



# CLOTH

CLuster Alliance fOR the Transition to green and digital fasHion

## ClusterXchange in Finland 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023





## Objectives:

- Finnish front-runners and initiatives within the textile value-chain
- Circularity within textiles
- Collection and sorting of post-consumer waste
- Recycling technologies (mechanical & chemical)

## AGENDA

DAY	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES
13th September 2023	Paimio, Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meet up in hotel lobby</li> <li>- Transport to Paimio from Helsinki (approx. 2 hours)</li> <li>- <b>Lounais-Suomen Jätehuolto</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Collection and sorting of post-consumer waste</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Rester, Adr.:</b> Jukantie 9, Paimio                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Mechanical recycling – various end products</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Return to Helsinki</li> </ul>
14 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Espoo, Helsinki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9:00 - 12:00 <b>Aalto University, Adr.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Ioncell chemical recycling technology</li> <li>o FINIX project</li> <li>o Kuituus project</li> <li>o Visit to Design for a Cooler Planet exhibition</li> </ul> </li> <li>- 13:30- 15:30 <b>VTT Research Centre, Adr.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Telaketju project</li> <li>o Initiatives on circular textiles</li> </ul> </li> <li>- 16:00 <b>Coming up</b></li> </ul>
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Helsinki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9:00 – 12:00 <b>Business Finland, Adr.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Finnish Circular Textiles companies’ presentations (online &amp; physical)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- 13:00 – 15:00 <b>Coming up</b></li> <li>- Program done &amp; fly home</li> </ul>

## Company visits – profile descriptions

### Lounais-Suomen Jätehuolto

Lounais-Suomen Jätehuolto (LSJH) aims to resolve recycling of household textiles in Finland. LSJH has, together with other municipal waste management companies, built an internationally



progressive collection and processing model for end-of-life textiles. LSJH produces recycled fibres at the Green Field Hub facility in Paimio. The raw material incorporates end-of-life textiles collected from households nationwide. The company is planning to build a full-scale textile recycling plant in Topinpuisto, Turku. In addition to the domestic textiles, the new facility will be able to process end-of-life textiles from other countries in the Baltic region.

LSJH aims to find the best possible circular solutions for end-of-life textiles that pass through their hands. The sorted textile raw material is applied to for example chemical, mechanical and thermal recycling processes. End-of-life textile raw material has already been reprocessed into new clothing and homeware textiles, furniture upholstery and insulation materials. LSJH is continuously looking for new co-operations and clients, in order to find new applications and distributors for all domestic end-of-life textiles, in all lines of business.

**Website:** <https://www.lsjh.fi/en/waste-reception/waste-treatment-centres-and-sorting-stations/paimio-sorting-station/>

## Rester

Rester is the leading global forerunner in building textile recovery value chains. Rester offers textile recycling solutions and enables the recovery of end-of-life textiles and production side streams from companies into a new textile fibre and quality raw material. In the process textiles are mechanically opened to fibres. Rester-recovered fibre can be used by numerous different industries to replace the use of virgin raw material. Rester is part of Telavalue project because it wants to be in research projects that ensures the high-quality level and innovation state of raw materials and refinement products.

**Website:** <https://rester.fi/en/>

## Aalto University

Aalto University is where people who think differently bring the best out of each other. A place where imagination and theory meet practice and reality. A community to solve challenges most consider impossible. Aalto was created with a mission to lead a way for a nation. To unite a diverse set of people through science, arts, technology and business. To create a better world by bringing quantum engineers, urban economists and fashion designers to collide and to elevate each other. Our way is to accelerate curiosity and responsibility towards solving the biggest challenges in the world. For this task we offer an academic environment that reimagines the way a university operates.

**Website:** <https://www.aalto.fi/en>

## VTT Research center

VTT is one of Europe's leading research institutions. We are owned by the Finnish state. We advance the utilisation and commercialisation of research and technology in commerce and society. Through scientific and technological means, we turn large global challenges into



sustainable growth for businesses and society. We bring together people, business, science and technology to solve the biggest challenges of our time. This is how we create sustainable growth, jobs and wellbeing and bring exponential hope.

Circularity of textile is strongly linked to VTT's strategy. We coordinate Telavalue project and strengthen our expertise in circular economy and recycling of textiles. We do research and process development for example related to recyclability of cellulose based fibres and melt-processing of thermoplastic synthetic fibres. Our goal is to support formation of circular textile ecosystem in Finland and help Finnish companies to find their place in that ecosystem and also in export markets.

**Website:** <https://www.vttresearch.com/en>

### Business Finland

We help our customer companies grow and succeed globally, develop solutions for the future and renew their business operations boldly. We promote collaboration between companies and research groups, so that new endeavors can develop into international business ecosystems. We are developing Finland into the most attractive and competitive innovation environment and the most enticing investment and travel destination in the world. Our organization employs 760 specialists at 40 foreign locations and 16 offices in Finland. Business Finland is a public-sector operator and part of the [Team Finland](#) network.

**Website:** <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/locations/suomi/helsinki>

### Helsinki Design Week

Helsinki Design Week presents new people and phenomena within design in cooperation with various partners. Established in 2005, Helsinki Design Week is the largest design festival in the Nordic countries. The dates for 2023 are 8–17 September.

The festival offers the citizens a platform to participate in the development of the city and in related discussion. Our international programme features circa 150 events every year, targeted at both professionals and the general public. It consists of signature events, companion events and satellite events. Children's Design Week is also an important part of the programme.

**Website:** <https://helsinkidesignweek.com/?lang=en>

### Pure Waste

Pure Waste is a Finnish company breaking new ground in textile recycling. We manufacture and sell yarns, fabrics and garments made from 100% recycled materials. From the very start, providing completely high-quality products made of recycled fibres has been our goal. We're inspired by the deeply ingrained Nordic recycling culture. We want to make the textile industry more ecological, but that won't happen if we don't change our ways. We challenge ourselves to think of better, more sustainable solutions for operations in production, sales and logistics. We



question the norms and traditional ways of the textile industry, asking: could things be done differently after all?

**Website:** <https://purewaste.com/?v=dd65ef9a5579>

## Infinited Fiber

We're on a mission to make textile circularity an everyday reality – offering a way to capture the value in waste by regenerating it as a new and versatile textile fiber. We see a future that's not reliant on precious natural resources and where old processes are replaced with cutting-edge alternatives. Working together with textile producers, brands and people who share our vision, we can bring joy and hope back to closets, homes and people as we go.

**Website:** <https://infinitedfiber.com/>

## Hotels suggestions

Coming

For more information, please visit <https://clothproject.eu/>

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