Bike Repair

Reusing and organizing the use of residual flows

Challenge Introduction
investigating the possibilities for reusing and organizing the use of residual flows in the Bike Kitchen. Practically speaking, there are a lot of inner and outer tires, scrap metal and bicycle chains left over every week, which we would ideally like to reuse in upcycling these materials for the development of ‘new products’. And if we think a step further, we can also make these ‘new products’ shareable, so that fewer materials are needed. In this way, the circular character of a learning space such as the Bike Kitchen is further realized, because the materials in the space itself can also be reused and shared.

Who is behind this initiative?
The Bike Kitchen UvA is a do-it-yourself bike repair place on the Roetersseiland campus of the University of Amsterdam. Here, visitors can learn how to repair and maintain their own bike in order to strengthen the life expectancy of the bike. The Bike Kitchen wants to create a circular living lab that functions as a central meeting space on the campus and explore the possibilities of creating ownership, awareness, and autonomy over products, by repairing them. Our goal is to improve the knowledge and skills about bike repair and strengthen the relationship between human, environment, and product. Eventually we want to want to achieve to expand these insights and start Bike Kitchens at other universities and places within the Netherlands as well. Hereby, we create a knowledge network in which the bike functions as a symbol of knowledge exchange and connection.

How does this challenge enhance connections?
This project is about connections on various levels. The Bike Kitchen is about the connection between the people themselves, people and product, product and environment, and people and the environment. Moreover, it is about cooperation between the universities of Eindhoven and Amsterdam.

Relevant considerations for the challenge
If students would like to visit the Bike Kitchen space, this is of course possible. In that case, it is good to know that the Bike Kitchen UvA is located in Amsterdam and that they could arrange a meeting with us in advance by e-mail. For the collection of photo/film/audio-material permission must be asked first, due to privacy concerns.

www.student.uva.nl/bikekitchen

Romee Nicolai and Dirk Ploos van Amstel will support you in this challenge. Romee is the Project Lead of Bike Kitchen and a Master student at UvA in Urban and Regional Planning. Leon is the Co-Lead of Bike Kitchen. Dirk is a PhD Candidate at TU/e and researches how product designers can be supported in designing for the circular economy.