



**1<sup>st</sup>**  
INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP  
ADVANCES IN CLEANER PRODUCTION

**IV** SEMANA PAULISTA DE P+L  
CONFERÊNCIA PAULISTA DE P+L

## Cleaner production in the Bakery Sector: Prospects and Opportunities

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### Abstract

The relationship between mankind and nature has suffered many mutations through the years, leaving different marks in the landscape with different effects. Among these marks, one can emphasize the desertification process which is caused by predatory anthropic actions and the exploitation of natural resources in very fragile environments, generating desert-like areas which affect, as a result, the life quality of thousands of people in the entire world. In the State of Paraíba, firewood is nearly disappearing and is becoming rare for it has been used in an unplanned and random way by many industries. The intense use of firewood in the State of Paraíba justifies and motivates CEPIS – Centro de Produção Industrial Sustentável (Centre of Sustainable Industrial Production) which is an action of SEBRAE-PB and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of Switzerland (SECO), and is technically supported by the University of Applied Sciences of Northwestern Switzerland (Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz). CEPIS aims at taking C+P actions in the bakery sector in order to reduce the environmental impacts through the rationale use of energetic resources and through the optimization of the productive process. The main goal of the project is to identify opportunities to improve the productive process of bakeries, applying the Cleaner Production Methodology. To achieve this goal, data is collected (Quickscan), the results are analyzed (EcoInspector), there is a discussion and identification of potential opportunities for improvements, and suggestions of Cleaner Production are raised. After analyzing the obtained results, it is observed that the identified options may be considered the first step to finding feasible Cleaner Production solutions, However, it is important to emphasize that some options such as good housekeeping practices may be identified and implemented straight away to bring economic and environmental benefits to the company in a short time.

*Keywords: Bakeries, Cleaner Production, Wood and Energetic Efficiency.*

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