



APO

Asian Productivity Organization

P-Glossary



3Rs: Reduce, recycle, and reuse

These activities are the basis for reducing waste and process optimization. Reduce means using fewer inputs including raw materials and energy so that the pressure on environment will be less. This also leads to the production of less waste. Recycle means returning part of the waste stream to the system, either to be used for the same type of product for which it was originally manufactured, or to be remanufactured into something new. Reuse means returning a part of the waste stream of a product to be used repeatedly for the same purpose.

The 3Rs can be more than just an activity or a program; they can become a corporate philosophy shared by every member of the organization. This will not only lead to improved productivity and environmental indices, but also help create a better working environment.
