

## Press release

### One more step towards the eco-design of Electrical and Electronic Equipment

Launched three years ago by Eco-systèmes and Récylum, the only European database for assessing the environmental impact of electrical and electronic equipment end-of-life was completed in 2018. Enriched with eight new flows of professional equipment, 86 materials are now modelled and adapted according to the different flows processed, to enable manufacturers to quantify the environmental impacts and benefits of their design choices when recycling the equipment.

#### 1. Eco-design to save our resources and preserve our environment

Created to encourage, facilitate and stimulate eco-design, the data made available to manufacturers allow to measure the environmental impacts of household and professional electrical and electronic equipment end-of-life according to their composition. Eco-designing equipment means, for example, developing appliances that are more easily recyclable or using recycled materials. Effective actions on material choices based on their end-of-life impacts are now possible thanks to the database made available for free by Eco-systèmes and Récylum to all stakeholders in the sector.

*“The new data on appliances end-of-life will allow to better highlight the benefits of our efforts on the recyclability of our products.”*, says Ingrid Tams, Environment Manager at Groupe SEB.

Accessible to producers, the database is particularly aimed at users of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) software. Integration of these new data into these tools enables to quickly model the end-of-life of devices in a reliable way, representative of the field reality. Convinced of the quality and relevance of this database, editors already use it to feed their software such as EIME, Ecochain, OpenLCA or SimaPro.

#### 2. Household and professional flows available in the database

Some professional flows were added to the database in 2018, such as **large professional appliances from building and medical sectors** and **small heat pumps & air-conditioners**. Other types of equipment such as **professional lighting equipment, professional inverters, electrical motors for industrial applications, rooftop air-conditioners, professional cold cabinets** and **water fountain** are also newly referenced.

In addition, all the household equipment meaning small household appliances, large cooling (refrigeration, air-conditioning) and non-cooling (washing, cooking, heating) household appliances, fluorescent tubes & lamps and flat screens, as well as some professional equipment such as small professional appliances from building and medical sectors or self-contained emergency lightings have been available in the database since spring 2017.

### 3. The expertise of Eco-systèmes and Réylum

To ensure these data are representative of the field, Eco-systèmes and Réylum modelled the entire end-of-life process of the equipment on more than 50 sites depolluting and processing Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), as well as on some fifteen recovery and disposal processes.

*“Our participation in the data validation process set up by Eco-systèmes and Réylum has enabled us to verify on concrete cases that the impact of the end of life is far from being negligible. So far, data on end-of-life treatment of materials were missing or not accurate enough to assess the importance of the environmental impact of the end-of-life compared to the other life cycle phases.”*, says Skander HASSAYOUNE, Sustainable development engineer at Hager group.

The database is now even more exhaustive, with more than **950 Life Cycle Inventories** (LCI), available for download via the European “Life Cycle Data Network” (LCDN) platform, developed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC), the European Commission’s research centre.

*“These data will also allow us to better respond to the ongoing LCA initiatives like PEF<sup>1</sup> for environmental claim or the CENELEC<sup>2</sup> standard concerning the environmental declaration for electrical and electronic equipment”*, concludes Skander HASSAYOUNE.

→ Data concerning small household appliances, large cooling (refrigeration, air-conditioning) and non-cooling (washing, cooking, heating) household appliances and flat screens: <http://weee-lci.eco-systemes.com>

→ Data concerning fluorescent tubes & lamps, self-contained emergency lightings, large and small professional appliances from building and medical sectors, professional lighting equipment, professional inverters, electrical motors for industrial applications, small heat pumps & air-conditioners, rooftop air-conditioners, professional cold cabinets and water fountains: <http://weee-lci.recylum.com>

<sup>1</sup> PEF: Product Environmental Footprint

<sup>2</sup> CENELEC: European committee for electrotechnical standardization

**Press contacts : Mélissa Bire • Tél. : 06 50 02 16 38 • [mbire@es-r.fr](mailto:mbire@es-r.fr)**

*About Eco-systèmes: Within ESR, an accredited non-profit take-back scheme, Eco-systèmes manages and coordinates the collection, depollution and recycling of used electrical and electronic equipment from households.*

**For more information:**

**[www.eco-systemes.fr](http://www.eco-systemes.fr) - [www.facebook.com/ecosystemes](https://www.facebook.com/ecosystemes) - [Twitter @Eco\\_systemes](https://twitter.com/Eco_systemes)**

*About Réylum: Within ESR, an accredited non-profit take-back scheme, Réylum manages and coordinates the collection, depollution and recycling of used lamps, used professional electrical and electronic equipment and small fire extinguishers.*

**For more information: [www.recylum.com](http://www.recylum.com)**