Re_think production
2021 marks the beginning of a revival, following the exceptional Covid-19 pandemic. Indeed, the amount of items placed onto the market in 2021 nearly returned to 2019 levels with 2.8 billion items. This revival however reveals an upheaval in the cost structures of products and a very turbulent international context. 2021 is also a year that affected the implementation of some of the provisions in the AGEC law: for example the unique identification number and the “Info-tri” symbol. These new measures have had a direct influence on marketers in the product development cycle. This is why the Refashion eco-organisation deploys educational tools and provides support.

Review of this year’s highlights with its wealth of new developments.

A brief moment in the textile industry

Every year, member companies declare to Refashion the quantities of products placed onto the market the previous year. This enables the eco-organisation to build a quantitative picture of the breakdown of annual clothing and footwear sales in France, as well as to measure the changes from year to year. In an industry where data is a key element for managing collection operations, this compiled data, provided to marketers, is a precious source of information.

In 2021 each person in France bought on average:

- 36 items of clothing
- 4 pairs of footwear
- 5 items of household linen

i.e. 10.5kg of clothing and footwear/year/inhabitant

In 2021, 2.8 million items were placed onto the market, corresponding to 715,000 tonnes, which is the equivalent in weight of 71 Eiffel Towers!

Did you know?

In 2021, trainers accounted for about 40% of footwear sold in France: nearly 37 million pairs were purchased by men, compared to 26 million for children and 27 million pairs by women. However, women remain the highest consumers of footwear with a total of 83 million pairs purchased throughout the year.

Why participate in the eco-organisation’s work?

Refashion is an eco-organisation at the centre of a global project. It is a hub of exchange making it easier for different stakeholders in the textile industry to contact each other. It is also a lever for establishing synergies between the activities of each stakeholder for a common goal: encourage eco-design and recover clothing and footwear waste in order to transform it into new resources.

Refashion glossary

- _ERP_: Extended Producer Responsibility.
- _Textile ERP_: there is a legal requirement for brands to contribute to the funding of waste prevention and the management of their products’ end-of-service life.
- _Marketers_: this term covers the brands, companies and manufacturers who sell textile products, footwear or clothing in France.
- _Member_: this a marketer who declares the quantities placed onto the market then pays the resulting fee to the eco-organisation. 100% of brands, companies and manufacturers placing goods subject to regulations must either manage the end of their products’ service life themselves or eco-contribute to Refashion to do it for them.

(1) The calculation: 2.8 billion items / 525,600 minutes in the year.
Eco-design led by Refashion

Following the successful experiments in the eco-design workshops at the end of 2020, Refashion held the “Rendez-vous de l’Eco-conception” eco-design event in 2021. There were 8 workshops in one event, bringing together a wide audience, mainly comprising brands but also designers, students, consulting firms and actors in second-hand entities in the textile industry. An event designed for beginners in mind or the most experience players in order to rise to the eco-design challenge.

The 9 eco-design events in 2021

14.01.2021 Awareness-raising webinar Sustainable procurement of materials
Speaker: Marie-Emmanuelle Demouries, BALZAC PARIS

11.02.2021 Support Workshop Eco-design fundamental principles
Speaker: Gaëtan Bedek, Groupe ERAM

20.03.2021 Awareness-raising webinar Eco-design in order to begin eco-designing
Speaker: Erwan Autret, ADEME

20.04.2021 Support Workshop Eco-designing lingerie
Speaker: Marie Roch & Dominique Benson, CHANTELLE

14.09.2021 Awareness-raising webinar Integrating recycled materials into products
Speakers: Christèle Merter, LA GENTLE FACTORY, Mara Poggio, CETI, Shuang Zhang, IDKIDS, Marie Buttet

17.06.2021 Support workshop Better design by working together
Speaker: Solène Naeve, LE SLIP FRANÇAIS & David Lermoin, 1083

25.05.2021 Awareness-raising webinar Eco-design for all
Speaker: Clara Barry, Eco-design Life Cycle Performance Division

02.12.2021 Awareness-raising webinar The tools to calculate a product’s environmental impact
Speaker: Samuel Mayer, Eco-design Life Cycle Performance Division

09.11.2021 Support workshop Prolonging a product’s service life
Speaker: Alix Bardet, PETIT BATEAU

Two types of event formats: why and for who?

Awareness-raising webinar
These are for everyone, but more particularly for beginners in eco-design. Their purpose is to provide information and to acclimatise to the general eco-design themes. Rolled out in digital format, there were, on average, more than 100 participants sharing best practices at each of the 5, one hour-long awareness-raising sessions programmed in 2021. Moderated by Refashion, these workshops were boosted by “outside” speakers who talked about their experience in the field.

Workshops providing support in eco-design
Exclusively reserved for Refashion member brands, these workshops are collaborative and participative with around twenty participants maximum per session. A limited number of participants had been defined in order to optimise learning and discussion amongst peers. These workshops, totalling 4 in 2021, were a huge success and brought together as many varied worlds and themes such as footwear, lingerie and sustainability.

To be continued in 2022 ...

This eco-design event will continue in 2022 with the following tasks:
✔ Set up meetings and networking between peers
✔ Develop programmes that provide support through several workshops in order to study complex problems in depth

The “Eco design” platform has a make-over
Launched in September 2020, with aim of becoming a reference technical base on eco-design for clothing and footwear, new features were added to the Eco design platform in 2021.

The English version is now available.
The platform can thereby be used by the entire textile industry, particularly by suppliers or procurement offices located overseas.

Testimonies by the seven new brands such as Salomon, Asphalte or the Maison de la Maille can be found in the “They did it” section. Find out about their eco-design successes in these articles as well as the obstacles encountered. These companies talk about their work to move the entire sector forward.

All of this can be found on the Eco design platform: refashion.fr/eco-design.fr
Refashion deciphers the new regulatory obligations

Enacted in February 2020, the French Anti-waste and Circular Economy Law (AGEC) is gradually being implemented with the publication of implementing decrees. The eco-organisation helps its members to understand its repercussions on their organisations.

The textile industry TRIMAN and “info-tri” symbols

In June 2021, the decree on the scope of application regarding the affixing of the TRIMAN symbol and “info-tri” symbol onto clothing, household linen and footwear was published.

The eco-organisation is in charge of developing the information given to consumers indicating the sorting methods to follow. Refashion aims at having a simple symbol, that does not require translation, that is visible on small sizes so that it can be displayed on the composition label and that can be used horizontally or vertically. Popular with consumers, then validated by public authorities, this symbol must be used by marketers. They will have until 1st of February 2023 to affix it onto their products (and up to 1st August 2023 to sell their products manufactured or imported before 1st February 2023).

The symbols and a guide on their use are available on the website: refashion.fr

Environmental assessment Works continue

What with trials on environmental labelling in France and the development of a calculation methodology at a European level, works are accelerating to include these issues in core company practice.

In France trials on environmental labelling on clothing and footwear continue

Driven by the French AGEC law, the French trials on clothing and footwear environmental labelling have been extended within the framework of the French Climate and Resilience Law. The textile industry may soon be required to show the environmental impact of all products that are introduced into the marketplace.

French companies have undertaken to test the European referential

The drafting of the European PEFCR (Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules) methodology has been ongoing since 2020 and aims at providing the clothing and footwear industry with common rules to calculate the environmental impact of their products. Managed by the European Commission, the works have been undertaken by a technical secretariat with 26 members, including Refashion.

During the summer of 2021, a first draft of the methodology was submitted for public consultation. The members of the eco-organisation were informed of this consultation in order to send their proposals for improving it. In total, nearly 1,000 comments were made in order to optimise the first draft of the method, in particular around the consideration of the impacts generated by microplastics, the impacts on biodiversity or the method for evaluating the durability of products. The reference will be tested through case studies on real products in order to identify where optimisation can be made and to check its feasibility. As voting members of the technical secretariat for the PEFCR’s Apparel and Footwear project, Refashion, the ADEME and the “Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode” joined forces to invite French companies to undertake case studies using this European methodology. This is a strong and positive message because nearly 40 French companies applied to undertake around a hundred case studies in total.
The fee-scale
Eco-fees and their modulation

Every year marketers must pay the eco-fee corresponding to the volume of products placed onto the market the previous year. Refashion has developed, in addition to the standard fee scale, an eco-modulated scale allowing to financially reward those products that are more sustainable and which include recycled materials. These eco-modulations are precious tools to incite marketers to begin an eco-design process.

1. What is an eco-fee?
This a fee that marketers must pay within the context of the textile EPR procedure. It finances waste prevention and the end-of-service-life of products in the textile industry.

2. How is it calculated?
It is calculated via each marketer’s annual declaration based on the quantities of clothing and footwear that were marketed the previous year. The declaration of quantities is completed per predefined product categories, 107 in total for three sectors: clothing, household linen and footwear. For each category, there is corresponding average weight. It is re-evaluated every four years. It is on this basis that the four rates are defined: Very small items, Small items, Medium-sized items, Large items that correspond to four weight brackets. For each weight bracket, a rate is recalculated every year. The fee scale work is carried out by the Fee Scale Committee, the meetings of which Refashion organises several times a year. The final fee scale and its rates are approved by the Board of Directors.

For more information: refashion.fr

3. What is eco-modulation?
To transform the textile industry marketers need to be incited to offer products that are more sustainable and that can be more easily recycled. So, in 2012 Refashion eco-modulated the scale in order to promote eco-design initiatives in three main areas: sustainability, the integration of recycled post-consumer CHF materials and the introduction of recycled CHF materials from post-production off-cuts. Every year the Refashion working groups review the eco-modulation criteria, adding new ones, and revise the tests, thresholds and methods for providing evidence in order to ensure they remain ambitious for the sector.

4. What changes were made in 2021?
For EM1 (Sustainability Eco-modulation) clothing, the underwear categories are now eligible for a 50% reduction in the standard fee scale. This increases the number of eligible items of clothing in the Sustainable Eco-modulation to 68%.

Latest news

The scale for items placed onto the market in 2021 (declared in 2022)

_ Unique identification number (UIN)
As from 1st of January 2022, all marketers must obtain a unique identification number (UIN). This number is attributed by the ADEME upon request by the eco-organisation. It proves that the marketer is in compliance with its EPR obligations. The number is valid for 1 year and must be renewed each year.

_ The revision of average weights in the clothing, footwear and household linen categories
Every four years, a study on the average weight of products in the textile industry is undertaken by the eco-organisation. This study was undertaken in 2021 and the change in average weight resulted in the reclassification of several products. The scale was consequently readjusted.

_ Scrapping of the flat-rate declaration
The French AGEC Law requires that the quantities placed onto the market are sent in detail to the ADEME in order that the public authorities can have reliable data on all EPR sectors. As from 2021, within this new legislative framework all declarations must show the real quantities placed onto the market regardless of sales volumes. A minimum flat rate contribution has been implemented in order to cover the declaration processing costs and various other related expenses.

(1) You can find the scale for items placed onto the market in 2021 on page 22.
Appendices

Items placed onto the market in figures

Clothing and footwear placed onto the market

| Billions of items placed onto the market in 2021 | 2.8 |
| In 2020 | 2.4 |

Following the crisis in 2020, the levels of items introduced onto the 2021 marketplace have nearly returned to 2019 levels (i.e. 2.9 billion items).

| Tonnes of items placed onto the market in 2021 | 715,290 |
| In 2020 | 624,187 |

The revision of weights in 2021 showed that some product categories had associated average weights well below the product’s real weight. Thereby, the total 2020 tonnage was re-evaluated at 624 KT (compared to 517 KT before the re-evaluation).

| Average weight (in grams) per item in 2021 | 256 |
| In 2020 | 285 |

As a result of the revision of the average weight per sub-category in 2021, the average weight of an item was re-evaluated at 255 g for 2020 (220 g before the re-evaluation).

| Kilos per inhabitant in 2021 | 10.5 |
| In 2020 | 9.3 |

As a result of the revision of the average weight per sub-category in 2021, the consumption per inhabitant was re-evaluated at 9.3 kg for 2020 (7.7 kg/inhabitant before re-evaluation).

Clothing represents 80% of the number of items placed onto the market but only 61% of tonnages sold. Indeed, the average weights in the footwear and household linen sectors are higher than that of clothing. It is necessary to consider the two units (number of items and tonnages) when analysing the sector. Indeed, the number of items is the usual unit of measure for placing goods onto the marketplace, whereas collection, sorting and recovery are evaluated in tonnes.

### The breakdown of the fee scale per subcategory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In number of items</th>
<th>In tonnes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clothing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Footwear</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VSI</td>
<td>SI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- VSI and SI clothing account for 60% of the total number of items placed onto the market whereas they account for only 28% of the tonnage.
- As for medium-sized footwear, this accounts for 3.3% of the number of items placed onto the marketplace, compared to 9.2% of tonnages.

VSI: Very small item • SI: Small item • MI: Medium-sized item • LI: Large items
**Fee scale and eco-modulation values for items placed onto the market in 2021**

| Sector       | Scale in € excl. VAT/item | Clothing | | | | | Household linen | | | | | Footwear | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|              |                           | VSI      | SI       | MI       | LI       | VSI                              | SI       | MI       | LI       | VSI      | SI       | MI       | LI       | VSI      | SI       | MI       | LI       |
| 2021 Fee scale |                           | 0.002    | 0.009    | 0.02     | 0.063    | 0.003                           | 0.01     | 0.03     | 0.071    | 0.005    | 0.007    | 0.015    | 0.0315   | 0.007    | 0.015    | 0.0315   |
| EM1          |                           | 0.001    | 0.0045   | 0.01     | 0.0315   | 0.001                           | 0.0045   | 0.01     | 0.0315   | 0.001    | 0.0045   | 0.01     | 0.0315   | 0.001    | 0.0045   | 0.01     |
| EM2          |                           | 0.001    | 0.0045   | 0.01     | 0.0315   | 0.001                           | 0.0045   | 0.01     | 0.0315   | 0.001    | 0.0045   | 0.01     | 0.0315   | 0.001    | 0.0045   | 0.01     |
| EM3          |                           | 0.0015   | 0.00675  | 0.015    | 0.04725  | 0.00225                         | 0.0075   | 0.0225   | 0.05325  | 0.0015   | 0.0075   | 0.0225   | 0.05325  | 0.0015   | 0.0075   | 0.0225   |

**Member declaration audits**

Traceability of streams and the reliability of data are at the heart of Refashion’s concerns. The new audit campaign in 2021 reveals that more than half (61%) of audits result in the reprocessing of the quantities declared and consequently the fees received.

**2021 Audit campaign**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of members audited</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In volume of items placed onto the market (millions)</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of items placed onto the market</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of audits per site</td>
<td>0(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of audits on items</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of anomalies observed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article settings</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing of batches</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrongly included excluded articles</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The declarative process is correctly followed</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scale modulation:** None

For items placed onto the market in 2021, the rates have been reviewed in order to take into account the increase in Refashion’s funding and budget. These also include the revision of the average weights undertaken in 2021.

The average rate for the 12 categories is 1.16 centimes per item.

**Breakdown of eco-modulation in 2021**

Looking in detail, 81% of items declared as being eco-modulated concern Eco-modulation 1 which rewards a product’s sustainability and 18% concerning Eco-modulation 3 which rewards the integration of materials from production waste.

**Per sector**

- Clothing: EM1 87.5% EM2 8% EM3 10%
- Household linen: EM1 87% EM2 9% EM3 4%
- Footwear: EM1 87% EM2 9% EM3 4%

**Items placed onto the market in 2021 benefiting from eco-modulation**

It can be seen that 49 million items placed onto the market benefit from eco-modulation, i.e. an increase of 180% compared to 2020.

**Overall view**

The declarative process is correctly followed.