



ual: university
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london



**Book Industry
Communication**

Designed for Recycling

Simon Crump & Karen Carden 25th May 2023

BIC – Book Industry Communication Ltd



Our vision

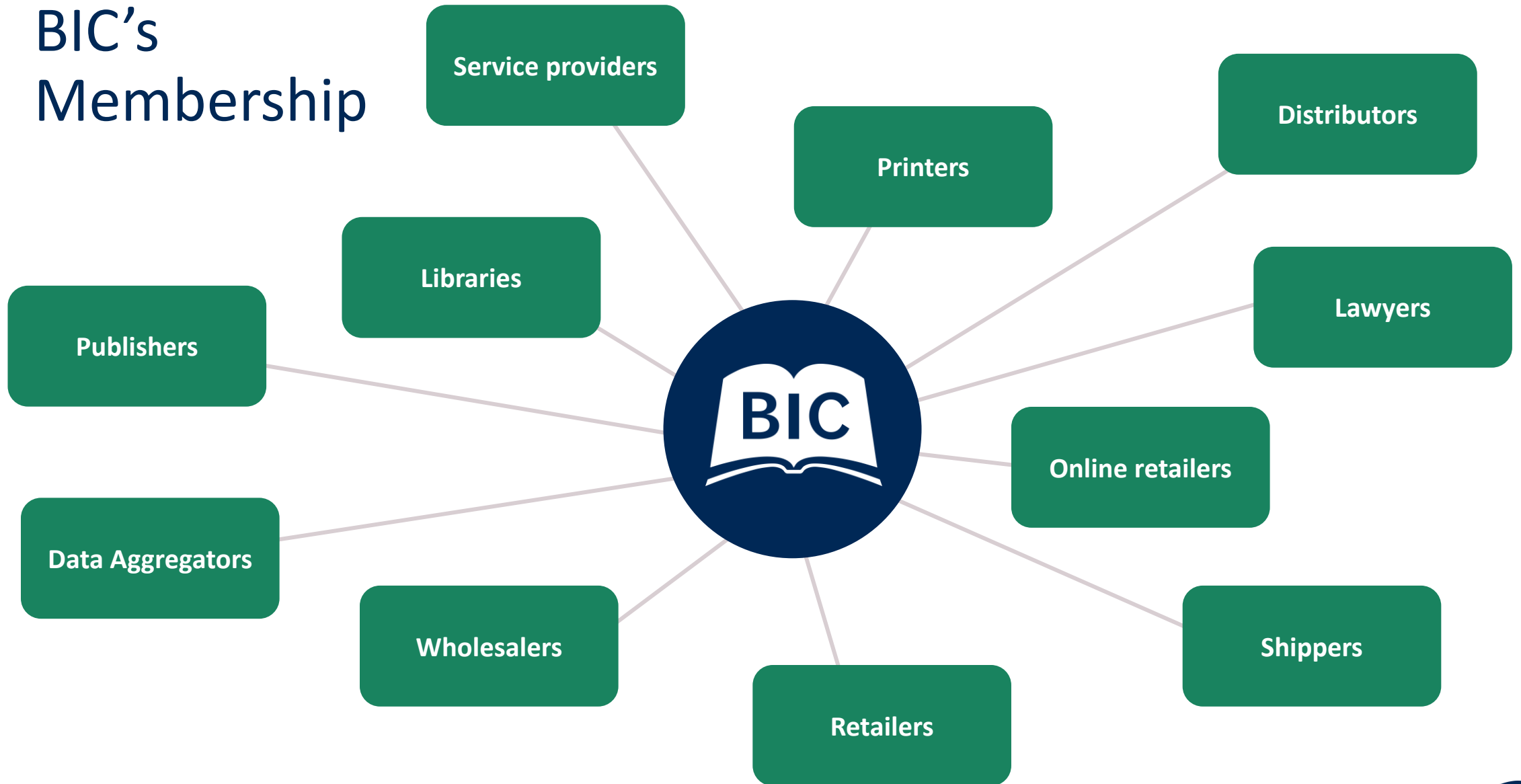
"We make the UK book supply chain more efficient by developing standards and encouraging their adoption. We define best practice and connect experts and stakeholders to enable innovation."

BIC – Book Industry Communication Ltd



- The book industry's supply chain organisation
- Various committees
- Green Supply Chain Committee (GSCC)
 - Created the [Green Supply Chain Committee Work Plan](#)

BIC's Membership





BIC Green Supply Chain Committee Projects

- Current projects
 - Environmental Accreditation Badges
 - **Designed for Recycling**
- New Projects
 - Offsetting schemes guidance
 - Industry sustainability progress reporting

Designed for Recycling Project



- The project is split into three parts
- Part 1 – Life Cycle Assessment
- Part 2 – Initial Design to Manufactured Book
- Part 3 – Manufactured Book to End-of-life

Designed for Recycling Project Part 1 – Life Cycle Assessment



- The main points from the final report are:
 - Closed loop of books that are not sold or returned
 - Anecdotally returns are between 10 and 30%
 - 87 to 90% of all returns are pulped
 - Printers are either recycling their waste or it is disposed of under government regulations
 - Warehouses and distributors working paperless, and recycling or reusing packaging materials
 - Freight forwarders recycling all that they can from shrink-wrap to containers being used for offices or housing
 - Libraries removing the outer extra plastic added to books, responsible recycling of old books
 - Recycling books from home – still an area for improvement, from what is a book to what can be recycled

Designed for Recycling Project Part 1 – Life Cycle Assessment



- Innovation – areas being looked at include
 - Removal of plastic from packaging, although paper is not always the best option
 - Reduction of the use of plastic across the whole supply chain
 - Reducing lamination and finish waste where possible
 - Sustainability at the forefront of book design
 - Educating people how they can recycle books from home
 - *Greater use of rail transport in the EU for shipping books*
- Conclusions
 - Closed loop 100% recycled
 - Sold books more work needs to be done
 - Very hard to get actual figures, hence providing percentages
 - The whole book can be recycled, but contaminants need to be removed

Designed for Recycling Project Part 2 – Initial Design to Manufactured Book



- Scope and deliverables
 - Looking at design to optimising book recycling and sustainability aspects of printing
 - The deliverables will be practical examples, hints and tips and suggestions as how this can be done
- Findings so far
 - Rationalisation of trim sizes and paper types
 - Different options to laminations and foils
 - Removal of shrink-wrapping
 - Waterless printing
 - Vegetable inks
 - Balance between recycled and virgin papers – based on carbon footprint
 - Extents and printing in even workings



Thank you

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Designed for Recycling Part 1 Report

BIC's Green Hub

[Welcome to BIC's Green Hub - Book Industry Communication](#)

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