Re_fashion

Glossary

Waste Prevention and Ecodesign Plan

Environmental labeling

Environmental labeling of a product or service consists of **providing consumers** with quantified information on its main **environmental impacts**, calculated over its entire life cycle (manufacturing, transport, use, and end of life), using any appropriate medium (the product itself, on the shelf, a website, etc.). In France, the environmental labeling project was approved by Europe on May 14, 2025, and has been gradually rolled out since October 1, 2025, on a **voluntary** basis. To find out more, read our article

Environmental labeling: where are we now? →

Eco-design

Eco-design aims to design a product or service while **reducing its environmental impact**, taking into account its entire **life cycle** (material extraction/production, manufacturing, transport, maintenance, end of life, etc.).
Eco-design also means ensuring that a product or service **maintains its performance** (e.g., durability) while reducing its environmental impact.

The service provided by the eco-designed product must be equivalent to or greater than that of the original product.

Eco-contribution

The eco-contribution finances 100% of the actions implemented by Refashion - as an eco-organization in the CHF sector - **to manage the end of life of products** placed on the French market, in accordance with the sector's specifications (prevention, collection, sorting, recycling, etc.). Each year, Refashion determines its financing needs and, together with its board of directors, sets the amount of the contribution to be called up the following year.

For more information →

Eco-modulation

In order to encourage and **reward the most virtuous** eco-design initiatives and **penalize the least virtuous**, or even **dangerous**, products, Refashion has set up a system of bonuses and penalties: **eco-modulations**. The aim is to reward financially those products placed on the French market that minimize their environmental impact and to penalize those whose recycling represents a danger and/or a significant environmental impact.

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Eco-modulation bonuses

Product durability: This bonus rewards the physical durability of products as assessed by laboratory tests. The criteria for this bonus are defined by product type and detailed in the eco-modulation guide.

Certification by environmental labels: This bonus applies to finished products certified according to one or more of the following eight labels: Ecocert® ERTS Level 2, Oeko-tex® Made in Green, Bluesign®, Fairtrade® Textile, European Ecolabel, Demeter®, GOTS, and Bioré®.

Incorporation of recycled materials: This bonus is granted if the products incorporate raw materials from post consumer waste recycling and if these materials have been produced in accordance with the proximity criteria specified in the specifications. For more information, see our page dedicated to eco-modulations.

For more information →

Eco-modulation penalties related to product recyclability

Metallic-plastic or metallized yarns: Any product containing metallic-plastic or metallized yarns or fibers is subject to an eco-modulation penalty, even in small quantities and without explicit mention in the composition. **Only internal recycling disruptors are affected** (such as fabrics, linings, or non-removable components), while external recycling disruptors (laces, localized embroidery, logos, spangles, etc.) are not.

Electronic or electrical component: Any product incorporating an **electronic or electrical component** (e.g., LED, heating device, pedometer) is subject to an eco-modulation penalty, with the exception of components whose function is to provide information on product traceability and/or composition and which do not incorporate a battery (e.g., RFID chip). The penalty applies as soon as this type of component is present.

Environmental impacts

Direct or indirect effects that a product, service, or activity has **on the environment** (natural resources, ecosystems, climate, human health).
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is one of the tools used to quantify and objectify environmental impacts in order to **guide choices towards more durable solutions.**

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Environmental footprint

Refashion is involved in the **European Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) – Apparel & Footwear project**. This is a harmonized methodological framework at European level for measuring the environmental footprints of clothing and footwear. This approach standardizes the calculation of the environmental impact of these products, from the extraction of raw materials to the end of their life, ensuring transparency and comparability.

In addition, the French Environmental Label (AEF), developed by the General Commission for Sustainable Development (CGDD) as part of the AGEC and Climate & Resilience laws, takes the form of an environmental cost, with no maximum value, visible on each item. It is largely based on the European PEF methodology, while modifying and adapting certain aspects. It incorporates additional criteria such as extrinsic durability and microfragments. This score is intended to inform consumers and encourage manufacturers to reduce this footprint.

The Ecobalyse tool, available free of charge, can be used to calculate the environmental cost of products.

Discover Ecobalyse →

Best materials

Materials with reduced environmental impact. There is no such thing as a responsible, eco-designed or «perfect» material to be favored. It is advisable to **carry out environmental analyses** to help select the «best» material for the products in question.

Non-renewable material

The AGEC law (art. 72) specifically requires marketers to «**reduce the use of non-renewable resources**» and to integrate this approach into their PPECs. For the textile and footwear sector, all petroleum-based/fossil-based materials (chemical: polyester, polyamide, acrylic, elastane, etc.) can therefore be considered non-renewable.

Circular business model

A circular business model is a way of designing, producing, distributing, and managing textiles (clothing, household linen) and footwear that **extends their lifespan**, limits the consumption of virgin resources, reduces waste, and anticipates their end of life from the design stage (reuse, recycling, recovery). Circular business models include, among others: organized **second-hand sales**, **reconditioning** and **repair** or **rental** services.

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Recycling disruptors

External disruptors, including «hard points,» are **elements** that **can be removed** from the textile product during a **recycling preparation** stage called «disassembling». These disruptors are sometimes unavoidable, but their number can be limited, and grouping them in the same area of the product can facilitate their removal.

Internal disruptors are elements that **cannot be separated** from the main fabric of the product. They are integrated or intimately linked to the fabric. These disruptors are therefore **more restrictive** than external disruptors, and it is recommended that they be avoided (or at least limited) when designing the product..

For a list of internal and external disruptors, see the **Best practices guides** on **textiles** and **footwear** design for recycling.

Open-loop recycling

Any recycling operation that allows **recycled materials from CHF waste to be reused** in the production of **new products, excluding CHF**.

Closed-loop recycling

Any recycling operation that allows **recycled materials from CHF waste to be reused** in the production of **new CHF**.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

This encompasses **all the measures** implemented by an organization to **integrate social, environmental, and ethical issues** into its activities and strategy. In the textile sector, it plays a key role in reducing environmental impact, improving working conditions, promoting the circular economy, and enhancing transparency towards stakeholders.

Do you need help ?

FAQ → Contact form →

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