

# Lessons learned from the PFOA restriction in textiles



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EURATEX  
VOICE OF THE EUROPEAN APPAREL  
AND TEXTILE INDUSTRY



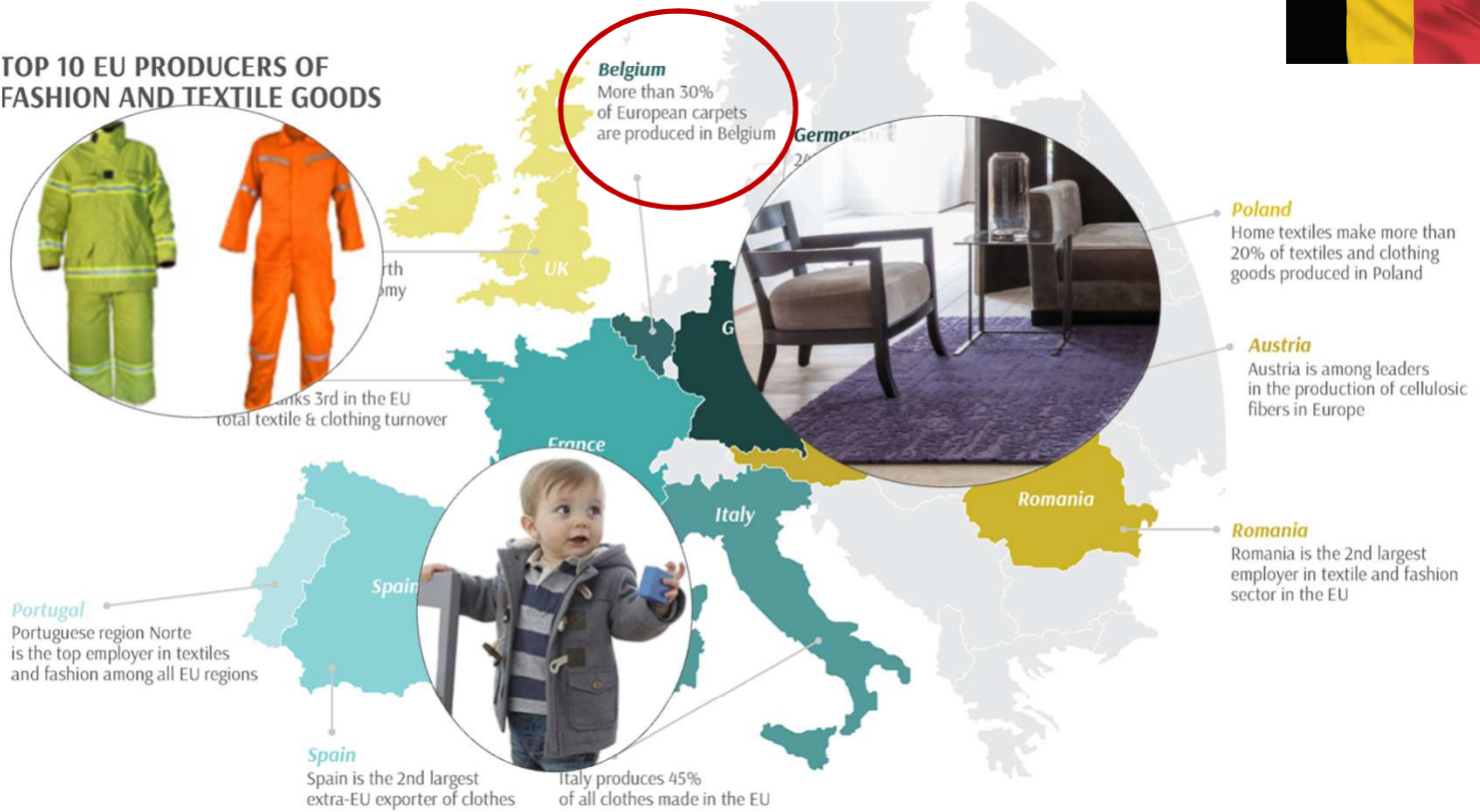
1.7 million   
177.000 

171 Bln. €

99% SMEs

From 1 to 9 persons employed	86%
From 10 to 19 persons employed	7%

**TOP 10 EU PRODUCERS OF FASHION AND TEXTILE GOODS**



20,832



1,979



5,379 mil.



## The case of PFOA restriction

1) Proposal to restrict PFOA, its salts and related substances (2014)



2) EC draft proposal (2016)  
*clothing, PPE, technical textiles are they all the same?*

*how can a company meet performance requirements  
from customers, safety standards or public  
authorities ? "*



≠



## Draft Regulation, fall 2016

- Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall apply from:
- (a) [*date - 5 years after entry into force of this Regulation*] to:
    - (i) equipment used to manufacture semi-conductors;
    - (ii) latex printing inks.
  - (b) [*date - 6 years after entry into force of this Regulation*] to:
    - (i) textiles for the protection of workers that must meet durable water repellency (DWR) performance standards;
    - (ii) membranes intended for use in medical textiles, filtration in water treatment, production processes and effluent treatment;
    - (iii) plasma nano-coatings.

## Adopted Regulation, summer 2017

- Points 1 and 2 shall apply from:
- (a) 4 July 2022 to:
    - (i) equipment used to manufacture semi-conductors;
    - (ii) latex printing inks.
  - (b) 4 July 2023 to:
    - (i) textiles for the protection of workers from risks to their health and safety;
    - (ii) membranes intended for use in medical textiles, filtration in water treatment, production processes and effluent treatment;
    - (iii) plasma nano-coatings.
  - (c) 4 July 2032 to medical devices other than implantable medical devices within the scope of Directive 93/42/EEC.

## Towards PFOA replacement – what have we done so far

### How to use derogations, EURATEX steps:

- Replacement Workshops, bringing experts and SMEs (Barcelona, March)
- EURATEX welcomes ECHA Strategy on replacement
- Learning about ongoing research, e.g. CENTEXBEL, other projects..



20 PR - EUROPEAN STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP IN BARCELONA



#### Substitution to safer chemicals

Companies in the EU are increasingly substituting away from hazardous chemicals and manufacturing processes to safer chemicals and greener technologies. This can bring substantial benefits to the companies, the environment and the health of workers and consumers. It can also have a significant positive impact on the implementation of a circular economy.

Supply chain workshops

Networks

Funding and technical support

Data to prevent regrettable substitution

#### CONTACT

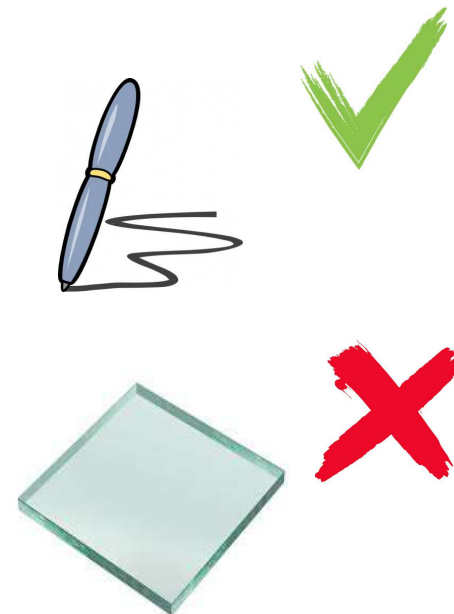
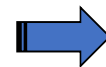
For general questions or suggestions on substitution related matters contact [substitution@echa.europa.eu](mailto:substitution@echa.europa.eu)



# Where does an alternative work?

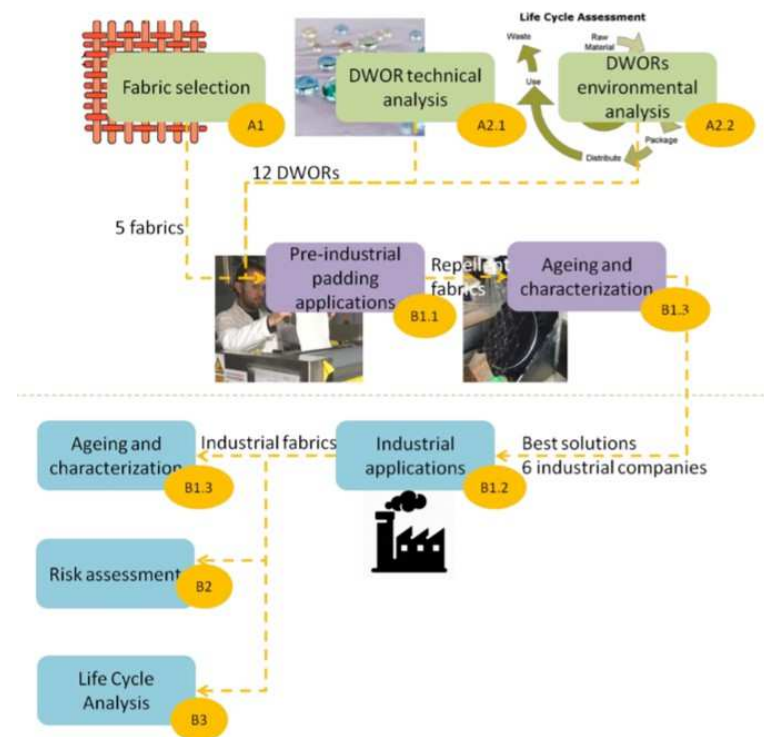


Picture source: MIDWOR project



# Multiple tryouts...

the contribution of the LIFE financial  
 instrument of the European Commission



Picture source: MIDWOR project



## Feature: The extreme challenge of PFCs

7 March 2019 / Global, Retail, Textiles & apparel

### Conclusion:

- No one solution, sector-specific approach
- Testing alternatives in all applications, considering reaction with other chemicals... → *more of this type of research in the future*
- Collaboration across supply chain, avoiding regrettable substitution

Thank you!

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