

EPR FOR MICRO-PLASTICS

22 Nov 2018

Stéphane Ardit, CE Policy Manager



EEB

European
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Bureau



THE GOAL: MAKE MICROFIBRES LEAKAGE HISTORY!

THE STORY OF **STUFF** PROJECT

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The Story of Microfibers



The Story of Microfibers

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POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS



Technologies

Capturing fibres by wastewater treatment plants is not viable. They are not designed to do so. Other pathways are: implementing innovative technologies and additives for laundry processes and textile finishing treatments.

- **Washing machine filter for plastic fibres**
Washing machines are a major source of microplastics pollution



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Preliminary steps in the Implementation Action

In order to overcome the problem of the microplastics impact in the European seas, two main routes are being explored in the actions B1 and B2. The first one has the objective to choose a textile treatment that could improve the mechanical properties of the fabric as well as the resistance at washings. B2 studies innovative additives to be incorporated into different detergent products to minimize the fiber breakage during washing.

The first route takes into consideration the differences in the fabric manufacture: fiber properties (composition, length), its spinning method and the weaving/knitting process. For this, several synthetic textiles have been selected in order to analyze their tendency to generate and to release microplastics. The first study has been made with woven



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PLASTIC POLLUTION, WATER QUALITY
MAY 19 2017

Plastic Microfibers: Recent Findings and Potential Solutions

by Katie Day



EPR AS PART OF THE SOLUTION

The screenshot displays the website for ECO TLC, an organization for the textile, laundry, and footwear sectors. The main banner features the logo and the tagline 'L'éco-organisme du textile • du linge • de la chaussure'. Below the banner, there is a section titled 'LES CHIFFRES CLÉS 2017 DE LA FILIÈRE' (Key Statistics 2017 of the Industry) which includes a central image of a white t-shirt with '100% RÉUTILISATION & RECYCLAGE' (100% Reuse & Recycling) printed on it. Surrounding the t-shirt are various statistics: '2,6' (likely tons per kg), '3,4 kg', '9,5 kg', and '35%'. To the right of the statistics are three colored buttons for different stakeholder groups: 'METTEUR EN MARCHÉ' (Market Maker) in pink, 'COLLECTIVITÉ / ACTEUR PUBLIC' (Collectivity / Public Actor) in orange, and 'OPÉRATEUR' (Operator) in blue. Each button has two options: 'Accédez à votre extranet' (Access your extranet) and 'Découvrez la filière et adhérez' (Discover the industry and join). A sidebar on the left contains a navigation menu with options like 'English version', 'À PROPOS D'ECO TLC', 'INNOVATION', 'ÉCO-CONCEPTION', 'ESPACE PRESSE', 'JEUNESSE', 'ACTUALITÉS', and 'CONTACT'. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a call to action: 'Retrouvez les derniers chiffres clés de la filière !' (Find the latest key statistics of the industry!).

E.g: the French system

- Need for integration of micro-fibers release criteria (metrics)
- Better integration in a policy mix (promotion of new business models, label, ecodesign)



THANK YOU!

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eeb@eeb.org

The EEB gratefully acknowledges the financial support from the LIFE Programme of the European Union. This communication reflects the organizers' views and does not commit the donors.