



WASTE ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT SECTOR

ESR (Eco-systèmes/Récylum) is now ecosystem and includes a mission in its statutes

Paris, 11 October 2019

Resulting from the merger of Eco-systèmes and Récylum in January 2018, this take-back scheme operator, temporarily named ESR, has been renamed “ecosystem” and includes a mission of general public interest in its statutes in order to permanently seal its initial undertakings in a sector with high environmental and social added-value.

The mission, which is now included in the company's corporate purpose, combines the principles on which Eco-systèmes and Récylum are built. The text was voted unanimously by 41 associate companies. This public general interest mission is translated by a new tagline **“To recycling is to protect”** which accompanies the take-back scheme operator's new identity. The second stage consists in establishing a body that specifically monitors and assists in implementing these general undertakings.

Recycling in its widest context...

For **ecosystem** the term recycling covers a large area which includes not only the decontamination and recycling of materials but also includes all initiatives allowing the service life of products to be lengthened. As a result, **ecosystem** participates in solutions that repair, redeploy and reuse materials as well as in eco-design, all with the best environmental performance as possible.

.....to protect health, the environment and natural resources

By choosing this protection-focused tagline (environment, health, resources, jobs and living conditions), **ecosystem**, undertakes to systematically apply the precautionary principle when handling regulated hazardous, or potentially hazardous, substances. This take-back scheme operator also aims at carrying out studies to shed light on areas where gaps in knowledge still remain. With new technologies that are being developed in future products, these searches could lead the new recycling methods or production management of tomorrow.

Employment and in particular the place of the social and solidarity economy remain founding aspects of the company. More than 7000 people, nearly 50% of whom have an employment reinsertion contract, are employed in the areas of reuse, logistics and treatment (this does not include collection activities in shops, companies holding WEEE and from municipal recycling facilities).

ecosystem aims to continue and to boost its commitment to the Social and Solidarity Economy in order to develop both tomorrow's industrial and technical skills and provide access to professions related to waste prevention via redeployment and reuse.

One, simple name

To be more intelligible, this take-back scheme operator has decided to give itself one name, validated through the different consumer studies. The simplified name, **ecosystem**, was retained for its conceptual relevancy and for its metaphor regarding the natural ecosystem, which illustrates the functioning and interaction of the sector's stakeholders well.

A mission based on the urgency to act and the collective aspect

The mission has been included in its statutes since the 1st October 2019, in order to permanently seal the company's undertaking in being of general public interest in the years to come.

*"At **ecosystem** we believe that leading the "collective" towards responsible recycling of complex, used appliances is a matter of urgency for the protection of the common good".*

We wish to embody an innovation model in "recycling through a collective energy" in France and in Europe, in order to build and develop, alongside stakeholders, a quality sector that combines environmental, economical and human stakes and challenges within a world that respects its resources more.

We serve the general public interest by assisting citizens in their lives as consumers and in their professional activities.

In order to do this, we are developing the expertise of each person within the company in order to be able to meet the sector's new challenges and move knowledge forward within the sector. "

This was written based on work carried out in parallel, internally and by the Board Members. A company project was initiated in 2018 involving all employees in a common, unifying project. The mission statement established by the Board Members was inspired by work from all personnel and from stakeholder input. It was then submitted to company's governing bodies and voted at the Annual General Meeting on 27 June 2019. This will be translated into measurable undertakings.

In order to present and explain the new tagline, **ecosystem** has entered into a partnership with France Televisions. This starts on 11 October. In this regard, five TV presenters have chosen to support the recycling of electrical appliances.

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About: Ecosystem is a take-back scheme operator, i.e. a non-profit making company of general public interest, approved by the public authorities to manage complex, used household and professional appliances and to prolong their service life either through renovated or reused appliances or through recycled and decontaminated new raw materials.

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