LCA: Philips Portable CD Player

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Philips AX5004

Sankey Diagram - Original

Discussion: One can clearly see from the original-scenario manufacturing diagram that the two biggest impacts were 118 AA batteries and the printed circuit board, by a large margin. It makes sense, then, that using rechargeable batteries and halving the circuit board size were the most effective alternatives. Using a recycled plastic housing made almost no effect—there is much more of a difference in impact between, say, recycled aluminum and virgin aluminum than between recycled and virgin plastic. Using all the alternatives gave a 66% reduction in impact.

Alternate case 1: Recycled plastic housing
Alternate case 2: Smaller circuit board (50%)
Alternate case 3: Rechargeable batteries
Alternate case 4: Combined alternatives

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