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# TAKES ROOT AT LECTRA

AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO MINIMIZE MANUFACTURING'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT, ECODESIGN REDUCES ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OVER A PRODUCT'S ENTIRE LIFECYCLE, STARTING FROM THE DESIGN PHASE.

### Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is central to Lectra's strategy.

The group's ambition is to achieve positive outcomes in all areas of social and environmental commitment. By 2025, Lectra aims to formalize a systemic environmentally responsible approach to product design by applying ecodesign guidelines covering every stage of the entire product lifecycle. Each new generation of equipment will provide customers with improved performance and reduced environmental impact.





Application of ecodesign principles is one of Lectra's five key CSR commitments.

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# Sustainable product design in practice

Since its earliest beginnings, Lectra has always helped customers reduce their environmental footprint by **optimizing material consumption.** 

Today, Lectra is taking its commitment to the environment a step further by making sustainability an integral part of product design. Under the responsibility of Déborah Gay, Continuous Improvement & Ecodesign Manager, ecodesign guidelines have been established and are gradually being incorporated into development processes.

To date, 45 employees from across the group have attended an introductory course on ecodesign principles. Recently, Lectra recruited its first ecodesign engineer, tasked with supporting product development policy, analyzing the environmental footprint of Lectra products, and documenting completed ecodesign actions.

## What is ecodesign and why implement it?

Ecodesign is a methodical approach to designing products and services that takes into account environmental considerations at the design and development phase, with the aim of reducing negative environmental impact throughout the lifecycle of the product. Stages of the complete product lifecycle cover raw materials, processing, assembly, transport, customer usage and recycling at the end of the product's useful life.

The necessity of adopting sustainable practices is a key business priority for Lectra and its customers globally. Manufacturers are embracing these practices to minimize their carbon footprint, reduce waste, and optimize their consumption of energy and resources. Ecodesign can play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions while bringing tangible business benefits.



# A factor of sustainable, profitable growth

According to a study<sup>1</sup> carried out by France's National Ecodesign Center together with the French Agency for Ecological Transition (ADEME), 34% of the 394 companies surveyed boosted their volume of sales after applying ecodesign principles, while 30% observed an increase in their profit margin. The study also found that 40% of companies surveyed view ecodesign as helpful to compliance efforts.

In another study<sup>2</sup> involving 28 companies located across continental France, ADEME found that adopting ecodesign principles resulted in a significant increase in customer satisfaction and enables companies to **reduce the cost of production by up to 20%** without affecting product performance.

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VIEW ECODESIGN as helpful to compliance efforts

<sup>1</sup> Baromètre Ecoconception 2020 - Pratiques et positionnement des entreprises françaises, November 2020

<sup>2</sup> « Analyse des bénéfices économiques de l'écoconception pour les entreprises », January 2023

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# A concrete example at Lectra with an advanced fabric cutter

The starting point of the ecodesign methodology is the lifecycle assessment of environmental impact. Lectra has already applied this principle throughout every stage of the lifecycle of an advanced-technology fabric cutter.

The chief finding was that the greatest environmental impact occurs at the equipment usage phase—specifically customer fabric consumption, including the generation of scrap and waste. Lectra solutions have always focused on **maximizing waste reduction**. The study findings will allow the group to make further advances to support customers in this area.

In textile-based production models, fabric consumption accounts for more than 90% of the  $CO_2$  emissions produced throughout the entire lifecycle of a fabric cutter.

By helping customers achieve significant material savings during the design and production phases, and by providing solutions to ensure traceability throughout the sustainable textile supply chain, Lectra can help them substantially minimize environmental impact. Lifecycle assessment findings have also enabled Lectra to apply ecodesign guidelines to improve cutting equipment design and optimize usage:

- Power consumption: sourcing of energy-efficient components that reduce power consumption
- → Weight and dimensions: more compact frame design that reduces total machine weight by more than 300kg while optimizing container shipping volumes, lowering carbon emissions at the manufacturing and transport stages
- Assembly time: redesign of fabric cutter sub-units resulting in fewer parts and the elimination of up to 6 hours of assembly in production
- Maintenance: responsible sourcing for more robust assembly requiring fewer, less frequent maintenance operations, minimizing the need for field technician visits (86% of maintenance operations are conducted remotely on Lectra-brand equipment)

### Fabric cutter frame design **300 kg lighter**

Ecodesign guidelines have already enabled Lectra to reduce the total machine weight and dimensions of an advanced-technology fabric cutter by 300 kg, significantly lowering carbon emissions at the manufacturing and transport stages.

### LECTRA

In the second half of 2023, work will begin on the development of ecodesigned packaging. The group's software ecodesign strategy—covering programming best practices, data policy, and cloud services footprint—will be set out as of 2024.

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