

Adhesives and Sealants in Circular Economy

Contributions

Adhesives and sealants are advanced material technologies that **enable durable and resource-efficient products** and **support a circular economy**.

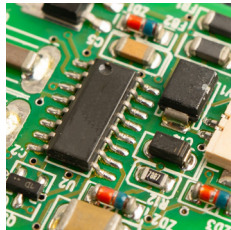
Small Volumes, Big Impact

Small amounts of adhesives and sealants, often less than 5% of a product's weight, make products like these possible.

Photovoltaic modules



Mobile electronics



Crash-safe vehicles



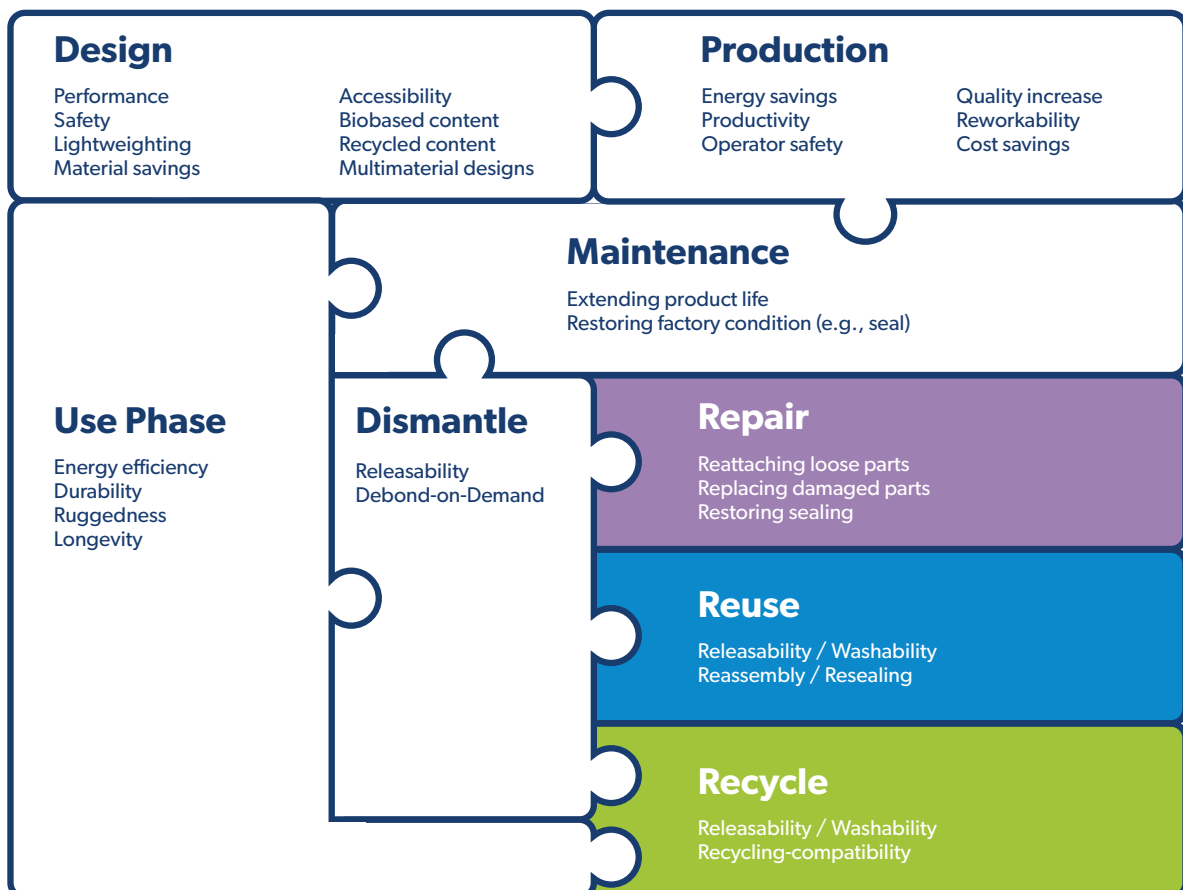
Medical devices



Protective equipment



Contributions to **all product lifecycle stages**



Enabling the full range of **circular 'R' strategies**

REJECT / PREVENT



Sealant instead of metal glazing reinforcements

Adhesives replacing tape and pallet wrap

REDUCE



Honeycombs for lightweight furniture and vehicles

Reduced energy use of buildings

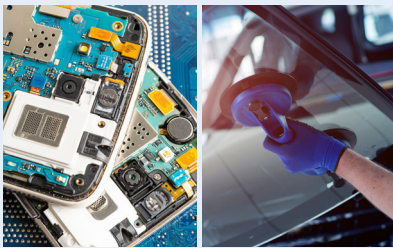
REUSE



Removable / Reusable household fixtures

Labels on reusable packaging

REPAIR



Mobile phone repair and resealing

Car windscreen replacement

RECYCLE



Paper / Paper packaging recycling

Plastic packaging recycling

RECOVER



Compatibility with waste-to-energy

Compatibility with biogas facilities



Circularity performance depends on product design and system solutions, not on an adhesive or sealant application in isolation.



Jana Cohrs
FEICA Director
Public &
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'Adhesives and sealants provide substantial benefits across many sectors and for innumerable products. Durability, longevity, safety and performance of products, buildings and other applications are often the result of small but crucial amounts of adhesives and sealants. Rather than being an impediment to a circular economy, they positively support every circular 'R' strategy. What is needed is an overall design optimisation and system solutions.'

A strong European adhesives and sealants industry requires a strong foundation:

- A competitive European industrial environment, including an effective industry strategy, manageable energy costs and adequate enforcement of product and trade regulations at the outer borders
- Technology-neutral and performance- and criteria-based product regulation instead of lists of specific preferred or non-preferred solutions or technologies
- A strong single market in the EU, based on harmonised, efficient and non-overlapping regulation.