The Circular Economy and Closing the Loop: Optimizing the copper life cycle for a sustainable world

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Copper. Makes the World Work Better. | Closing the Loop
Keeping it in the loop

COPPER, THE RECYCLING CHAMPION

On average, 25 million tonnes of copper were used globally (2008–2010). 10% of this was sourced through recycling.

Source: KOX Materials TS 2013

COPPER IS 100% RECYCLABLE: unlike most other materials, it can be permanently recycled without any loss of performance or quality. Recycled copper is identical to virgin copper.

18 ELEMENTS
Copper mining offers many useful by-products, including gold, silver, zinc, cobalt, molybdenum and rare earth elements.

RECYCLING COPPER USES UP TO 85% LESS ENERGY THAN PRIMARY PRODUCTION

60 ELEMENTS
A mobile phone contains up to 40 metallic elements, plus many non-metallic ones. Copper is a significant and vital part, offering good recycling opportunities.

+400 ALLOYS
Combining copper with other metals produces alloys—such as brass and bronze—that suit a wide range of applications.
Developing and sharing life cycle data

The life of Copper is infinite

Understanding and reducing our impacts

AP: Acidification Potential
EP: Eutrophication Potential
GWP: Global Warming Potential
POCP: Photochemical Oxidation Potential
ODP: Ozone Depletion Potential
PED: Primary Energy Demand – non-renewable
Copper abounds....

The Copper Mark
