

SolFan

Box Fan LCA/Redesign

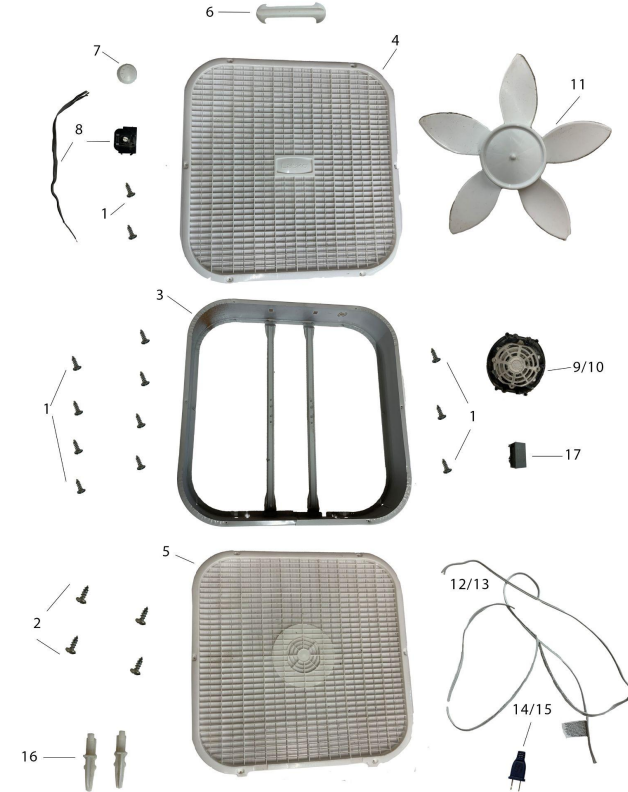
Jess Thies and Evan Sievers

★★★★☆ (4.2) [5489 reviews](#)

Now \$22.46 ~~\$24.96~~ ⓘ

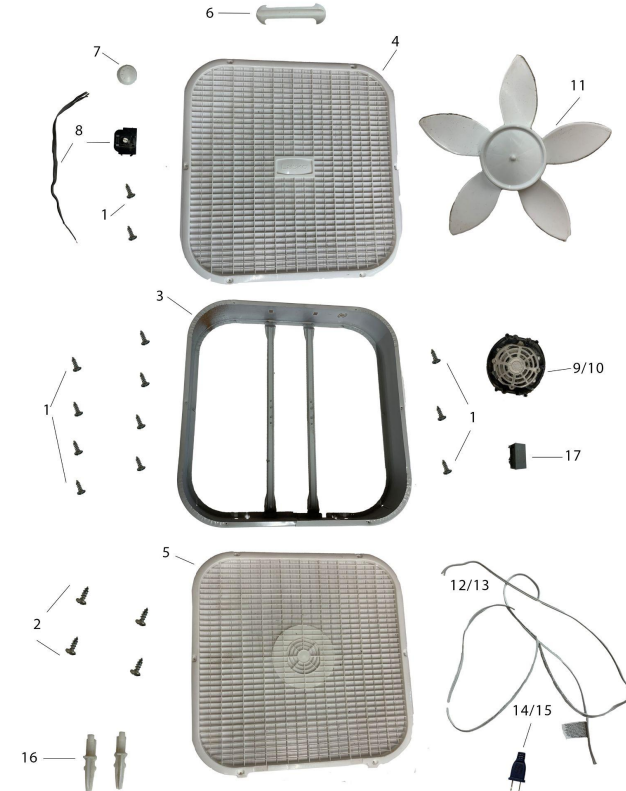
Bill of Materials

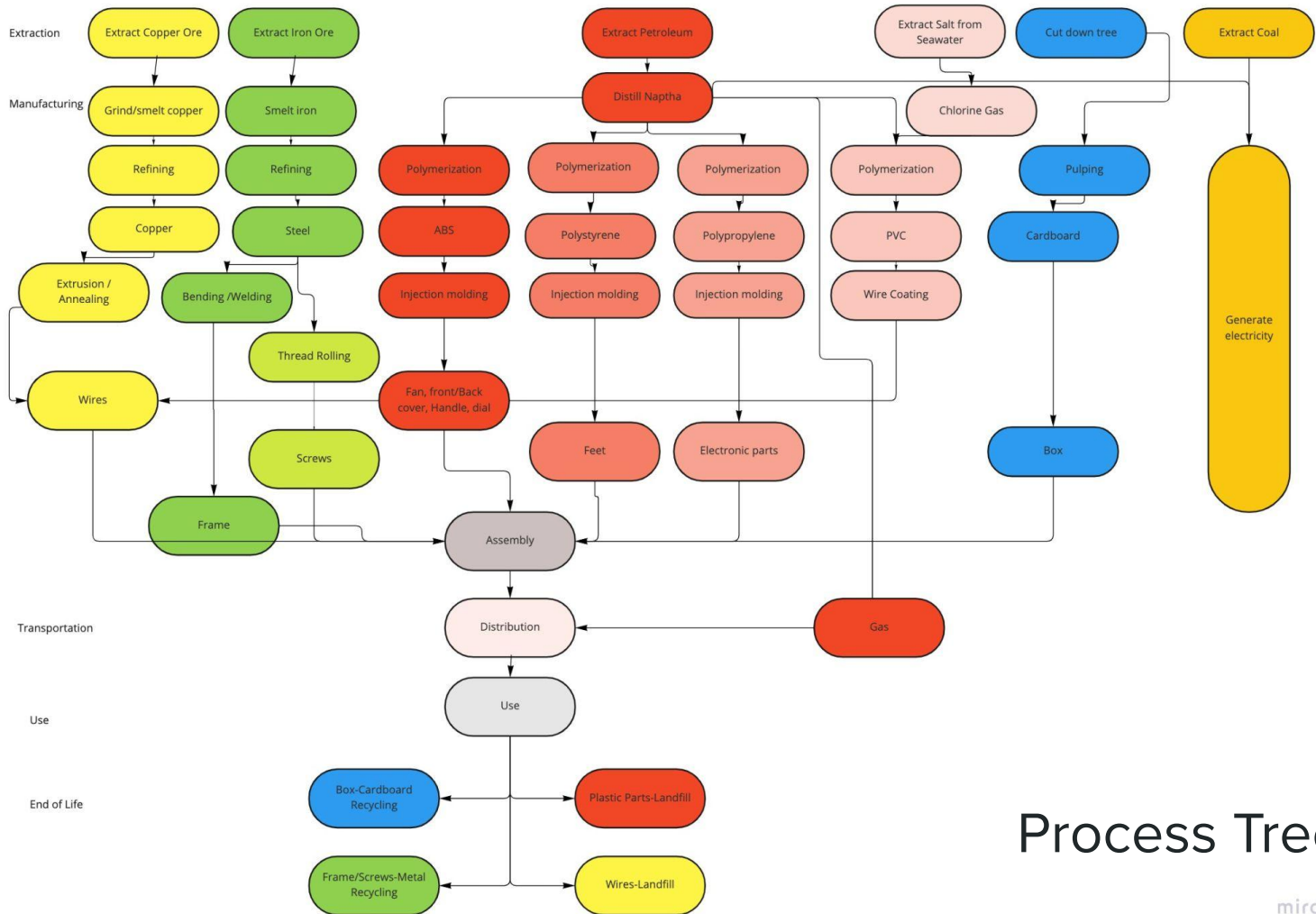
Part Number	Part Name	Quantity	Material	Weight (g)
1	Small Screws	13	Steel	1
2	Large Screws	4	Steel	2
3	Metal Frame	1	Steel	1140
4	Front Cover	1	ABS	263
5	Back Cover	1	ABS	273
6	Handle	1	ABS	27
7	Dial	1	ABS	6
8	Dial Motor	1	Polypropylene	11
9	Fan Motor	1	Copper and Steel	587



Bill of Materials Continued

Part Number	Part Name	Quantity	Material	Weight (g)
10	Fan Motor Cover	1	Polypropylene	100
11	Fan	1	ABS	200
12	Wires	1	Copper	40
13	Wire Insulation	1	PVC	55
14	Plug Insulation	1	PVC	15
15	Wall Plug	1	PVC and Steel	4
16	Feet	2	High-Impact Polystyrene	10
17	Small Box8 Microfarad	1	Polypropylene	33

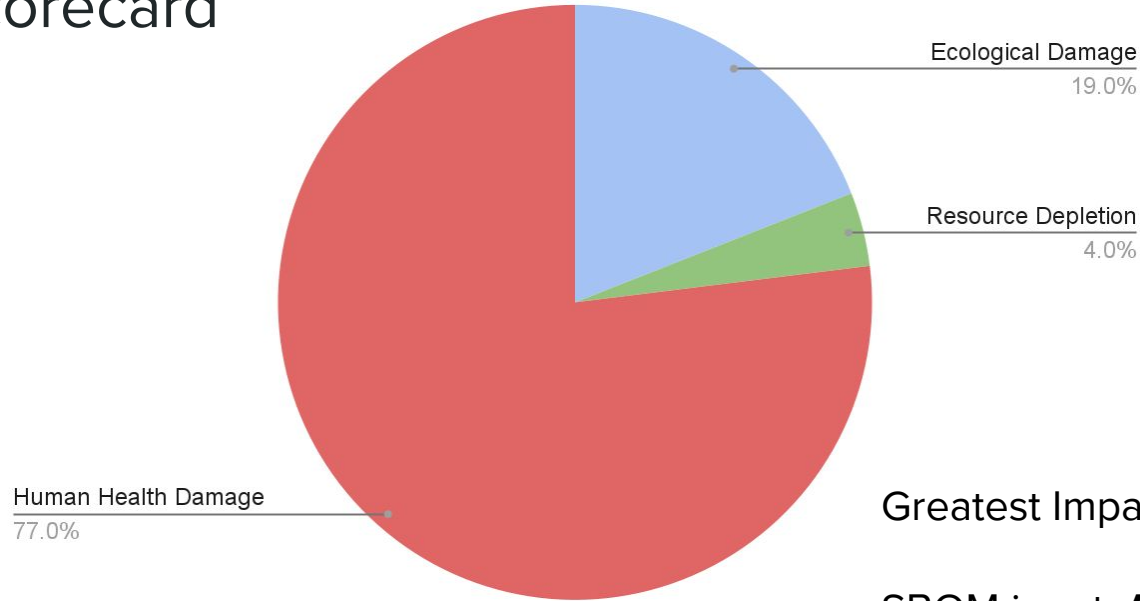




Process Tree



Sustainable Minds Scorecard



Greatest Impacts:

SBOM input: **Austenitic stainless steel**

Impact category: **Carcinogenics**

Life cycle stage: **Manufacturing**

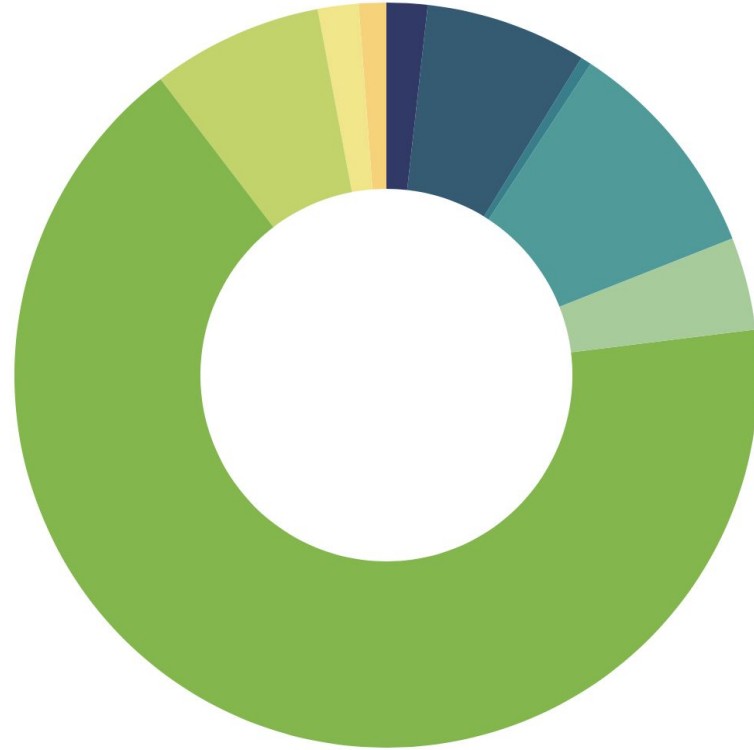
Impact per functional unit: **2.2 mPts per 1 year of use**

Total amount of service delivered: **8 x 1 year of use**

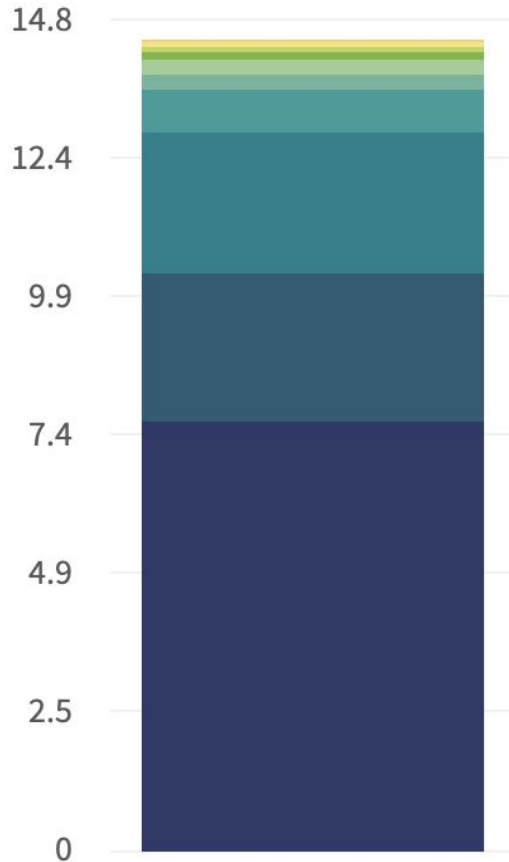
Impacts of total service delivered: **18 mPts**

Scorecard Details

Impact category	%
Ecological damage	
Acidification	1.78
Ecotoxicity	7.01
Eutrophication	0.47
Global warming	9.76
Ozone depletion	0.01
Resource depletion	
Fossil fuel depletion	4.01
Human health damage	
Carcinogenics	66.57
Non carcinogenics	7.43
Respiratory effects	1.77
Smog	1.19



Carbon Footprint

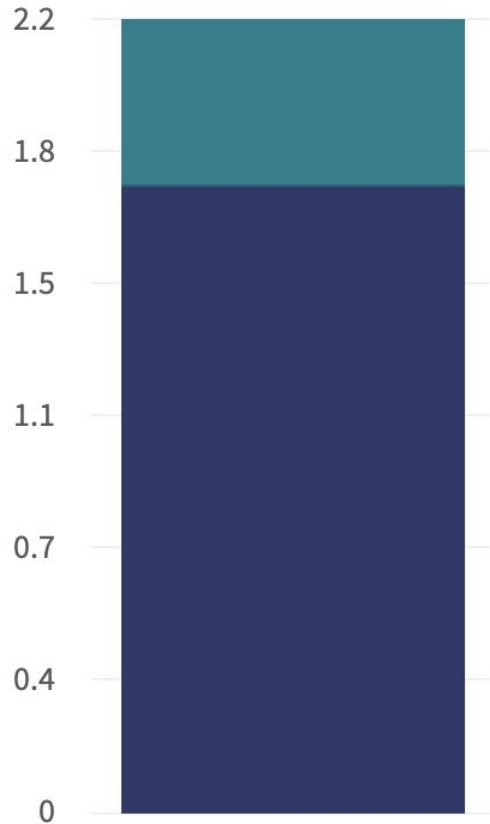


Total Emissions: 15 CO₂ eq. kg/func unit

Input	CO ₂ eq. kg/func unit
Electricity, 120 V, US	7.68
Injection molding, plastics	2.63
Electronics for control units	2.53
Stainless steel, austenitic	0.780
Capacitor, electrolyte type, > 2cm height	0.255
Stainless steel, austenitic	0.244
Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer, ABS	0.132
Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer, ABS	0.127
Injection molding, plastics	0.0585
Injection molding, plastics	0.0564

Lifecycle stage	CO ₂ eq. kg/func unit
Manufacturing	7.12
End of life	0.0279
Use	7.68

Impact by Life Cycle Stage



TOTAL: 2.2mPts/func unit

Lifecycle stage	mPts/func unit
Manufacturing	1.73
End of life	7.84x10 ⁻³
Use	0.454

Material and Manufacturing Improvements

1st Try with Recycled Metals

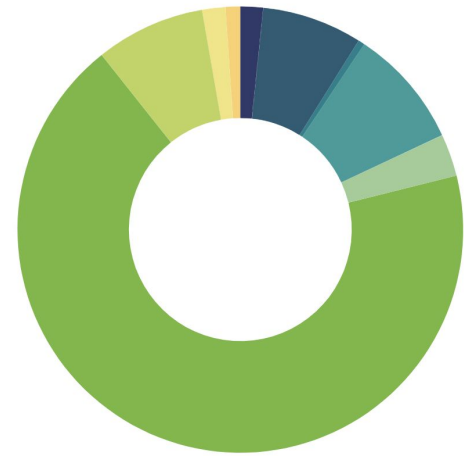
Total Emissions: 13 CO2 eq. kg/func unit

4.5% performance improvement, slightly reduced global warming impact, surprise at increase in carcinogenics, not large enough change from original design

Impact per functional unit: **2.1 mPts per 1 year of use**

Total amount of service delivered: **8 x 1 year of use**

Impacts of total service delivered: **17 mPts**

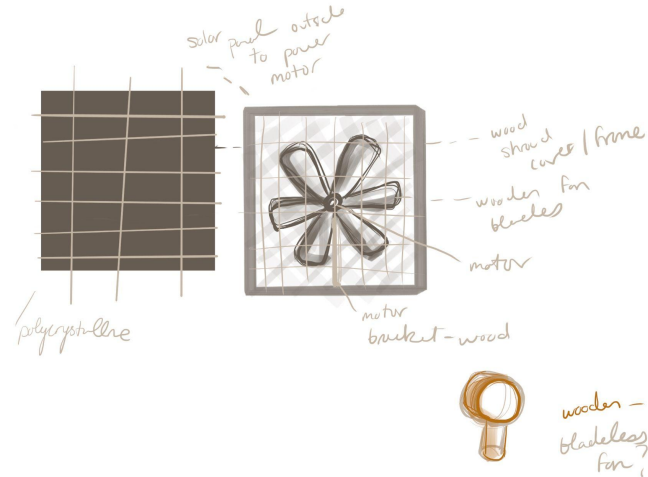
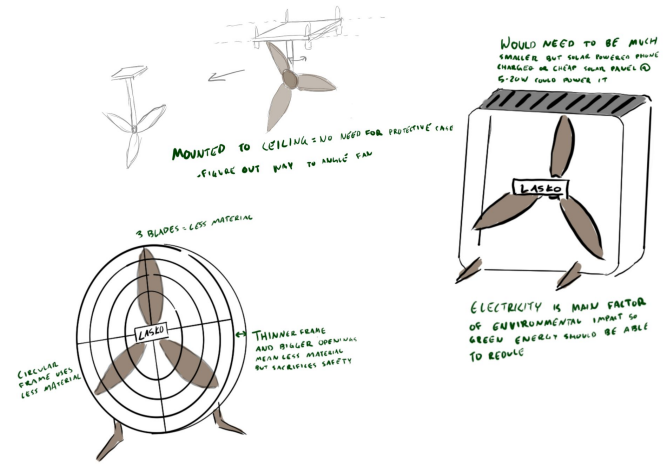
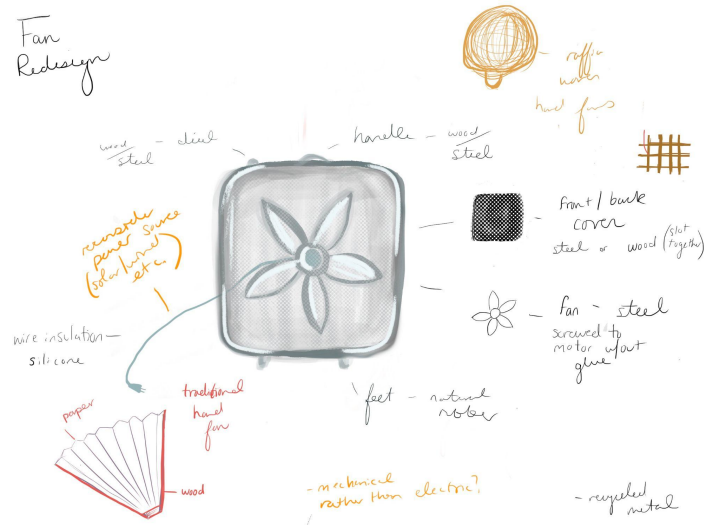


Impact category	%
Ecological damage	
Acidification	1.65
Ecotoxicity	7.27
Eutrophication	0.48
Global warming	8.65
Ozone depletion	0.01
Resource depletion	
Fossil fuel depletion	3.07
Human health damage	
Carcinogenics	68.19
Non carcinogenics	7.94
Respiratory effects	1.69
Smog	1.07

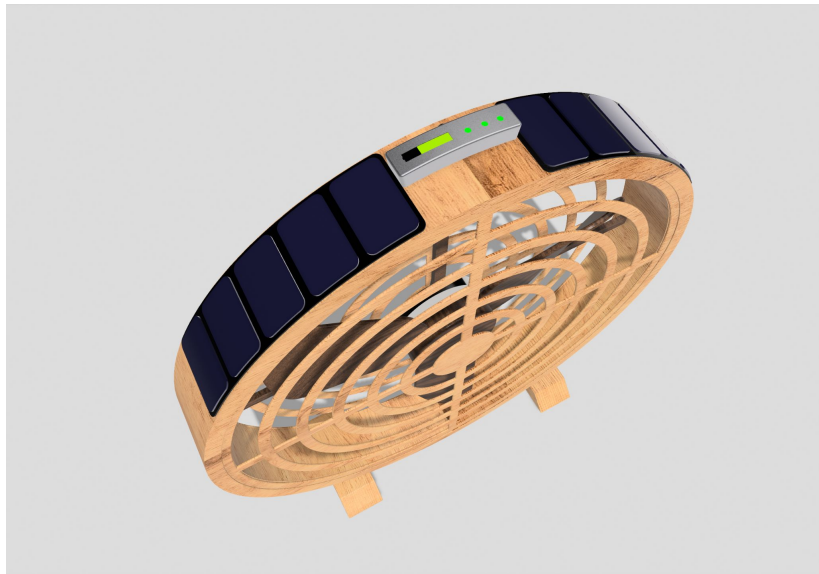
Redesign Sketches/Ideas

- Looking at traditional (hand) fans & bladeless/ ceiling wooden fans
- Renewable Energy
- Mechanical rather than Electric
- Design for disassembly
- Form redesign to use less materials
- Use less materials

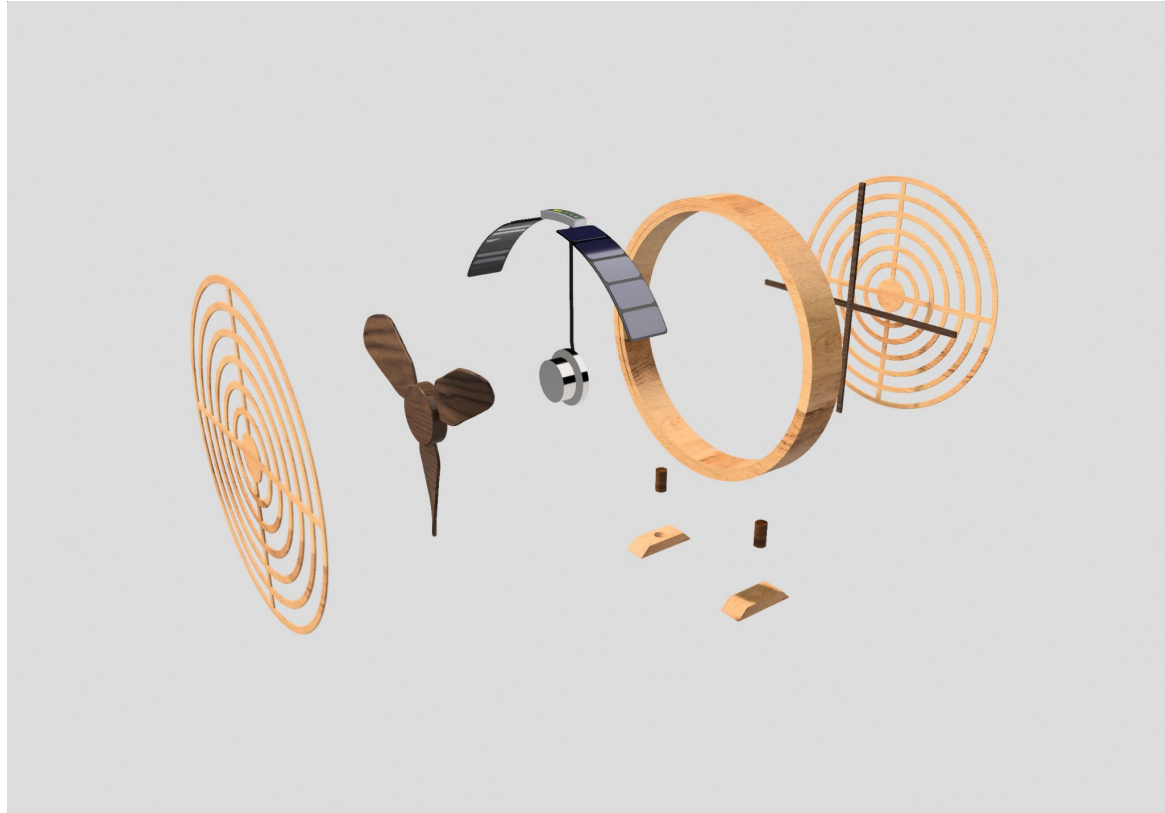
Fan Redesign



3D Rendering/ Exploded View with New Design



Exploded View





Redesigned to:

- Use Less Materials (3 Blades over 5, less material for the case)
- Snap-fit covers replace screws (less disassembly needed to recycle)
- Redesigned Casing to be able to more easily disassemble to repair
- Runs on Solar Power
- Part of larger Service System
- Increases lifespan of product
- Company will recycle parts for new products

Material and Manufacturing Improvements

Updated Concepts with Wood /Solar Power

Total Emissions: 4.9 CO2 eq. kg/func unit

SBOM input: **Electronics for control units**

Impact category: **Non- carcinogenics**

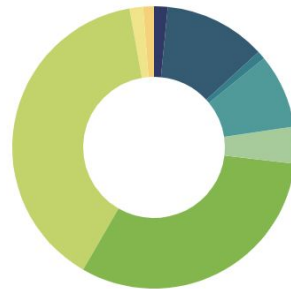
Life cycle stage: **Manufacturing**

Impact per functional unit: **0.84 mPts per 1 year of use**

Total amount of service delivered: **8 x 1 year of use**

Impacts of total service delivered: **6.7 mPts**

Electronics for control units
Non carcinogenics
Manufacturing

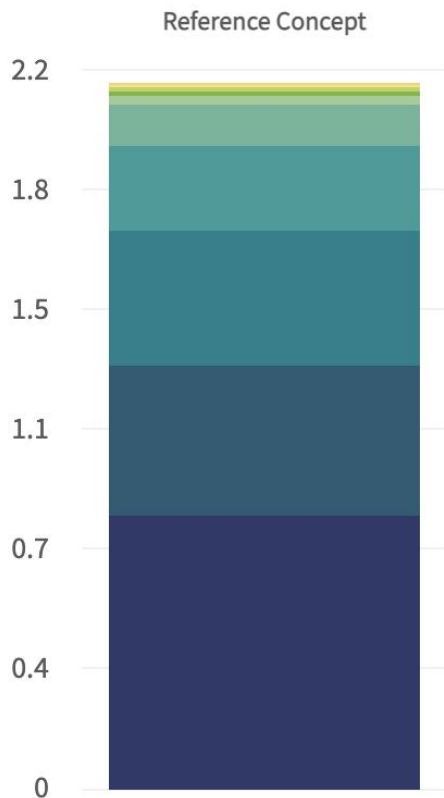


Impact category	%
Ecological damage	
Acidification	1.55
Ecotoxicity	11.63
Eutrophication	0.95
Global warming	8.5
Ozone depletion	0.01
Resource depletion	
Fossil fuel depletion	4.21
Human health damage	
Carcinogenics	31.47
Non carcinogenics	38.91
Respiratory effects	1.53
Smog	1.24



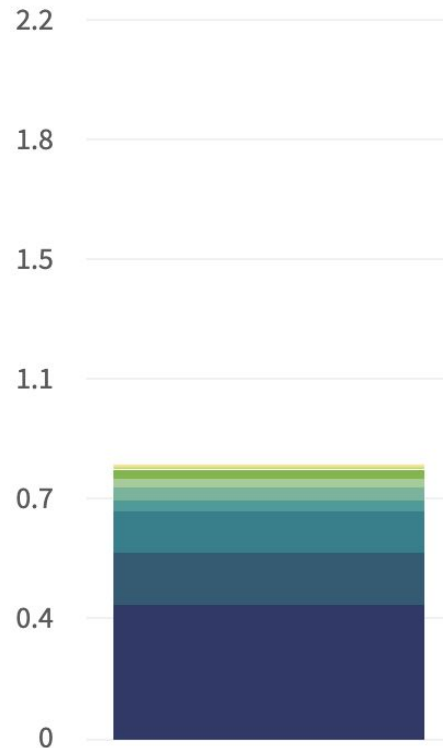
62% performance
improvement

Reference

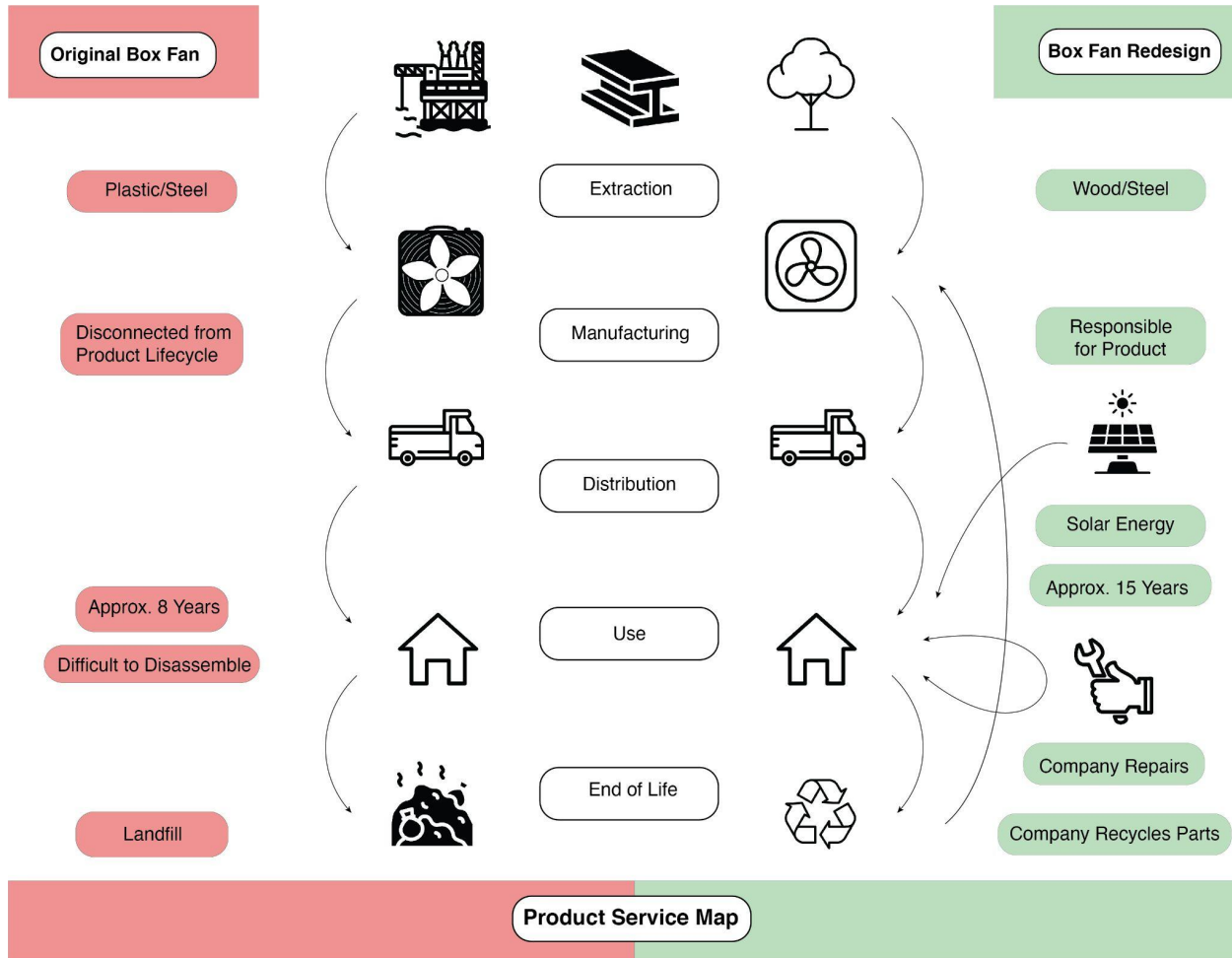


Total = 2.2mPts/func unit

Copy of Concept 3



Total = 0.84mPts/func unit



Evaluation

Change power source, instead of electric- use solar/green energy



Reduce # of materials and amount of materials



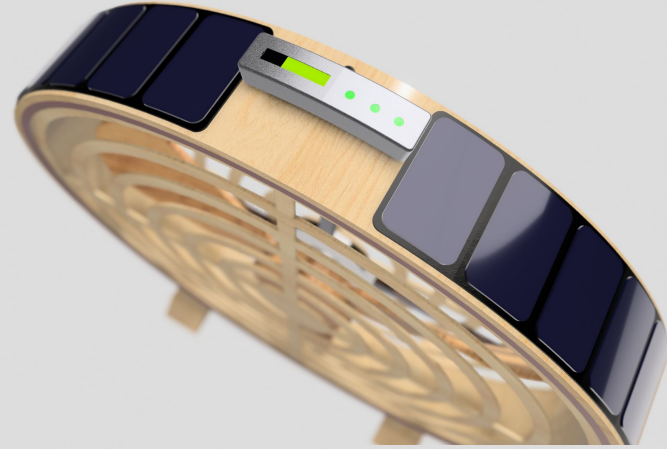
Replace plastic parts with renewable/natural materials

Disassemble / recycle

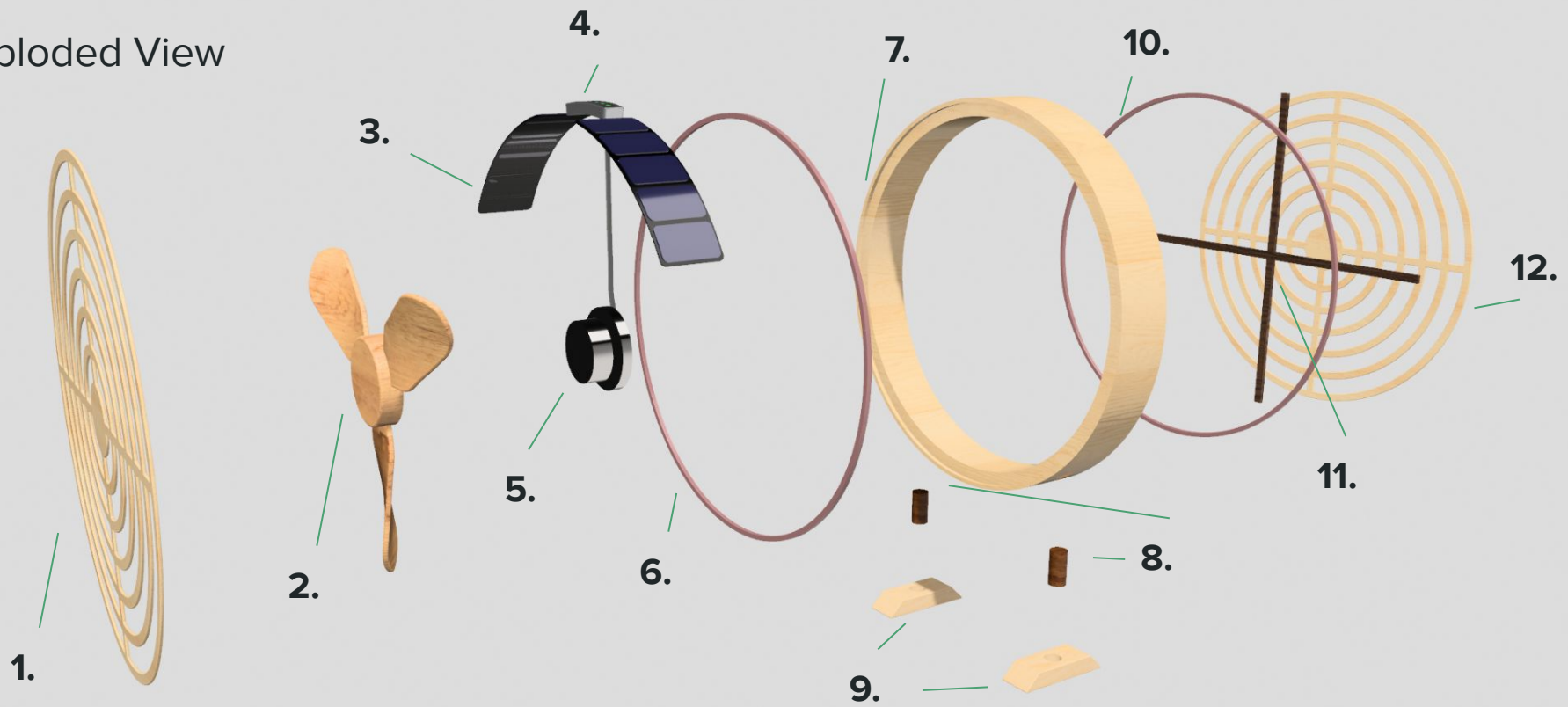


Establish systems for repair/recycling

SolFan



Exploded View



1. Front Cover
2. Fan Blade
3. Solar Panels

4. Battery/Control Panel
5. Motor
6. Natural Rubber Ring

7. Frame
8. Legs
9. Feet

10. Natural Rubber Ring
11. Motor Support
12. Back Cover

Original Box Fan

Extraction



Plastic/Steel

Manufacturing



Disconnected from
Product Lifecycle

Distribution



Use



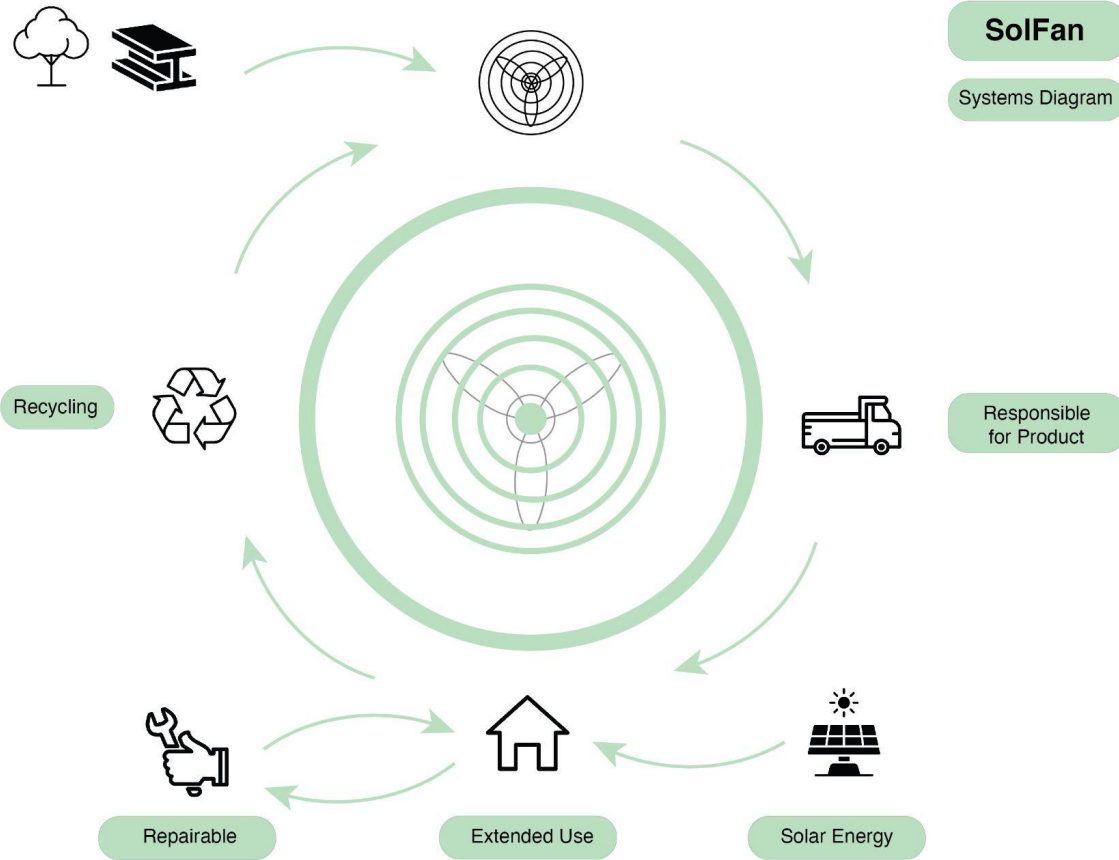
Approx. 8 Years

Difficult to Disassemble

End of Life



Landfill



SolFan owns their products. Users pay them a service fee for use.

The company is responsible for the entire lifecycle including at home repairs, which help to extend the product lifecycle.

Their products are solar powered, and use less raw materials. At the end of use, the company is recycles the parts to manufacture new products.