

## Draft report

**ETSA Environment and Laundry Technology Network**  
**Wednesday, 14 November 2018 from 8:30 to 15:30**  
CWS-Initial, Lokeren, Belgium  
(Informal networking dinner on 13 November)

### Theme

**Resource efficiency, sustainability, circular economy**

**The benefits of textile services for millennials (wearers, users, decision-makers, employees)**

Text underlined = document available on ETSA Members' Area under the folder "[ETSA meeting – Environment and laundry technology network – 14 Nov 18](#)".

**Convener:** Matthias Zoch, Mewa

**Secretary:** Robert Long, ETSA

(Pictures available at the end of the report)

**Participants:** see [Annex 1](#) at the end of this report

**Feedback** from participants after the meeting: see [Annex 2](#) at the end of this report

### 1. Welcome and introductions

- Objectives and expectations
  - Most participants were satisfied with the proposed agenda and programme
  - Two priority topics: circular economy and microplastics

### 2. Studies and communication tools to help profile textile services (plenary)

- **Reuse and recycling of textiles** – University of Southern Denmark study – Two new ETSA communication tools – *Rebecca Marleyn, ETSA*
  - "[You don't have to own your textiles](#) – Go for textile services via rental and leasing solutions" (external communication for customers)
  - "[Increasing reuse and recycling options](#) by choosing textile services" (internal communication for textile services firms)

These 2 communication leaflets summarise the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) report on re-use and recycling of textiles:

- [Part 1](#) – Why textile services are part of the circular economy
  - [Part 2](#) – Practical options for reuse and recycling of end-of-life of textiles + [Annex](#)
  - Part 3 – Survey of ETSA members on end-of-life of textiles
- **The risks of washing at home**
    - [Open letter from Prof Dr Lutz Vossebein](#): Textile hygiene – Home washing vs professional industrial washing – Risks of washing at home
    - [Press release](#): Textile hygiene – Microbiologist warns of risks of washing at home
    - Letter available in English, [German](#) and [French](#)
  - New **5th ETSA Communication on Engagement on UN Global Compact** – *R. Marleyn*  
This report explains how textiles services are committed to and implement the 10 UNGC principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

- **EU-funded project on digital learning for employees in laundries** ([press release](#))  
This EU-funded initiative will prepare digital training modules and courses for beginners in laundries. Please contact participating associations: FBT from Belgium, APAC from the Czech Republic, DTV from Germany, ST from Sweden, as well as ETSA and training experts HeurekaNet Institute for further information.
- **Engaging with young people/students** – Presentation from *Henrik Grüttner, SDU*  
See also [extract from ETSA Board of 7 November](#) on new ETSA awareness raising initiative via social media.
- **The brief story of ETSA environmental and sustainability work since 2003** ([7-page word document](#) and [slide presentation](#)) – *H. Grüttner*
  - The production perspective
    - WECO and resource saving [Link](#)
  - The local perspective
    - Chemicals [Link](#)
    - Wastewater [Link](#)
    - Microplastics [Link](#)
    - Reuse and recycling of textiles [Link](#)
  - The Global perspective
    - CO<sub>2</sub> footprint [Link](#)
    - LCA [Link1](#), [link2](#), [link3](#)
    - General [Link](#)

All documents mentioned are available on the Members' Area.

### 3. Update on EU and national legal developments (plenary)

- **Microplastics**
  - [Microplastics and textile services update](#) – ETSA presentation
  - [Overview of 52 initiative studies on textiles and microplastics](#) (Green Strategy for SNV, Sweden 2018)
  - [Analysis of micro-sized fibers discharged from textile laundry](#) – *Jasmin Haap, Hohenstein*
- **Ecolabel**: EU shift in focus from products to services. *Not discussed*
- **Clostridium difficile (C diff)** and hospital bed sheets – UK study raised concern. *Not discussed*
- **Acrylonitrile**. Not used in textile services. *Not discussed*
- **Peracetic acid** in laundry detergents: ECHA call for evidence re. irritation and health risks? *Not discussed*
- **Water; waste**: variations in implementation of EU and national legislation? *Not discussed*

### 4. ETSA role in raising awareness of textile services, sustainability... (Three 1-hour workshops)

We used Henrik's "Brief history of ETSA environmental work since 2003" as basis for discussion.

- **Workshop 1: The local perspective** (Shyju and Rebecca)
  - Chemical assessments
  - Wastewater – characteristics and support for contact with authorities
  - Textile waste – survey of practice and disposal options (SDU study and leaflets)[Full feedback report](#) on the Members' Area.
- **Workshop 2: The global perspective** (Alistair and Matthias)
  - CO<sub>2</sub> footprint assessment

- Product life cycle assessment studies (LCAs)
  - Microplastics
- Full feedback report on the Members' Area.

- **Workshop 3: General environmental profiling of the business** (Robert and Jaap)

- Threat: microplastics. We need to know more.
  - Threat: in-house laundries – OPL – on-premise laundries
  - Threat: disposables
  - Threat: lack of automation: more sustainable jobs
  - Threat: new local regulations for waste water, ecotoxicity
- Full feedback report on the Members' Area.

**5. Self-disinfecting textiles and the benefit for textile rental companies:** application in the medical field  
Textiles with permanent hygiene, presentation by *Livinguard* (Ken McMahon, CEO; Sanjeev Swamy, CTO and Simon Grylka, Business Development)

**6. ARTA-Eurotape LCA of Reusable and Disposable Surgical Drape Systems**

Life cycle assessment of surgical drapes and tapes, presentation by *Franck De Meulemeester, Christeyns*

**7. Discussion on future ETSA priorities** (30-45 mins "express" workshops). Template for feedback.

- **Workshop 1: microplastics** – Robert

Full feedback report on the Members' Area.

- **Workshop 2: SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals** – Alistair and Rebecca

- See SDG website ([link](#)) for brief explanation of each SDG.
- The workshop highlighted 5 top priorities (ranked by order) out of the 17 SDGs as most relevant for textile services:
  - SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
  - SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being
  - SDG 13 – Climate Action
  - SDG 17 – Partnerships for The Goals
  - SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities

Full feedback report on the Members' Area.

- **Workshop 3:** Prioritisation of the three GHG Scopes 1, 2, 3 – Shyju

- Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources.
- Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy.
- Scope 3 emissions are all indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions

Full feedback report on the Members' Area.

