



## ESRG - Who we are

The EUROPEAN SOLVENT RECYCLER GROUP (ESRG) - was founded in 2004 under the aegis of the German Association for Chemical Distributors – VCH (Verband Chemiehandel) - that is now the secretariat of ESRG. We are an international group of professional members engaged in a wide range of solvent recovery activities. Our aim is to promote the safe and economic management of post-use solvents. Used chemicals, such as contaminated solvents, are potential hazardous waste and should therefore be fully recovered and reintroduced into reuse and only under exceptional cases be disposed of in another manner. The goal is to re-use solvent waste as production material and not to dispose of it in a less environmentally friendly way. This is the philosophy behind the recycling and waste disposal hierarchy legislation of the European Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC).

For further details see ESRG-Website  
[www.esrg-online.eu](http://www.esrg-online.eu)

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ESRG at Chemspec Europe Budapest

## Carbon Footprints of Recycled Solvents

Solvent Recycling  
Sustainability In Practice

**19 June 2014, 12:30**

RSC Symposium "Waste not, Want not"  
RSC Lecture Theatre  
Chemsource area  
Exhibition Hall G



## Waste Not, Want Not Profit from Sustainable Chemistry

This two day international RSC Symposium organised in association with Chemistry Innovation and the Green Chemistry Network will be held 18.-19. June on the Exhibition Floor at the 2014 Chemspec Europe and Chemsourcex Exhibitions organised by Quartz Business Media. It will address the challenges facing small scale businesses in minimising waste and operating at a profit using sustainable chemistry. Innovative developments in this field will be highlighted.

**Free Attendance:** As a visitor to Chemspec Europe you will be able to pick and choose which lectures you attend.

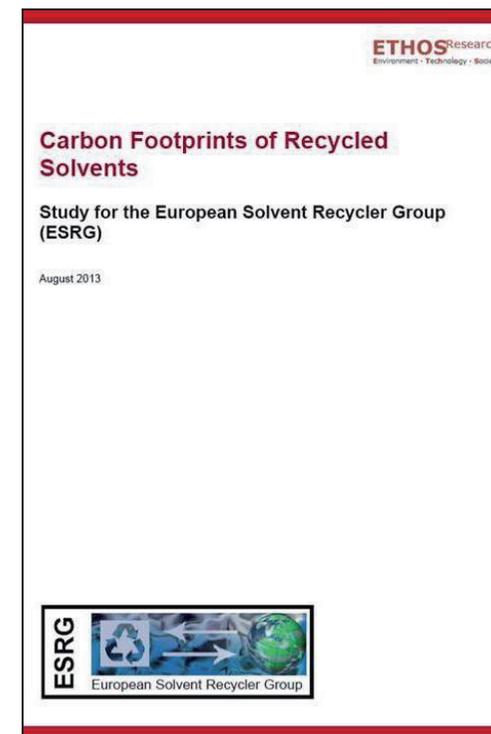


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## ESRG-STUDY “CARBON FOOTPRINTS OF RECYCLED SOLVENTS”

The EU Waste Framework Directive 98/2008 sets out the requirements for waste management practices. An important concept of the Directive is that of the waste hierarchy whereby reuse and recycling are prioritised over energy recovery or other forms of disposal.

The ESG-study “CARBON FOOTPRINTS OF RECYCLED SOLVENTS” focuses on waste solvents and compares the environmental impacts of recycled and virgin solvents. Using life cycle assessment (LCA) as a tool, the paper demonstrates that solvent recycling leads to significant environmental benefits compared to using virgin solvents, including a much lower carbon footprint. The LCA results show that, depending on the type, the carbon footprint of recycled solvents is equal to 156–798 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq./t. This is 46-92% lower than the carbon footprints of respective virgin solvents, which range from 1470-5730 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq./t.



The full report on study can be downloaded from  
[www.esrg-online.eu](http://www.esrg-online.eu)