



“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Romania



KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER IN UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY RESEARCH COLLABORATION FOR EXTENDING LIFE CYCLE OF MATERIALS IN THE CONTEXT OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY

**Petronela Cozma¹, Camelia Smaranda¹, Elena-Diana Comăniță¹, Mihaela Roșca¹,
Cristina Ghinea^{1,2}, Teofil Câmpean^{1,3}, Maria Gavrilescu^{1,4*}**

¹“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, “Cristofor Simionescu” Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection, Department of Environmental Engineering and Management, 73 Prof. D. Mangeron Blvd., 700050 Iasi, Romania

²Stefan cel Mare University of Suceava, Faculty of Food Engineering, 13 Universitatii Str., 720229 Suceava, Romania

³Rondocarton SRL, Cluj-Napoca, 2 Aviatorilor Street, 407042 Apahida, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

⁴Academy of Romanian Scientists, 3 Ilfov Street, 050044 Bucharest, Romania

Abstract

This paper addresses the direct transfer of knowledge from university to manufacturing industrial sector, providing solutions to transform production/manufacturing waste into resources and closing loops in the process according to circular economy values. For this purpose, eco-innovation and eco-design were selected and discussed in order to be applied as tools to support knowledge transfer in the context of circular economy. These tools are focused on the re-design of process and products founded on *in-plant* reuse of production waste, followed by Life Cycle Assessment of economic and environmental impacts. Our results emerged in the form of new knowledge for both researchers and users, original publications, new and improved technologies, processes, materials which enhanced skills, experience and know-how. The present study may be helpful in generating systematic policies and monitoring procedures through specific indicators for the benefit of partners involved in knowledge transfer and society as a whole.

Key words: cardboard; eco-innovation; eco-design; environmental impact; knowledge transfer; production/manufacturing

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* Author to whom all correspondence should be addressed: e-mail: mgav@tuiasi.ro, mgav_ro@yahoo.com, Phone: +40 745528184