

KERP'S ECO MOUSE

A Success Story of Sustainable Product Design

By developing a prototype eco-designed computer mouse, KERP provides evidence, that life cycle management is indeed a meaningful concept for mass-produced electronic devices.



KERP's eco mouse represents the implementation of a comprehensive, ecologically based approach which features

- ▶ improved power management
- ▶ casing made of liquid wood "Arboform"
- ▶ lead-free soldered components
- ▶ recycling-oriented product design

Power Management

An innovative strategy for ecologically optimized power management resulted in the renouncement of batteries and accumulators. Instead KERP's eco mouse is powered by double layer capacitors making an operating time of two to five hours possible.

Casing Material

Arboform is based on lignin and natural fibers, it has a consistency similar to wood, and its processability is comparable to plastics. The material allows for economical and efficient processes – less waste plus unproblematic processing, when compared to wood – while being similar in appearance.

Electronic Components

Reducing the use of electronic components was a main goal while planning the eco mouse. Components are soldered lead-free, hazardous materials are mostly avoided. Thus KERP's mouse is an example on how to comply with the RoHS-Directive (on the interdiction of hazardous substances in electric and electronic equipment).

Sustainable Product Design

We are KERP Center of Excellence, Electronics & Environment, and our mission is to support companies in the electrical, electronics and automotive sectors by helping them to foresee and to optimize the environmental and commercial impact of their products and processes. Our innovative technology programs and our forward-looking research pave the way for new, environmentally sound products and processes in electronics and automotive manufacturing.



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