



## NEWSLETTER

N° 21 - 2020 - DECEMBER

BREXIT – IMPACT ON TEXTILE LABELLING

INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

UPDATE ON GINETEX'S PARTNERS

GINETEX INTERN

SUSTAINABLE CARE IN THE NEWS

GINETEX  
WISHES YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY  
AND ALL THE BEST FOR  
2021

## BREXIT – IMPACT ON TEXTILE LABELLING



### THE UK WILL LEAVE THE EU SINGLE MARKET AND CUSTOMS UNION ON 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2021.

Whilst businesses have had a long time to prepare, this change will have a dramatic effect on every element of United Kingdom (UK)/European Union (EU) trade. A potential Free Trade Agreement between the UK and the EU will establish whether and which goods will circulate between these two areas on a tariff free basis as well as other issues around border controls.

However, even if there is a Free Trade Agreement between the UK and the EU, it is expected that

- Customs declarations will still be required at the border in both directions;

- ATA Carnets will be required for attending trade-shows;

- Companies will need to protect their design rights in the UK and the EU;

- There will be separate REACH requirements for the UK and the EU;

- And there will be special arrangements for goods moving through Northern Ireland.

If you bring manufactured goods into Great Britain from the EU or EEA and want to place them on the market, you will have new responsibilities. (Please note Great Britain refers to England, Scotland and Wales. Separate requirements apply to Northern Ireland).



## TEXTILE CARE LABELLING REQUIREMENTS: SOME WILL REMAIN THE SAME BUT SOME WILL CHANGE.

The following will remain the same:

- There will be no change to the requirement to have full fibre content information fixed on the label of the garment. The content of EU regulation 1007/2011 will be passed in to UK law on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

- There will be no change to the care labelling requirements. There is no legal requirement to include care information but if you do not include care information, you would be responsible for any damage caused to the garment if the consumer had undertaken a reasonable cleaning process. Remember though that since 2018 the GINETEX symbols have been protected by trademarks in the UK.

- There will be no compulsory origin labelling unless the consumer could be misled as to where a garment was made.

The following are new requirements for products coming in to the UK from the EU:

- 1 You must label the goods with your company's details, including your company's name and a contact address as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Until 31 December 2022, these details can be on accompanying documentation. After that they will need to be permanently fixed to the product.

However, in order to ensure the consumer is not misled, this could mean that you would also have to include Country of Origin labelling on the garment.



- 2 **CE AND UKCA MARKING:** The UKCA mark is a new product marking that will be used in Great Britain (i.e. it does not apply to Northern Ireland). It covers most goods previously covered by the CE mark including toys and PPE.

While the UKCA mark can be used from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, in most cases businesses can continue to use the CE mark until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

The UKCA mark will not be recognised in the EU. Goods sold in the EU will have to continue to meet the requirements of, and be labelled with, the CE mark.

Please check with your current CE certifying organisation whether your current certification will remain valid or whether the goods need to be re-certified by another organisation.



The following advice has been prepared by the UK Fashion & Textile Association, GINETEX's National Member in the UK. More information on the impact of Brexit on UK/EU trade, including a series of FAQ's, can be found on the UKFT website [www.ukft.org](http://www.ukft.org)

**\*UK SEPARATE REACH REQUIREMENTS IN MORE DETAILS:** EU REACH (still applying for EU or EEA) will be passed in to UK law as UK REACH on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021. The main impact will be that the registration and the authorisation must be established by a UK-based entity.

For more information on UK REACH: [echa.europa.eu](http://echa.europa.eu) Or contact your national laboratories.

If you have any question on Brexit labelling impacts, GINETEX is at your disposal for any complementary information at [ginetex@ginetex.net](mailto:ginetex@ginetex.net)

# UPDATE ON GINETEX'S PARTNERS



## I.A.F.'S DIGITAL PRE-EVENT ON GLOBAL FASHION TRANSITION

On November 10 and 11, the International Apparel Federation (I.A.F.) held a digital 'pre-event' to its 36<sup>th</sup> IAF World Fashion Convention to be held 7 and 8 June 2021 in Antwerp, Belgium. The goal of the pre-event was to start a global, industry wide and in-depth conversation on the Convention's theme: 'Transition in the Global Fashion System'. Speakers talked about technology, and particularly 3D digital design technology. But the major key to transition turned out to be process and organisation innovation.

The I.A.F Board Meeting and General Assembly were held on November 9 – an opportunity to give a full update on IAF's many projects. Given the current pandemic circumstances, M. Han Bekke's mandate as President of IAF was extended until June 2021 by the board.



## A.I.S.E.'S 2020 PAN-EUROPEAN CONSUMER HABITS SURVEY

The release of the pan-European poll confirms that cleaning & hygiene are key to EU citizens: A.I.S.E., the International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance products, commissions a consumer research survey every three years since 2008. This year's survey, run in February 2020, involved 4,500 EU citizens

across 23 countries. The survey addressed their cleaning and washing habits and their overall perception of the industry.

The survey's findings confirm the increasing value of cleaning and hygiene products for European consumers. This is due to the COVID-19 sanitary crisis which has strengthened their need for cleanliness and hygiene, both at home and in public spaces, in order to further secure their health and wellbeing. The survey also shows opportunities for further improvement in household habits such as safe storage, lower temperature washing, improved detergent dosage and packaging sorting. The outcomes also confirm that today's consumers tend to turn to digital sources for information instead of relying merely on what's written on the packs.

— Average washing temperature = 42.5°C

— 80% of the population is interested (or impartial) in using digital technology instead of on-pack information.

The survey's detailed outcomes and highlights are available on [A.I.S.E.'s website](#)



# SUSTAINABLE CARE IN THE NEWS: THE KEY TO OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT!



Textile care accounts for 30 to 40% of a textile's total carbon footprint. Given these figures, it seems quite obvious that reduced washing and drying or changing consumers' daily habits in caring for their clothes could make a huge difference in our industry's environmental impact.

Last October, GINETEX was interviewed by Vogue Business on "A new movement to reduce the hidden environmental cost of clothing care".

VOGUEBUSINESS

MORE INFO

[www.voguebusiness.com/sustainability/](http://www.voguebusiness.com/sustainability/)

## INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS



Over the past months, a few regulation updates were published in some major markets. We will detail them hereunder. We will also provide you with some technical information on the labelling of upcycled textile products. If you need any complementary information on these subjects, please feel free to contact us at [ginetex@ginetex.net](mailto:ginetex@ginetex.net)

### NEW STANDARDS IN CHINA

China has published two new standards for textile products. They both entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020.

- **GB 12014-2019 Standard** – Mandatory (updated): for static protective clothing. It applies to static protective clothing "used in a hazardous location where electric shock, fire or explosion can be caused by static electricity".

- **GB/T 38418-2019 Standard** – Voluntary (recommended): on general technical requirements for textile donations. It applies to "new and used textile products donated through a non-profit or any other relevant organization", excluding textile products for infants. This standard also states that used textiles still need to be usable after disinfection by professionals.

### USA CUSTOMS ON HONG KONG GOODS

US Customs and Border Protection issued a notice in August 2020, requesting a change to the marking of the country of origin of all goods – including textile products – produced in Hong Kong. From now on, these goods will have to feature a "Made in China" label instead of "Made in Hong Kong".

Its entry into force was initially scheduled on 25 September 2020, but an additional 45-day transition period from its publication was decided. The new rule therefore came into force on 9 November 2020.

## LABELLING OF UPCYCLED TEXTILE PRODUCTS

Collecting used or unsold fabrics to make new creations and give them a second life is becoming more and more frequent; this is called “upcycling”. On top of having a positive impact on the environment, this responsible approach – enabling an existing item to be transformed in style or use – is also increasingly popular with consumers.

When you collect scraps of fabric, or old textile products like curtains, you do not always have access to information on the product’s composition because the label is often missing.

.....  
So how  
should you label an upcycled  
product?  
.....

Since Annex V of the 1007/2011 European Regulation does not expressly exclude the labelling or marking of these products made from existing fabrics, the labelling of these products is therefore mandatory.

When the composition of the recovered fabrics is unknown, laboratory tests will have to be performed. These tests’ results will allow to determine the composition of the new textile product.

In case the composition cannot be determined through these tests, it is strongly advised to request the products’ traceability documents from the suppliers.

In you are unable to retrieve these documents, as a last resort, you may include the words “undetermined textile composition” or “various fibers” on the label, as specified in article 9 paragraph 4 of the 1007/2011 European regulation.

Nonetheless, in the event of control by an organization, you must be able to show laboratory certificates proving that it was impossible to determine its composition.



## GINETEX INTERN



### GINETEX’S GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GINETEX held its 2020 General Assembly on 23 October 2020 by Zoom. All its 22 national member entities attended. Due to the pandemic, GINETEX had to cancel its General Assembly which was initially to take place in Bruges, Belgium. Of course, this became the very first virtual General Assembly in the history of GINETEX. This has never happened before and definitely isn’t in our DNA! As an international association, all our national members find it more beneficial to meet in person, discuss and debate together.

Adam Mansell, GINETEX’s current President, explained how COVID-19 had had major impacts across the globe and explained how it still affects every part of our lives. But let’s stay positive, a pandemic will always bring new opportunities, and most importantly, it will eventually end... one day!

During this past year, GINETEX pursued its efforts to further develop internationally. Its care labelling system continued to be harmonized across different countries, with growing use and respect from partners, authorities, organizations and companies worldwide, and for the benefit of the consumers and the environment.



This year, **GINETEX** joined EURATEX, the European Confederation of Textile and Clothing – a great opportunity for our organization to participate in the care labelling system with key players of the European apparel and textile markets.

Over the past few months, many projects around sustainability and the circular economy have emerged. Many stakeholders have started to work together on these issues, to accelerate their development. The “used” phase of textiles, including textile care, now takes centre stage in the debate on sustainability and the circular economy. Our clevercare.info initiative is now often deeply involved in these projects.

**GINETEX** has also been very active in the systematic technical revision process of the ISO3758 standard and was involved in its debates and developments with all the other international experts. Major improvements were made in the standard’s content and on the information on professional cleaning, ironing and washing by hand – all for the benefit of manufacturers, consumers and the textile care industry alike.

Our yearly General Assembly was an opportunity for **GINETEX** to thank all its partners for their close cooperation over this past year. All agreed that teamwork, hand in hand with our international partners creates great value for the future.

This General Assembly also marked the end of Adam Mansell’s presidency.

### MR. ALEJANDRO LAQUIDAIN BECOMES PRESIDENT OF GINETEX

At this General Assembly, Mr. Alejandro Laquidain was unanimously elected and appointed President of the International Association for Textile Care Labelling, and will be taking his new responsibilities on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

As a member of the Board of Directors of Consejo Inter-textil Español (CIE) – the National Committee representing **GINETEX** in Spain since 2016 – Mr. Alejandro Laquidain has served as Vice-President of **GINETEX** for the past year. He succeeds to Mr. Adam Mansell, CEO of UKFT in the United Kingdom.

Spanish, born in Barcelona in 1958, Alejandro Laquidain holds a degree in textile engineering, with a specialization in warp fabrics, obtained in Obertshausen (Germany). He has been Chairman of the Lakidain family group since 1985. Over his career, he has built a significant professional experience in the textile industry. He is currently member of the boards of Federación Textil Sedera (FTS), and Confederación de la Industria Textil – TEXFOR, and was also a member of the Board of Directors of EURATEX (The European Apparel and Textile Confederation) from 2013 to 2018.

"It is an honour for me to now chair the **GINETEX** association and to continue the work that my predecessors have fully accomplished" said Alejandro Laquidain. He added: "During my mandate, I would like to strengthen the global presence of **GINETEX** by welcoming new international members and by promoting a smart labelling app project within the textile and clothing industry."

Former President of **GINETEX** and elected Vice-President by the same General Assembly, Adam Mansell commented: "I am delighted that Alejandro Laquidain is to become the new President of **GINETEX**. He has a huge wealth of experience in developing trade organisations and international bodies as well as having a lifetime’s knowledge of running a textile business – this makes him the ideal candidate. He is hugely respected in the industry and I very much look forward to supporting him".

**Alejandro Laquidain will be president of GINETEX for a mandate of two years.**





## GINETEX BOARD



At the end of the General Assembly, all **GINETEX** members voted unanimously for the following Board for 2021:

.....  
President Alejandro Laquidain, International Relations of Consejo Intertextil Español, Spain

.....  
Vice President Adam Mansell, CEO of UKFT, UK

.....  
Treasurer Rolf Langenegger, President of GINETEX SWITZERLAND, Switzerland

.....  
Secretary General Pascale Florant, Secretary General of COFREET, France

### Technical Committee

.....  
Chairman Jean-Pierre Haug, COO of Testex, Switzerland

### Legal Committee

.....  
Chairman Serena Moretti, Lawyer at Confindustria Moda, Italy

.....  
Honorary President François-Marie Grau, President of COFREET, France

## IMPRINT

### HEADQUARTER

37, Rue de Neuilly  
FR- 92110 Clichy Cedex  
Phone + 33 1 475 631 71  
ginetex@ginetex.net  
www.ginetex.net

### PRESIDENT

Alejandro Laquidain, ES

### GENERAL SECRETARY

Pascale Florant, FR

### TREASURER

Rolf Langenegger, CH