PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP occurs when all those involved in the life cycle of a product take shared responsibility to reduce health and environmental impacts and gain the most value from a product.



Product Stewards continuously improve efforts at each stage of the life cycle to:

- use the LEAST material and energy
- use materials that can be MANAGED SAFELY by
  - preventing losses and exposures
  - reducing toxicity and safety hazards
- use processes that are **EFFICIENT** in materials transfer
- capture and REUSE and/or RECOVER material and energy
  - preferably within the same product life cycle

Every loss of material or inefficient energy transfer represents a RISK:

- depletion of natural resources

- exposure to workers, users, the environment
- contribution to climate change and other ecosystem degradation

OPPORTUNITIES arise for each commercial player in the life cycle of a product to:

- save money
- by eliminating wasted materials and energy and the costs to manage waste purchases, storage, transportation, compliance, manpower and time
  - increase loyalty and reputation
- employees, customers, shareholders and communities want to deal with product stewards who care about their health and environment
- supply chain partners who want to work with a product steward
  - satisfy customers with new services and products
    - by saving customer's money by reducing their risks and costs
- by identifying new ways to satisfy needs with products that have good life cycle management
  - MAKE MONEY

OPPORTUNITIES arise for customers, communities and the environment throughout the life cycle of a product because

- products are more SUSTAINABLE
- products better meet ALL STAKEHOLDER needs

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP - because it's the right thing to do!

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