

# The European Textile Labelling Regulation (TLR) now being revised

The context of the EU's regulatory, policy and economic framework has changed due to technical progress, societal changes and the evolution of the regulatory framework for textiles, particularly following the foreseen adoption of several relevant pieces of EU legislation.

As a commitment to respect the principles of the European Green Deal, the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles was adopted in 2022 to address how textiles are manufactured and consumed.

In this context, the European Commission is revising the Textile Labelling Regulation (TLR) by addressing some of the key EU regulatory developments including ecodesign, waste management and consumer market experience in textile care labelling,



empowerment. The Commission will update current provisions and also considers broadening the scope of label specifications to additional fields such as care instructions, origin, size, etc.

Considering its extensive international

## EUROPEAN TEXTILE LABELLING REGULATION

## GINETEX represents a key stakeholder in the scope of this revision. GINETEX is participating to the different consultations and interviews.

On 4 June 2024 in Brussels, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) hosted the stakeholder event for the ecosystem. GINETEX attended this event which included updates on key regulatory initiatives of the Strategy for Textiles, the implementation of the Transition Pathway for the Textiles Ecosystem, and the EU Pact for skills on Textiles under Horizon Europe.

For more information ginetex@ginetex.net

# A new icon for MY CARE LABEL app

MY CARE LABEL APP

GINETEX redesigned the icon of its MY CARE LABEL app to make it look more like a textile label.

This handy app is free of charge and accessible anytime to help your sales force and/or your customers better understand the care symbols on their textile labels – whether they're in a store purchasing the item or at home, caring for their textiles.

MY CARE LABEL also provides advice and tips on how to clean and care for textiles. Via this app, consumers can even create their personal digital wardrobe and store information on how to wash their delicate textiles. They can also access the clevercare.info website directly through the app. MY CARE LABEL is available in 7 languages: French, Spanish, German, Italian, English, Czech and Flemish.



# Numerous events attended by GINETEX!

#### GINETEX PARTNERS

A European meeting on DPP – Digital Product Passport

European DPP IT summit took place on 28 June, 2024 at VDMA in Frankfurt. The aim of the European Commission's Green Deal is to make almost all sectors of the economy recyclable.

On top of introducing completely new quality requirements for products, this major restructuring of the economy will require a large amount of standardized data. The ESPR legislation introduces the need of a "Digital Product Passport" (DPP), which is expected to become legally binding throughout Europe in mid-2027. As things now stand, clothing may very likely be one of the



Pascale Florant and Andreas Shneider at VDMA

first sectors to be regulated. **GINETEX**, as the International Association for Textile Care Labelling, was invited by Andreas R. Shneider, CEO of Global Textile Scheme GmbH, to attend this IT Summit. The aim of this conference was to provide all participants with first-hand information on the status and details of the DPP project and to give associations the opportunity to present the needs of their members – the actual customers of the DPP IT providers.

The summit also aimed at presenting IT companies with the DPP requirements that should pave the way for entirely new business models that will tremendously impact companies' processes and how data will be shared between different organizations.

Swiss Textile celebrates 150 yearsof service – Happy anniversary!

On June 12, 2024, Swiss Textile celebrated its 150 anniversary at the Château de la Hulpe near Brussels, in Belgium.

Together with EURATEX and Economiesuisse, Swiss Textile took this opportunity to



organize a convention on "cooperation and sustainability in the European textile sector". Switzerland and the EU are closely intertwined which is why the impact of the EU strategy was extensively addressed during this conference attended by **GINETEX**.



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#### A new board for EURATEX, the European **Textile & Apparel Confederation**

On June 13, EURATEX organized its first textile forum in Brussels. It was followed by EURATEX's General Assembly where the Portuguese textile entrepreneur, Mario Jorge Machado, was elected President of EURATEX.

Mario Jorge Machado has an extensive career in textile and is currently a shareholder and Director of Adalberto Textile Solutions.



From the left: Ismail Kolunsag, Barbara Cimmino, Mario Jorge Machado and Grégory Marchant.

## S.A. The Assembly also nominated Alberto Paccanelli as Honorary President, recognising over a decade of commitment to EURATEX and the European textile industry.

Four other members of the Presidency Team: Michael Kamm (ZWILLING Gruppe, Germany), Barbara Cimmino (Yamamay, Italy), Grégory Marchant (UJT, France) and Ismail Kolunsag (Cross Tekstil, Turkey).

# Legal Updates

## WORLD

# UPDATED ITS COMMUNICATIONS TOOLS

On 6 December 2023, ISO published its ISO 3758:2023 standard, a textile care labelling code using symbols. This 4<sup>th</sup> edition supersedes the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (ISO 3758:2012), which underwent a technical revision.

As a reminder, two new symbols have been made available to GINETEX member brands in this revision: hand washing at ambient temperature and ironing at 120°C without steam (steam can cause irreversible damage). These two symbols were introduced to ensure better care of delicate textiles which require special treatment.

GINETEX consequently revised and published its communications tools:

- The Technical Booklet V 10 March 2024 >
- > version)
- New symbols and related fonts

GINETEX is working to update a more ISO STANDARD 3758:2023 - GINETEX detailed version of the Symbol Brochure and its well-known Fibre Table.

For more information ginetex@ginetex.net



#### **AUSTRALIA** ROLL-OUT OF ISO 3758 -TRANSITION PERIOD COMPLETED

On 5 September 2023, the Australian Consumer Product Council (ACCC) announced the update of its national care labelling standard for textile products, which is mandatory in Australia.

Since 5 March 2024, textile brands throughout the world could choose either to display care instructions written in full (in English) The Symbol brochure containing (short or using the GINETEX care symbols based on ISO 3758, or both.

For more information productsafety.gov.au

#### LEGAL UPDATES



**EUROPE** ADOPTION OF THE ECODESIGN **REGULATION (ESPR)** 

The Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation was adopted by the European Parliament on Tuesday 23 April and by the Council on 27 May.

This text will replace the current Ecodesign Directive and will be directly applicable, with no need for transposition into national regulations (unlike directives). These regulations will introduce new eco-design criteria for a wider range of products, targeting several sectors, with a priority given to those with a higher impact, including the textile industry. The text addresses new topics including:

- The introduction of the digital product passport, which will provide consumers with more information on products' sustainability characteristics.
- The ban on the destruction of unsold products: in France, article 35 of the



AGEC law provides that from 1 January 2022, producers, importers and distributors of non-food products intended for sale must reuse unsold products, mainly by donating, reusing or recycling them, in line with the hierarchy of treatment methods set out in article L.541-2-1II paragraph 2 of the Environmental Code.

On 5 December 2023, the European Parliament and EU Member States announced an agreement to ban the destruction of unsold new clothes and shoes and to strengthen the eco-design of many consumer goods by making them easier to repair and recycle.

The ban on the destruction of new clothes and shoes will take effect two years after the regulation enters into force. Large companies will be given no time limit to comply, while medium-sized businesses will have six years to do so, and small businesses will be exempt. Larger companies will be required to disclose the volume of unsold consumer products that are scrapped each year and will be asked to justify this practice.

Economic operators should indicate the type or category of products that go to waste, the reasons for this and through which subsequent waste treatment operations they will be processed. Correct?

A specific act for textiles should follow, to be published in 2026.

import, export and marketing of the following products containing PFAS:

- > Cosmetic products
- > Waxing products
- Clothing textiles, except for clothing textiles designed for personal protection, particularly in the framework of national defence or civil security missions.

This ban will be extended to all textile products from 1 January 2030. The proposed law also includes an obligation to conduct analyses to detect the presence of PFAS in water for human consumption. A decree will draw up a non-exhaustive list of PFAS to be tested, along with sampling procedures. The government will be required to present a report to the French Parliament within one year, proposing updated health standards for PFAS in water for human consumption.

On 30 May 2024, the Senate passed a law to restrict the manufacture and sale of products containing PFAS, forever chemicals.

sive requirements for the physical and digital labelling of textiles and related products, to close any loopholes in the current rules and remove any divergence in labelling requirements between Member States.

#### ITS MAIN OBJECTIVES ARE

- To ensure that consumers have access to accurate, comprehensible and comparable information, particularly on products' environmental aspects
- > To reduce compliance costs
- To ensure the clarity and consistency of regulations.

A call for contributions was issued from 3 August to 30 September 2023. The following public talks with the stakeholders, which ended in spring 2024, were held to gather evidence on the effectiveness of the current regulation on previously identified problems, to gather opinions and consider potential solutions.

The European Commission is currently analysing the feedback from this consultation and conducting individual interviews with the main stakeholders.

A work meeting with all participants will then take place to validate what will have to be revised.

**GINETEX** is actively contributing to the revision of the European Regulation 1007/2011.

For more information ginetex@ginetex.net

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## FRANCE THE SENATE VOTED TO BAN PFAS (FOREVER CHEMICALS)

On Thursday 04 April 2024, the National Assembly adopted, on first reading, a bill to restrict the manufacture and sale of products containing perfluoroalkylated and polyfluoroalkylated substances (PFAS).

The key provision of the proposed law, as adopted by the National Assembly, is a ban, from 1 January 2026, on the manufacture,

Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 September 2011 on textile fibre names and related labelling and marking of the fibre composition of textile products is now being revised by the European Commission.

**EUROPE** 

EUROPEAN REGULATION 1007/2011

ON TEXTILE LABELLING REVISED

This initiative aims to review EU rules on textile labelling by introducing comprehen-



#### GINETEX INTERN

# Two initiatives conducted by our national committees

#### ACT UK

A GROUNDBREAKING INITIATIVE BY UK FASHION AND TEXTILE (UKFT) FOR ADVANCED TEXTILE CIRCULARITY



ACT UK is a two-year initiative which aims to create the blueprint for an Advanced Textile Sorting and Pre-processing (ATSP) facility that will process non-rewearable textiles and enable fibre-to-fibre recycling at a scale. The initiative gathers recycling technologists, textile manufacturers, brands and retailers, collectors and sorters, academic and industry players, with funding from Innovate UK.

#### → Read on this project www.ginetex.net

## SOTEX GINETEX CZ MY CARE LABEL APP PROMOTED BY SOTEX GINETEX CZ IN THE IN CZECH REPUBLIC

SOTEX GINETEX CZ – a member of the international **GINETEX** association since 1996 – has been promoting textile care symbols in the Czech Republic for decades. The aim is to raise awareness among companies and the public. Among other promotional initiatives, SOTEX GINETEX CZ regularly presents the results of the IPSOS barometer at professional conferences and meetings.

since February this year. While Czech consumers have a long-term interest in sustainable care and are keen on keeping their products in the best possible condition, many of them still cut their textile labels off, depriving themselves of important information.

→ More on this campaign www.ginetex.net

If you wish to stay tuned with textile care labelling topics and news, connect to the GINETEX LinkedIn page



This year, SOTEX decided to put the MY CARE LABEL application under the spotlights, which has been available in Czech



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