

PLASTIC PROGRESS REPORT

2023

Plastic Progress Report – 2023



Global
Commitment

BAUM
UND
PFERDGARTEN

Our commitment

Since signing the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's global commitment for a new plastic economy in September 2019, we have been working towards our goal of eliminating all unnecessary packaging and single use plastic by 2025.

Although we cannot completely eliminate our plastic use at this point, the more we see our efforts on cutting down on our plastic consumption paying off, the more it spurs us to become increasingly ambitious. Last year we made great progress on this endeavor, effectively reducing our total plastic consumption by 55% since we started reporting in 2020. This year we continued along that line, further cutting down on our plastic use and carrying on with our transition from the use of virgin to recycled plastic packaging.

With this report, we aim to share the progress we made the past year, as well as describe the steps we have taken to achieve our goals and the approaches we are looking to take in the future.

Revisiting our goals

We are committed to achieving the following:

1. Reducing our use of problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging by 50% by 2022 and eliminating it completely by 2024.
2. Replacing 50% of all single-use plastic packaging with recycled or recyclable plastic by 2022, 100% by 2024.
3. Ensuring 25% of our plastic packaging will be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2020, 50% by 2022, and 100% by 2025.
4. Sorting and recycling all plastic in our offices and stores.

2023 Total Plastic Consumption

During 2023 (July 1st, 2022– June 30th, 2023), our total plastic consumption totaled up to 3,85 tonnes.

This amount equates to an 18% decrease in our total plastic use compared to our last report.

When comparing to 2020, which was the year we started reporting on our plastic use, our total plastic consumption has since been reduced by 63%.

Reducing Our Plastic Consumption

The vast majority of our plastic use consists of the hangers and single-use plastic bags that we use when transporting our garments to and from our warehouse.

The main reason for our success in reducing our plastic consumption over the years was our decision to deliver a large portion of our garments in flatpackages rather than on hangers.

Flat-packing our garments allows us to eliminate the plastic hangers, and plastic bars placed in the boxes used for hanging deliveries, and the plastic lining used in containers for the transport of hanging garments. In 2023 hanging delivery was 0 % of our total production.

Transitioning from hanging deliveries to flat-packed garments and optimizing plastic bag sizes without compromising the outcome and quality of our garments are significant steps toward our goal of eliminating unnecessary plastic packaging.

The biggest achievement in reducing our plastic consumption has been made these past years and as we move forward our focus is to keep ensuring that we maintain a low level of single-use plastic and continue to find ways to optimize our use of single-use plastic bags to become more efficient and less reliant on plastics.



Repacking of Goods

During 2023 (July 1st 2022-June 30th 2022) 16% of our total plastic use was due to the continued use of single-use plastic bags and plastic hangers used to repack goods at our warehouse.

Repacking takes place because, for some of our bigger retail customers, attachment of those customers' own hangtags is required. This also requires delivery of products on hangers rather than in flatpicks.

As we cannot currently eliminate or reduce the amount of plastic used for repacking, we have, for now, managed to substitute traditional plastic bags with a better option. As for 2023, all single-use plastic bags used for repacking are made from recycled plastic.

Recycled Polybags

We're committed to eliminating virgin single-use plastic packaging and using recycled options instead. We aim to replace 50% of virgin plastics with recyclable or recycled plastic by 2022 and to achieve complete replacement by 2024.

For the latest collection pre-autumn 23 collection, approximately 66% of our plastic packaging was made with recycled plastics. From season to season, this percentage will fluctuate somewhat (depending on the order size we have with our different suppliers) but, despite this variation, we have far exceeded our goal for recycled single-use plastic in 2022.

Some of our suppliers still have preexisting stock of conventional plastic bags that needs to be used up, before onboarding with new recycled options. For others finding suitable recycled options available locally is proving difficult. For these suppliers, we have to allow for a slow transition, but numbers are clearly showing us that we are making progress. For our latest Pre-autumn 23 collection more than 70% of our suppliers had switched from virgin single-use plastic to either 70% or 100% recycled plastic. In the coming years, we will continue to work closely with our suppliers to find better alternatives to the use of virgin plastics, ultimately eliminating all virgin single-use plastic packaging by 2024.

Focus areas for the coming year

- Continue reducing the use of plastics at every level of our process and production, company wide and avoid (over)packaging and packaging waste.
- Targeting coming EU packaging waste regulation and its impact on the textile sector. We support and will take responsibility for the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packaging.
- Register our export of single-use plastic packaging on registers for EU member State Authorities.
- Continue process of eliminate virgin single-use plastic packaging 100% in 2024, promote recycled plastic and encourage more sustainable packing practices.

Thank you!