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INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP  
ADVANCES IN CLEANER PRODUCTION

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“CLEANER PRODUCTION INITIATIVES AND CHALLENGES FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD”

## Preliminary Study for Environmental Management in Surfboards Production

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### Abstract

The surfboard industry, both in Brazil and the rest of the world, has for the past 50 years been dumping toxic and flammable waste in normal landfill sites without any environmental treatment or control. These residues, classified by the NBR 10.004 as class I, are considered dangerous, have a high aggregate value and a very high decomposition time period. During the manufacturing process of this product, the need for environmental management of these units was identified, the aim of which is to reduce water consumption, electric energy usage and the production of residues, as well as to increase the recovery of waste that cannot be eliminated. It has been noted that this manufacturing activity can be re-dimensioned so as to minimize the impact on the environment and on public health as well as to maximize financial resources. Since 1999, it has been found through alternative research into the waste recovery generated in the production of surfboards that this could be an end-activity within a process of sustainability, and hence it confirmed the necessity of working primarily with changing the culture of waste and consumerism prevalent in this industry. To bring about this initiative, there needs to be a system to promote environmental education and awareness at the socio-entrepreneurial level, and to produce a diagnosis in a surfboard factory, with the aim of formulating a reference model of ecological responsibility. This will be achieved through the promotion of debating forums and the formulation of an Environmental Management for the surfboards industry.

**Keywords:** *Environmental Education. Environmental Management. Sustainability.*

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