrate efforts on where environmental performance can be improved the most. When applying a life cycle perspective, the following examples of activities, aspects, impacts, level of control or influence, risks and opportunities and actions; can be used to develop your own life cycle analysis.

| **Life-Cycle Stage** | **Activity** | **Aspects** | **Impacts** | **Control or Influence** | **Risks** | **Opportunities** | **Operation Control** |
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| **Life cycle stage** | **Example activity** | **Example aspect(s)** | **Example impact(s)** | **Possible considerations for control or influence?** | **Example risks to the organisation** | **Example opportunities for the organization** | **Examples of actions including operational control or influence** |
| Supply chain | Raw material extraction  Underground or open pit mineral/ metal mining, drilling and pumping oil and gas | Discharge of mining tailings, fuel combustion, and fertiliser runoff | Resource depletion, surface and ground water quality, climate change, air quality | Control type of material used  Limited influence of suppliers’ processes | Unavailability of raw materials and parts due to depletion of natural resources | Securing a source of strategically important materials to ensure business continuity | Establish environmental requirements in the design process, e.g. relating to material use |
| Supply chain | Material/component processing.  Oil refining, smelting, grinding, washing, pelletizing | Filtration of heavy metals, fuel combustion, waste generation | Human toxicity, landfill use, climate change, air quality | Control type of material used.  Limited influence of suppliers’ processes | Unavailability of raw materials and parts due to depletion of natural resources | Securing a source of strategically important materials to ensure business continuity | Review resource scarcity vulnerability of supply chain.  Suppliers/contractors to be ISO 14001 certified |
| Supply chain | Part supplier | Material waste, energy consumption, air emissions, water emissions, water consumption | Resource depletion, landfill use, air quality, water quality, climate change | No control or influence over design or supplier’s manufacturing methods.  Can influence through supplier selection | Cost of part increases  Product unavailable due to non-compliance with chemical substance legislation | Reduced cost of part due to more efficient logistics/manufacturing methods | Improved stock control and ordering (reduce occurrence of redundant stock)  Reduce quantity of fasteners required through design  R&D into alternative methods |
| Manufacturing | Waste metal and energy use | Use of resources and climate change | Design control is dependent on ownership of design authority  Control over manufacturing methods | Inefficiencies make organization’s product uncompetitive | Reduce resource costs  Improve production efficiencies | Reduce errors and scrappage | Fabrication |
| Transport and delivery | Shipping by sea, rail, road or air | Combustion of fuel in vehicle, energy use at warehouses/ distribution centres, and disposal of packaging required for shipping | Air quality, climate change, landfill use | Control shipment method through operational controls, contracts with transport contractor, design of supply chain network | Disruption from extreme weather  Increased transport costs from rising fuel costs | Reduce transport costs through efficient ordering  Positive publicity associated with innovative approach | Work with customers to invest in reusable packaging  Specify the use of more efficient vehicles and plan for efficient routing |
| End-of-life treatment | Disassembly | Recycling of metal | Reduction in virgin resource use and contribution to climate change | No control (unless undertaking activity)  Influence through design and information | Difficult to recycle composite materials | Increased revenue from being able to offer innovative recycling approach | Redesign parts to allow separation of materials |
| Final disposal | Disposal of parts | Landfill of plastic/ rubber | Loss of finite resources  Impacts from landfill, water pollution, climate change | Influence through design, take back programs, and information  Influence through design and information | Increased costs associated with landfill  Restrictions on waste that can be sent to landfill | Increased revenue from being able to offer innovative waste recovery and recycling approaches | Participate in initiatives to increase recyclability  Implement programme to reuse or recycle individual parts |
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| Conclusions |
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| Recommendations |
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