

RESPONSIBILITY REPORT 2023



kintobe
carry kindness

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Friend,
 Welcome to our fourth Responsibility Report!
 You're reading the chronicles of a young company that knew from the beginning that kindness is the answer. Kindness towards Earth as well as our fellow human beings.



We believe that sustainability is a 360 degree effort including both our environment and the way we exist with each other. If we can't co-exist all hope for our Earth is out anyways.

We want a kinder and more accepting world. A world with less fear and hate. More openness and human connection, so we can thrive and collaborate on solving our shared challenges.

We want an Earth that is thriving and being treated with respect by its inhabitants. We want to do our part by building a business that makes durable, functional bags out of recycled materials. Our long term ambition is to be able to assess and reduce our products' impact, from raw material extraction to packaging, to transport, to end-of-life.

To simplify you can say that circularity is our compass and kindness is the engine. Our ultimate goal is to close the loop while ensuring the rights and equality of all people involved.

We're on a relentless journey to make this happen. Each year we are building upon our experience, catching up with the ever-evolving world of responsibility, and taking active steps towards driving positive change.

Let's be honest - it is a bumpy road to juggle responsibility and business, and we are constantly presented with ethical dilemmas, but taking the easy way out is not the option we aim for.

We are sharing all sides of our journey with you here. Read about our way of working, our achieved goals and future ambitions, but also processes where we are falling short or have more to learn.

The best way to improve and inspire is to be open about your actions, so here we are, laying it all out. We hope you'll enjoy the read and share your thoughts.

Carry kindness,
 Anne & Michael

RECYCLING (PRODUCT END OF LIFE)

WHAT WE DO NOW

- Trial collaborations for recycling our claims, flawed items

GOALS 2024

- Trial project with SemperCycle
- Trial project of creating products from non-repairable bags

SOURCING

WHAT WE DO NOW

- Materials from recycled plastic waste
- Materials with bio content
- Durable & certified materials
- "Locally" sourced (as close to our assembly factory as possible)
- Mapping Tier 1 & 2 suppliers

GOALS 2024

- Keep increasing transparency in our supply chain

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

WHAT WE DO NOW

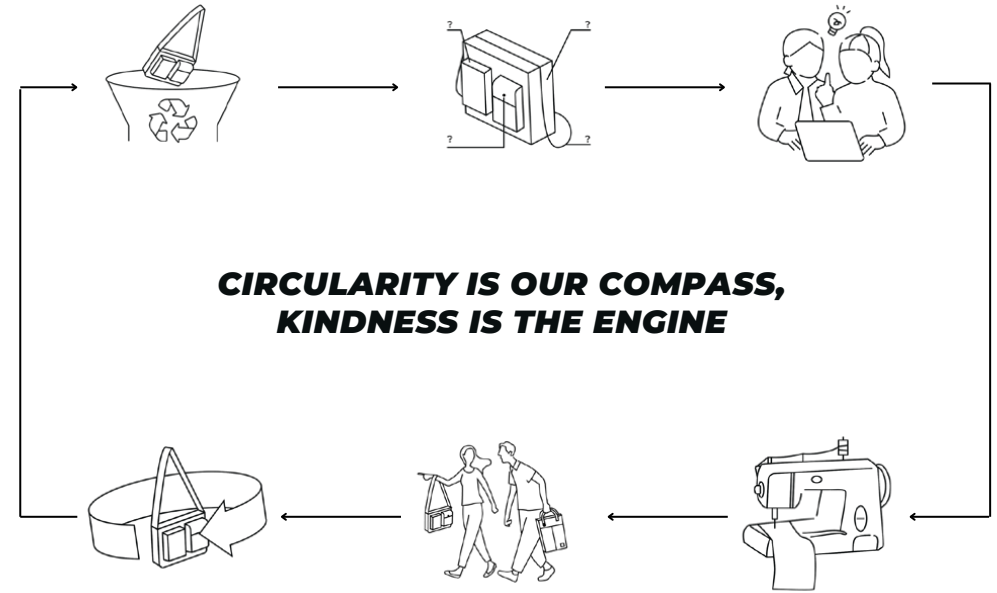
- Design checklist
- Design for longevity
- Constant research on new materials & developments

GOALS 2024

- PLM system

FUTURE GOALS

- Design for easier recycling



**CIRCULARITY IS OUR COMPASS,
 KINDNESS IS THE ENGINE**

REUSE/REPAIR (PROLONGING LIFE OF THE PRODUCT)

WHAT WE DO NOW

- Our Pre-Loved take-back program

GOALS 2024

- Trial project for a repair platform

DISTRIBUTION & USE

WHAT WE DO NOW

- Care guidance
- Optimising transportation
- Carbon compensation for 95,12% B2C shipments and all bulk shipments from our assembly factory

FUTURE GOALS

- Impact calculation

PRODUCTION

WHAT WE DO NOW

- Audited & certified assembly factory
- Optimising production orders
- Audit, Certification and Material Specification document
- Code of Conduct

GOALS for 2024

- Rough CO2 emission calculation per bag based on the body material in partnership with Renoon

FUTURE GOALS

- Impact calculation

GOALS FOR 2023 AND HOW WE WORKED WITH THEM

We are constantly setting new goals and we like to share them with you in order to hold ourselves accountable. Below you can read about our achievements in 2023 and how we were successful - and in some places less successful - in reaching our goals.

GOAL 1: PRODUCT END OF LIFE

One of our goals for 2023 was to explore alternative opportunities for the end life of our products.

WHAT WE DID:

We intended to find a solution for our claimed and flawed items as well as for the items that served our customers well for a long time and couldn't be repaired anymore.

We conducted extensive research on possibilities for repair partners, design studios & recycling facilities.

Unfortunately, so far we haven't found a viable and sustainable model for a full repair program due to the cost associated with logistics and repairs in Denmark.

We weren't able to find a viable solution for

recycling end-life bags either mainly due to the lack of possibilities with finished product recycling or difficulties to reach the high volume minimums with potential collaboration partners.

However, in 2024 we are working on a collaboration with a local company to create a sustainable business model for a repair platform.

We're also experimenting with creating new products out of worn-out bags, as well as doing a trial project with Sempere Cycle to create methanol from end-of-life bags to create new plastic products.

GOAL 2: CODE OF CONDUCT

Develop a Code of Conduct to secure responsible partnerships.

WHAT WE DID:

We developed our Code of Conduct which we introduced with our production partners.

A Code of Conduct aims to provide a clear outline of expected behavior, and instructions on the partnership.

It includes Kintobe's principles, and values and defines a set of rules and expectations towards the partners.

Our Code of Conduct is available on our website.

GOAL 3: MAPPING OUR SUPPLIERS

Gain full transparency in our supply chain, to be able to monitor processes from the raw material stage. Map tier 3 & 4 suppliers.

WHAT WE DID:

We started 2023 with a naive ambition of mapping all our Tier 3 & 4 suppliers who are responsible for the raw & semi raw-material extraction.

In 2023, we managed to map only a few Tier 3 suppliers.

We have learned that it's a complicated and extremely resource-consuming process.

We are not stopping, we continue to dig deeper into our tier system till we reach the bottom and map it all out.

*Read more on page 13



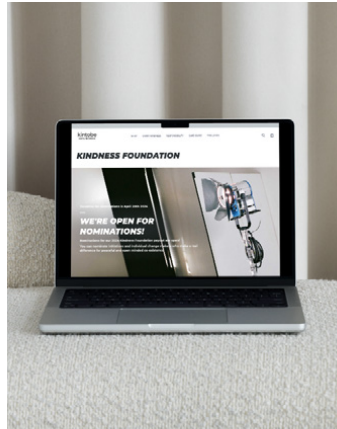
**GOAL 4:
CREATING THE KINDNESS FOUNDATION**

Create a system for our donation efforts following our experiences with donating money to selected charities in 2022.

WHAT WE DID:

In 2023 we launched the Kindness Foundation, which is donating 1% of our sales to initiatives that spread kindness, break down walls of prejudice and heal people who have been marginalized.

*Read more on page 32



OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023

Sometimes it's great to not stick to the plan: As 2023 went by we saw more opportunities to do better than the goals we had officially set, and decided to explore these as well.

1: GIVING BACK IN THE NAME OF KINDNESS

Nurture and support kind initiatives in our community.

WHAT WE DID:

Bag donations for non-profits

We donated around 60 bags from our first collection to a Fashion Fundraiser in **South Africa**. The collected funds were donated to the Ranyaka project.

We donated 250 backpacks from our first collection a Danish-Ukrainian organisation, Faino. The bags were donated in **Ukraine** to children who lost a parent in the war.

*Read more on page 31

2: EXTENDING THE LIFE OF OUR PRODUCTS

Developing a care guide to help customers extend the life of our products.

WHAT WE DID:

Care Guide for end-customers

We developed a care guidance that helps our customers care for and maintain their bags in the best way possible. The better a product is cared for, the longer it lives.

The care guide is on our website, and furthermore we launched a post-purchase email-flow to remind all customers when to give their bags a spa-day.

*Read more on page 28

3: TRANSPARENCY

Further improve transparency for our end customers.

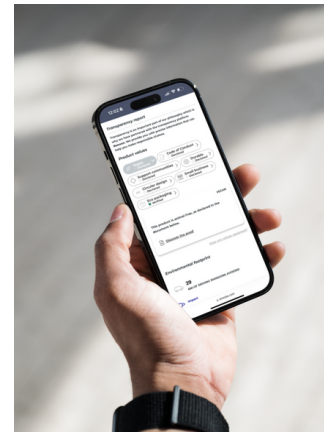
WHAT WE DID:

Transparency in the purchase process

We have partnered with Renoon to provide our customers with precise information that can help them make informed purchase decisions.

On our website, we now display proof points and certifications of our materials and suppliers, as well as a comprehensive overview of our supply chain.

*Read more on page 27



KINDNESS TO EARTH

We want an Earth that is thriving and being treated with respect by its inhabitants.

DESIGN CHECKLIST

When developing new products we keep our compass of circularity in mind which urges us to consider features and ideas that support longevity, durability and responsible material sourcing. We have a list of criteria when developing a new bag concept that help us steer in the right direction.



FUNCTIONALITY CHECK

Is the bag highly functional in an urban setting? Are the sizing, separate compartments, pockets and other practical details attuned to urban life?



COLOUR CHECK

Is the choice of colour fairly seasonless ensuring that the bag can be worn by anybody, all year round for many years?



MATERIAL CHECK

Is the bill of materials consisting of recycled or natural alternatives, and if we are making small compromises, can we defend why we are doing so?
Are the materials made from mono-materials and not from mixed fibers?



INCLUSIVITY CHECK

Can the bag be worn by the majority regardless of age, gender and size ?



ROUTINE CHECK

Can the bag be worn anywhere where your daily routine leads you: office, school, gym, date, cafe visit etc.?



SHOE & WARDROBE CHECK

Can the final product be styled nicely with a pair of boots, sneakers and high heels to ensure a bag that is inclusive and fits many occasions?



DURABILITY CHECK

Are the details in the bags designed to be durable ?
Can all the materials serve their purposes for a long time?
Will the details perform well for a long period of time?



PRODUCTION PARTNERS

To increase our level of transparency we have mapped our production partners and collected all of their audit and certification documents. This helps us be more transparent towards our customers and collaboration partners, as well as optimize our sourcing strategy understanding where there is space for improvement.

TIER 0	<p>Kintobe's Tier 0 partners are located in Europe. In Denmark, we have our head office & flagship store in Copenhagen and our warehouse in Glostrup.</p>	<p>We have physical retail partners in the following countries: Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Finland, Germany, Belgium, and The Netherlands.</p>
TIER 1	<p>We have a long lasting relationship with our only assembly factory, ASG Global. It is one of the world's leading bag manufacturers, located in Long An, province southwest of Ho Chi Minh, in Vietnam. ASG is regularly audited by the Fair Wear Foundation, an independent organization working to improve working conditions in factories in the fashion industry. The basis for collaboration is the Code of Labor Practices, which is written on the basis of eight labor market standards from the ILO (International Labor Organization) conventions and the UN Human Rights Convention.</p>	<p>Further compliance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLCP - Social & Labor Convergence Program • ISO 9001:2015 - Quality Management System • Better Work - Progress report • SMETA - Corrective Action Plan Report • SMETA - Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit Report
TIER 2	<p>Both ASG and Kintobe are constantly sourcing new materials to keep up with developments. Frankly speaking, one of the hardships of being a small business is to find responsible materials in low order quantities with affordable prices and fitting geographic locations.</p> <p>In order to optimize our impact and support local communities, we do our best to work with local suppliers close to our factory. Our webbing, thread, zippers, zipper puller, inside edge band, woven label, wadding, foam padding, PE piping, velcro, drawstring, elastic band, care label, hangtag, polybags and cardboard box are produced in Vietnam.</p> <p>South Korea has a very innovative textile</p>	<p>industry and is at the forefront when it comes to implementing technologies for recycled materials.</p> <p>Our body fabric, mesh, air-mesh and some plastic hardware are produced in South Korea.</p> <p>China is the world's largest manufacturer with well-developed production facilities within recycled materials, a skilled workforce and good infrastructure. Body fabric, lining, non-woven reinforcement, and metal hardware are produced in China.</p> <p>Our logo label, plastic and metal hardware is produced in Hong Kong, also a well known location for material innovation and developed production technologies.</p>
TIER 3&4	<p>So far we have mapped our Tier 1 & 2 partners and few Tier 3 partners. We are constantly working on mapping our Tier 3 & 4 sub-suppliers.</p>	<p>Our future goal is to map our full supply chain and to be able to monitor all processes from the raw material extraction.</p>

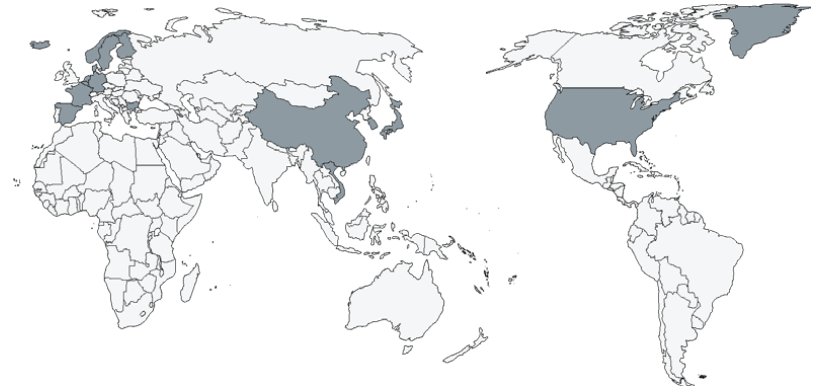
*Our Audit, Certification & Material Specification overview is available upon request.

TIER 0 OFFICE, WAREHOUSE, RETAILERS

- Denmark
- Sweden
- Norway
- Iceland
- Faroe Islands
- Greenland
- Finland
- Germany
- Belgium
- The Netherlands

TIER 1 ASSEMBLY FACTORY

- **Vietnam**
- ASG



TIER 2 WEAVING & KNITTING

- **South Korea**
- Leejo Body Fabric
Shinwon Mesh
- **China**
- Showtex Lining, Body Fabric

TIER 2 WATER-REPELLENT FINISHING

- **Switzerland**
- HEIQ CO WR Coating
- **South Korea**
- Fine Chemical PU 1500mm Coating
- **Japan**
- Daikin CO WR Coating
- **China**
- Showtex CO WR Coating
Showtex PU 1500mm Coating
Showtex PU*2 Coating

TIER 2 TRIMMINGS

- **Vietnam**
- YKK Zippers, Push Button
Kumyang Webbing, Inside Edge Band, Zipper Puller Tape
Shungho Drawstring
ENS Foam Padding
AnChin Inner Label, Hangtag, Sticker
Coats Thread
Rudholm Care Label
Jinwon Metal Hardware
SDK Velcro
Cosmo Non-Woven Reinforcement
Primaloft Wadding
AnChin Hangtag
Hwasung PE piping

- **South Korea**
- Woojin Plastic Hardware

- **China**
- Zhixing Non-Woven Reinforcement
UTX / Duraflex Metal & Plastic Hardware

- **China**
- ApExpress Logo Label

- **Vietnam**
- PolyAsia Polybags
Blue Pacific Cardboard
Market Silica Gel, Tag Pin
- **Bulgaria**
- Avisera Shipping Bags

- **U.S.A.**
- BLOOM Algae Pellets
- **Vietnam**
- ApExpress Mycel material

COMPOSITION + CERTIFICATION OVERVIEW

In order to work with suppliers and a manufacturer that maintain responsible production practices and improve transparency within our supply chain, we expect our partners to be verified by third parties.

We are working with the following certifications and audits throughout our supply chain: GRS, RCS, TC, Blue Sign, Oeko-Tex, FSC, Fair Wear Foundation Audit, ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, 14021:2016, Better Work, SLCP, SMETA, TUV Austria, SGS FSC, USDA, VISY KRAFT, ISO 45001.

MANUFACTURER

Name	Description	Certification
ASG	Assembly factory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 9001: 2015 • Better Work • SLCP • Fair Wear • SMETA

MATERIALS

Name	Description	Certification
Body fabric	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer PET)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • BlueSign
	100% Mipan® Regen™ Recycled Nylon (pre-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • BlueSign • OEKO-Tex
Water-repellent coating (outer side of the body material)	DAIKIN CO WR coating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFAS-free • Complies with EU REACH and ZDHC • BlueSign system partner
	HEIQ CO WR coating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFAS-free • Complies with EU REACH and ZDHC • BlueSign system partner
Lining	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • BlueSign
Thread	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS
Wadding	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • OEKO-Tex
Airmesh, mesh	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BlueSign • RCS
Webbings, inside edge band	100% Recycled Polypropylene (PP) (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS
Non-woven reinforcement	100% Recycled Polyester (PET bottles)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS

Algae-blended foam padding	45% Renewable/Recycled Post-Consumer Algae 55% Conventional Ethylene Vinyl Acetate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 14021:2016
Coil zipper tape	>99% Recycled Polyester (post consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • OEKO-Tex
Coil zipper puller, slider	Metal made of zinc-alloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OEKO-Tex
Metal hardware	Metal made of brass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BlueSign
	Metal made of zinc-alloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OEKO-Tex
Plastic hardware	100% recycled plastic (pre-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS
	100% Recycled Nylon (rPA) (pre-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • BlueSign
Drawstring	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS
Logo label	Mushroom leather alternative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TUV Austria • OEKO-Tex • ISO 14001:2015, 9001:2015 • SGS FSC • USDA
Care label	100% Recycled Polyester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS • OEKO-Tex
Woven label	100% Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRS
Hangtags	Cellulose Pulp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSC

PACKAGING

Items	Description	Certification
Polybags	100% Recycled Polyethylene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCS
Shipping bag	80% Recycled MDPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Återbära ISO 14001, 9001, 45001
Cardboard box	FSC Recycled Packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSC

Please see the exact certifications per production partner in our [Audit, Certification and Material Specification Overview](#). It's available upon request.

RECYCLED MATERIALS

THE WORLD'S PLASTIC PROBLEM

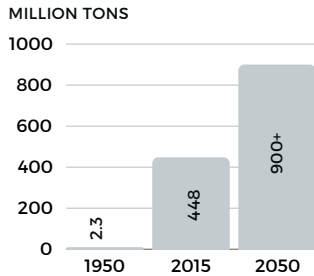
The abuse of fossil fuels is leading to overproduction of single use plastic products that are ending up in our freshwater, nature and landfills. A pressing issue for us is the world's overproduction of disposable plastic products, which is rapidly overwhelming our ability to deal with them.



Mountain of rubbish and garbage on the beach by the sea, Albania
Published on October 27, 2019 by Antoine GIRET

FACTS

1. INCREASED PRODUCTION OF PLASTIC

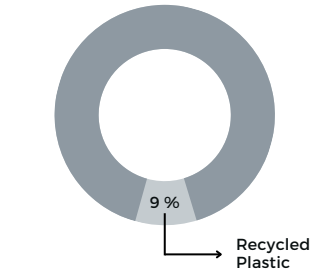


Plastic production increased exponentially, from 2.3 million tons in 1950 to 448 million tons in 2015.

Production is expected to double by 2050.

Source: National Geographic

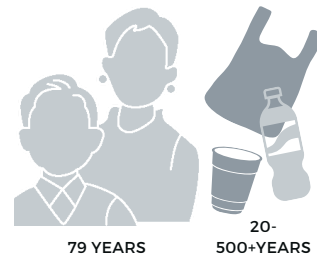
2. SMALL AMOUNT OF PLASTIC IS RECYCLED



Only 9% of plastic worldwide is recycled.

Source: OECD

3. PLASTIC TAKES 400+ YEARS TO DEGRADE



An average person lives 79 years. An average plastic item "lives" 20- 500 years.

Source: WWF

HOW WE RECYCLE PLASTICS IN OUR PRODUCTS

We use both pre- & post-consumer recycled plastic materials, it means the plastic waste is either derived from production trim scraps or from commercialized and used plastic.

The plastic waste is assorted, cleaned, granulated and then

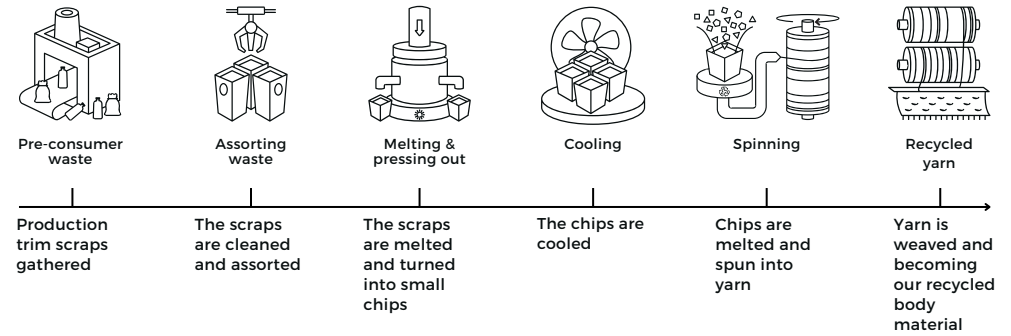
turned into a new material.

Either it's spun into a recycled nylon or polyester fabric, or it is melted and molded into a recycled plastic item - for example a buckle.

By using waste materials we do our part to reduce the world's

plastic problem. The use of recycled plastic is reducing the dependence on petroleum based materials, can divert plastic from ending up in nature and scales down water and energy usage compared to virgin materials.

PROCESS OF PRODUCING OUR BODY FABRIC



THE DOWNSIDE OF PLASTIC AND WHY WE'VE CHOSEN IT ANYWAYS

We are aware that the use of recycled plastic is not entirely a fairy tale. Both the usage and production of plastic products are coming with the risk of emitting micro & nano plastics. These tiny particles of plastics are a concern due to their widespread presence in our oceans and soil as well as the potential toxicological and physical risks they can pose to organisms.

When we started Kintobe, we spent a long time considering the choice of our main material. We compared organic cotton canvas, leather and recycled nylon/polyester. We quickly turned down leather as it is not in our DNA for ethical reasons. For the last two options we researched the average tear strength of each material and found out that nylon and polyester outperforms cotton canvas, thereby ensuring a longer lifetime of the product.



OVERVIEW OF MATERIALS

Most of our recycled materials are GRS certified which ensures the restricted use of chemicals and residues throughout the production process and ensures high social standards.*

*Except our mesh & airmesh which has a RCS certification.
*See full overview of certifications on page 14



100 % RECYCLED POLYESTER

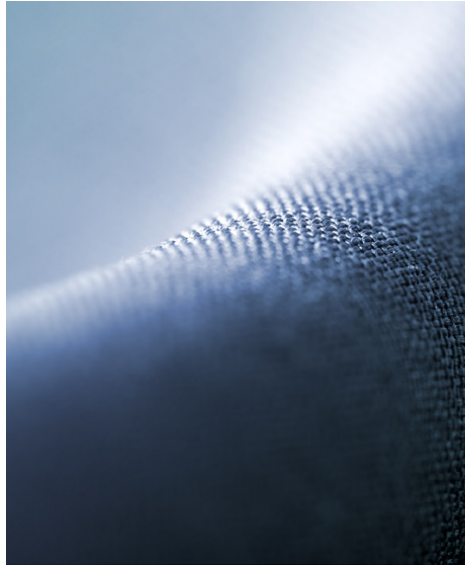
- BODY FABRIC
- LINING
- NON-WOVEN REINFORCEMENT
- THREAD
- INNER LABEL
- LOGO LABEL
- CARE LABEL
- DRAWSTRING
- MESH
- AIRMESH
- WADDING

Most of our recycled polyester items are made from post-consumer plastic waste. Recycled polyester items are as durable as their virgin version.

*Please see more in our overview on page 14

- ZIPPER TAPES

The yarn used in the tape of our coil zipper & water-repellent zipper is made from more than 99% post-consumer plastic waste.



100% MIPAN® REGEN™ RECYCLED NYLON

- BODY FABRIC

MIPAN® Regen™ is a reclaimed nylon yarn made by recycling pre-consumer waste and it possesses excellent dyeing uniformity.



100% RECYCLED PLASTIC

- PLASTIC HARDWARE

Our recycled plastic hardware is made from pre-consumer plastic waste. Recycled plastic hardware is approximately 15% weaker than conventional items. Therefore we are working with the leading hardware companies in the industry who are skilled to engineer long lasting and durable products.



100% RECYCLED POLYPROPYLENE

- WEBBINGS
- INSIDE EDGE BAND

Polypropylene, is a type of plastic and commonly used in household items. The PP recycled fibres made from post-consumer waste.

The recycled PP material is strong, fade- and stain-resistant.



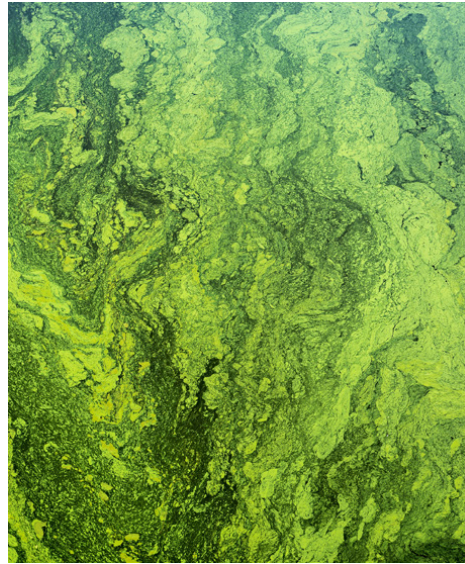
MUSHROOM-BASED LEATHER ALTERNATIVE

- LOGO LABEL

Leather is not in our DNA, and in 2022 we finally managed to find the right collaboration partner to launch our first trims in mushroom-based leather alternative. The material is 100% bio-based, fully biodegradable and compostable.

Its made from King Oyster mushrooms that are not suitable for human consumption due to mis-shape and size. So far we are using the leather for our logo label on new styles, but we will keep experimenting with other use cases whilst ensuring durability.

Our bio-based mushroom leather alternative is vegan, it complies with ISO 14001:2015, 9001:2015, and OEKO-Tex Standard. It's FSC compliant, 100% bio-based with USDA, and biodegradable with TUV certification.



ALGAE-BLEND FOAM

- PADDING

Our Bloom™ algae-blended foam padding is made with excess algae harvested from freshwater where the ecosystem is out of balance. The algae raw material is combined with conventional materials to create a more responsible EVA foam.



CONVENTIONAL MATERIALS

- PU COATING ON WATER RESISTANT ZIPPER
- METAL HARDWARE
- ELASTICS
- PE PIPING
- VELCRO

At the moment few trims are made from conventional materials. We have promised ourselves to never stand still and keep searching for durable and more responsible solutions.



PFAS-FREE CO WR

- WATER REPELLENT COATING (outer side of the body material)

The water-repellent coating on our twill and ripstop nylon body fabric is an innovative, and non-PFAS-based repellent called HeiQ Eco Dry developed by the Swiss company HEIQ.

- Fluorocarbon-free (PFAS)
- Exceptional efficiency and durability
- High abrasion resistance
- Complies with EU REACH & ZDHC
- BlueSign system partner
- OEKO-Tex suited

The water-repellent coating on our twill polyester body fabric is a non-PFAS-based repellent called UNIDYNE XF-5003 developed by a Japanese company DAIKIN.

- Fluorocarbon-free (PFAS)
- High-performance technology
- Made from more than 50% bio-based materials
- Complies with EU REACH & ZDHC
- BlueSign system partner
- OEKO-Tex suited

OUR FUTURE IS IN THE DETAILS

WE CARE FOR THE DETAILS AND WE ARE TRANSPARENT ABOUT THEM

While the bag industry in general does not use recycled materials beyond the body fabric and lining, we have higher ambitions. For us, even the smallest details count when it comes to making bags that come as close

to our high ethical standards as possible, and we take pride in being completely transparent with you about the entire bill of materials.

MATERIAL USAGE IN OUR PRODUCTS

At the moment the majority of the materials used are recycled synthetics.

We managed to find biobased materials for the padding and the logo label which we have been using since. Unfortunately, there are a few conventional materials used in the making of the bags (e.g. velcro). We will continue to seek for better alternatives and upgrades to the conventional materials.

CATEGORY	MATERIAL	ITEM
Recycled Synthetics	Recycled Polyester (post-consumer)	Body Fabric, Lining, Inner Label, Logo Label, Care Label, Thread, Zipper Tape, Non-Woven Reinforcement, Wadding, Drawstring, Mesh, Airmesh
	Mipan® Regen™ Recycled Nylon (pre-consumer)	Body Fabric
	Recycled Polypropylene (post-consumer)	Webbings, Inside Edge Band
	Recycled Plastic (pre-consumer)	Hardware
Biobased Materials	BLOOM RISE - Algae-blended foam 45% Renewable/Recycled Post-Consumer Algae 55% Conventional Ethylene Vinyl Acetate	Foam Padding
	MYCEL - Mushroom Leather Alternative	Logo Label
Metal	Zinc-Alloy	Hardware
	Brass	Hardware
Conventional Materials	Elastane	Elastic Band & Cord
	Plastic	Velcro
	Plastic	PE piping

MILES

CROSS-BODY

**MADE WITH 100%
RECYCLED MATERIALS**

Lining, Inner Label, Logo Label,
Thread, Care Label, Coil Zipper
Tape, Non-woven Reinforcement
**100% RECYCLED
POLYESTER**

Body Fabric
**100% MIPAN® REGEN™
RECYCLED NYLON**

Webbing, Webbing Zipper
Puller, Inside Edge Band
**100% RECYCLED
POLYPROPYLENE**



Padding
ALGAE-BLENDED FOAM

Logo Label
**100% BIO-BASED MUSHROOM
LEATHER ALTERNATIVE**

PFAS-FREE
Water-Repellent Coating
CO WR, PU 1500MM, PU*2

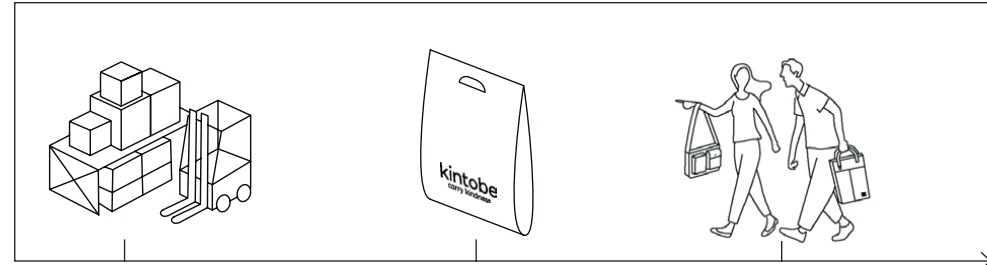
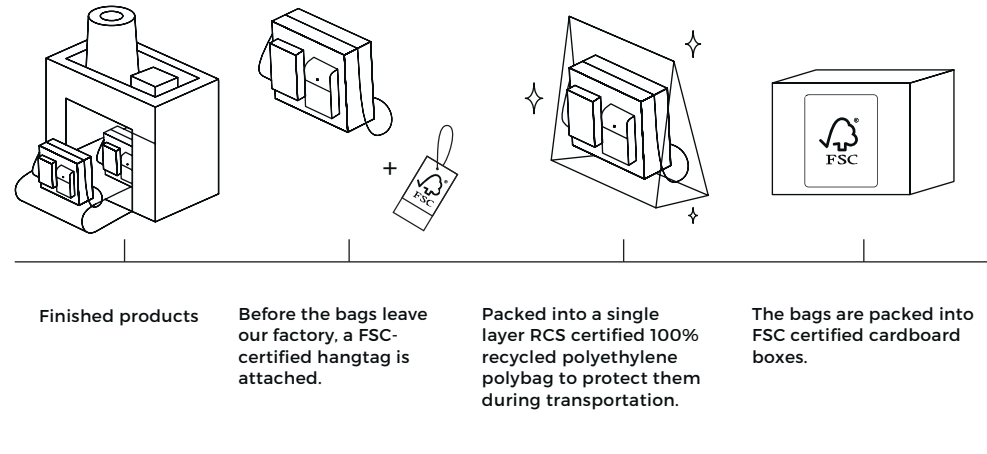
Metal Hardware, Water-Resistant Zipper*
CONVENTIONAL MATERIALS

PACKAGING

FACTORY TO WAREHOUSE

Before the bags leave our factory a hang tag is attached. A local supplier in Vietnam is supplying us with FSC-certified hang tags. After that, the bags are packed into single-layer plastic packaging to protect them during transportation.

A local supplier is providing us with RCS certified 100% recycled polyethylene polybags. Finally the bags are packed into cardboard boxes. A local supplier is taking care of our FSC certified cardboard boxes for each shipment.



WAREHOUSE TO CUSTOMER

We've been working hard to find a shipping bag supplier based in Europe, as close as possible to our warehouse located in Farum, Denmark.

We're using the Swedish company Avisera that is carrying the "ÅterBära" eco-label. It ensures 100% climate neutral packaging. Avisera is offsetting 100% of our shipping bags' CO2 emission by replanting and preserving trees through two Veera-certified tree planting projects. Our 80% recycled lowdensity polyethylene shipping bags are produced in Bulgaria.

LOGISTICS

FACTORY TO WAREHOUSE

Due to the high CO2 emission of air shipment, we try to plan our production so we can use sea shipment for our bulk orders. Air shipment takes 7-10 days while sea shipment took on average 2-2.5 months in 2023. As opposed to 2022 we have managed to completely avoid any air shipments of bulk orders, but have instead accepted being out of stock of selected bags in certain periods of time. This is a compromise we have made in order to keep our transportation emissions under control.

To ensure a swift product development process we use air freight for our development samples and sourcing.

WAREHOUSE TO CUSTOMER

In Europe, we mainly ship our bags to the end consumers by truck, very few countries are serviced by boat or air. To the rest of the world we use air freight.

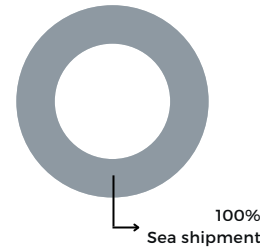
Within Europe, we have used GLS to ship the majority of our parcels, as they off-set all emissions made on European shipments.

Carbon offsetting initiatives

Our shipping partner GLS offsets all emissions in Europe by supporting 2 projects that protect and restore forests in Peru and Brazil.

Bulk shipments in 2023

Sea shipment (+ truck to and from harbours)

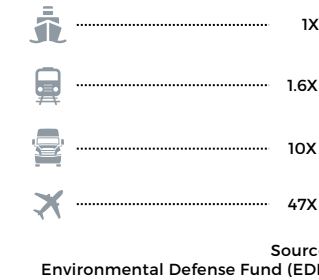


In 2023 we shipped 100% of our bulk orders by sea, which is an improvement from 2022 where we shipped 12.53% by air. In 2023 we emitted 3t CO2 which is 12t less compared to 2022.

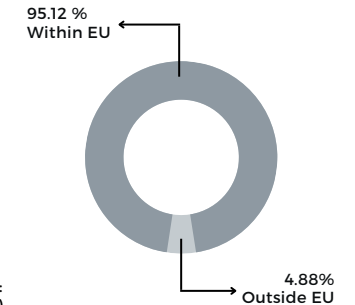
Carbon offsetting initiatives

All emissions emitted during sea shipment in 2023 were offset by us and our partner, Flexport.

Relative Carbon Emissions by Mode per Ton-Mile



How We Ship to Customers



Due to the high CO2 emission of air shipment, we try our best to use sea shipment for all bulk orders and only use air shipment during our product development processes.

95,12% of our shipments to the end customers were placed within Europe and offset by our shipping partner, GLS.

TRANSPARENCY FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

Transparency has always been one of our main commitments and an intrinsic part of what Kintobe is and aims to be. As we all become more aware of our impact on the environment, being open and transparent isn't just a choice anymore – it's a must.

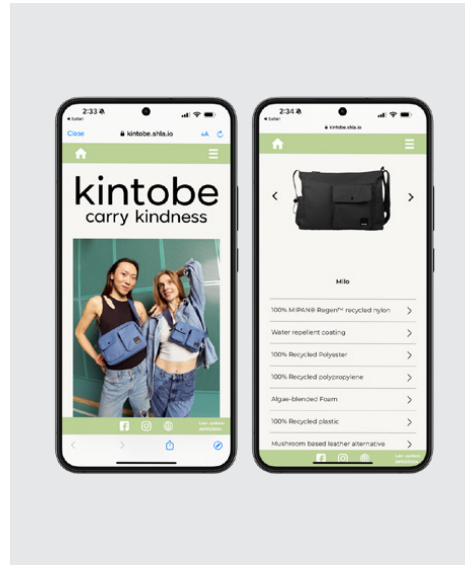
However, making responsible educated choices as customers is proving to be challenging due to complex supply chains, greenwashing, and limited access to detailed information.

We're dedicated to making it simpler for our customers to grasp what they're buying and the effort behind our products. Transparency is our goal, helping people understand the ins and outs of our practices and processes. It's all about keeping it clear and easy for everyone involved.



HANGTAG

In Denmark it is not a legal requirement to account for all the materials a product consists of. In our opinion this is super scary and leaves consumers in the dark. How would we feel if the same was the case with the food we purchase? Therefore we, as opposed to the majority of companies out there, insist on disclosing our entire bill of materials on our hangtags. Our customers can also scan a QR code leading to our current Responsibility Report.



CARE LABEL - QR CODE PLATFORM

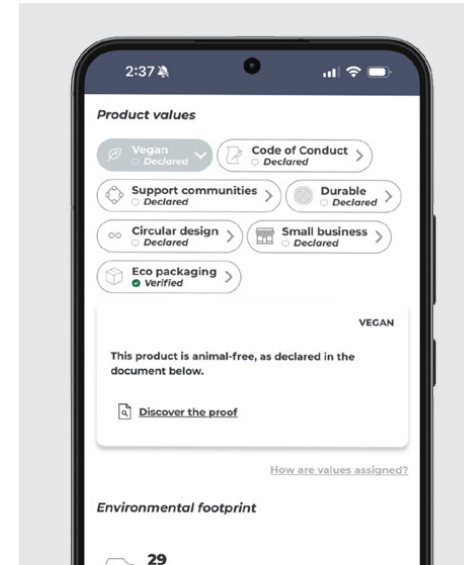
You can find a carelabel inside of all bags and by scanning the QR code you will get an access to our online platform where you can find information of our company, supply chain, elaborate product information, care instructions and info about our Pre-Loved programme.

We have developed this platform to be able to offer instant access to extensive information to all of our customers.

TRANSPARENCY WHILE ONLINE SHOPPING

We have partnered with Renoon to provide our customers with precise information about our products, materials, supply chain and values that can help them make informed purchase decisions on our website.

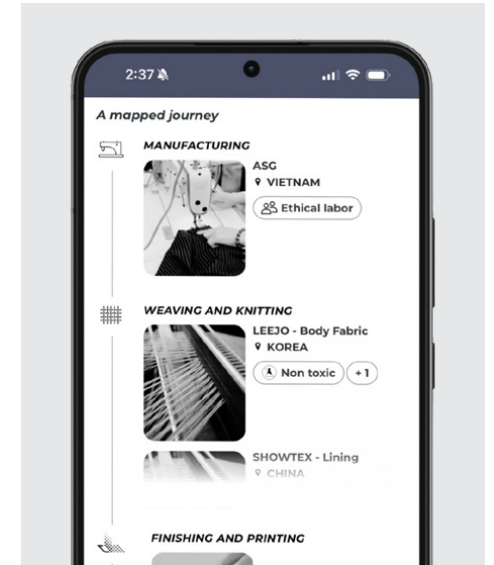
We display information through a plug-in in all product pages at our webshop.



PRODUCT VALUES

In the "Product values"-section we aim to break down what's really going on with our products regarding 5 areas of impact: environmental protection, human well-being, animal ethics, innovation & technology, consumption & circularity.

We label our values as "Verified" when we can back them up with third party certifications or documentation. On the flip side, "Declared" values stem from signed documents, showcasing our firm commitment to responsible values.



A MAPPED JOURNEY

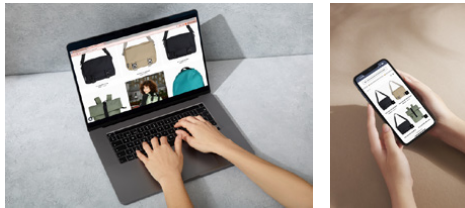
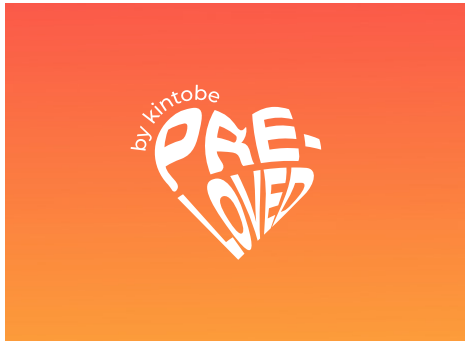
In the "Mapped Journey"-section our customers can find a detailed snapshot of the current overview of our supply chain, covering everything from manufacturing, weaving and knitting, finishing and printing, trims and components, all the way down to some of the already mapped raw materials.

As we delve deeper into our Tier 3 and 4 in the future, we'll continue to enhance and expand this timeline, offering deeper insights for our customers.

PROLONGING THE LIFE OF OUR PRODUCTS

We are constantly seeking opportunities and partnerships to be able to prolong the life of our products.

So far we have implemented a successful Pre-Loved programme, we are offering care guidance on our website and sending care reminder e-mails after purchase.



PRE-LOVED BY KINTOBE

To actively prolong the life of our products we launched our Pre-Loved programme in 2022. The programme makes it possible for our customers to sell back their used bags to us. The bags will be cleaned, have light repairs, and treated with a PFAS-free water repellent coating to refresh the product.

After the spa day, the bags are photographed and become available on our webshop as pre-loved products in search of a new home.



CARE GUIDE & CARE REMINDERS

In 2023, we launched an official care guide on our website. It contains a thorough description on how to clean your bag and maintain the water-repellency of it.

In 2023 we also started following up with all our webshop customers over emails to remind them of caring for their bags at regular basis.

A simple thing as maintaining a care routine will add significant time to the lifespan of a product for the following reasons:

1: The bag will simply last longer with care.

2: You will develop a stronger emotional bond if you are spending time with the maintenance, which will make you wear it longer.



KINDNESS TO PEOPLE

We want more openness and human connection, so we can thrive and collaborate on solving our shared challenges.

BUILDING THE KINTOBE COMMUNITY

From the beginning we've had an ambition of creating a community around carrying kindness. Over time we've held Kindness Bars, shared inspiring stories of people carrying kindness in extraordinary ways and asked our community for advice on new styles. We have made a clear effort to invite all our customers and followers to our events. Even though we're in the fashion industry, which has a tendency to exclude, our events will never be only for influencers and press. It's our community we owe thanks and really want to celebrate with!



OUR DONATIONS

Since we started Kintobe it has been our core value to spread kindness to our community by donating funds and products to people and initiatives that spread kindness, peaceful co-existence, and positive change.

Donating to Designers Without Borders in 2023

In 2023 we donated bags to the foundation Designers Without Borders.

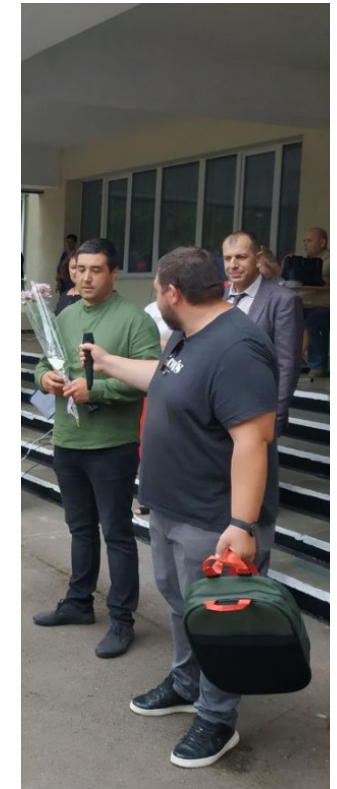
54 small shoulder bags & 20 laptop bags were shipped to South Africa and about half so far have been sold at their Fashion Fundraiser. The rest will be sold at the next sale. Surplus from the Fashion Fundraiser is currently donated to Ranyaka, a project helping to solve socio-economic challenges that affect communities in South Africa.

Donating to Faino in 2023

250 backpacks and 8 laptop bags were donated to Faino: A Danish-Ukrainian organization. The bags were donated in Ukraine to children who lost a parent in the war.

Earlier we have donated to:

- TogetherWEPUSH is a non-profit organization that helps refugee families with children at the Danish deportations centers.
- Women and children who are victims of war in Afghanistan through Manilla Chafouri
- 1K Aid Fund, which is a 100% volunteer-driven organization supporting victims of war in Ukraine



250 backpacks and 8 laptop bags were donated to Faino, a Danish-Ukrainian organization, for children who lost parents in the Ukrainian war.

LAUNCHING THE KINDNESS FOUNDATION - 1% FOR KINDNESS

In 2023 we wanted to create a system for our donation efforts and we launched the Kindness Foundation.

The Kindness Foundation is here to help support peaceful co-existence and to give a gentle reminder that we can't wait for governments to fix our problems. Positive change starts with you and I.

We are donating 1% of our sales worldwide to initiatives that spread kindness, break down walls of prejudice and heal people who have been marginalized.

The first donation round will happen in 2024.



INSPIRING KIND PRACTICES

THE LABEL IN YOUR BAG - A REMINDER FOR KINDNESS

We believe that we all have the agency to make the world a better place. It can seem daunting and hopeless at times, but positive change starts with all of us when we walk out our door in the morning.

To support this we share little quotes of encouragement with our customers on the inside label in their bags. The quotes are meant to set a positive intention for the day and be a reminder that every act of kindness counts.



COMPANY CULTURE

We are committed to creating a working environment that is diverse and inclusive. We aspire to create a cross-cultural setting as we believe it creates better solutions and ideas. See our team members throughout 2023:



Henrik
Anne
Michael
Julia
XiBao
Eva
Evelina
Reyes
Rodi
Birgit
Franck

Investor
Owner & CEO
Owner & CEO
Design & Production Manager
Marketing Manager
Influencer & Marketing Assistant
Influencer & Marketing Intern
Sustainability, Design & Production Intern
Design & Production Intern
Sales Agent in DK
Sales Agent in NO

Denmark
Denmark
Denmark
Denmark
Hungary
Taiwan
Denmark
Denmark
Spain
Greece
Denmark
France

All applicants and employees will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.



OUR GOALS FOR 2024

We want to keep reducing our impact on the environment and we want to spread more kindness in the world. We simply want to do better.

We are constantly evaluating and improving our efforts in all departments of the company. you can read about our 4 defined goals for 2024 below.

Apart from these specific goals we are continuing our work with all the other areas you have read about in this report.

GOAL 1: LAUNCH THE KINTOBE KINDNESS CLUB

The deeper we have come into our work with carrying kindness, the more we have realized how each and everyone of us have a potential to create positive ripples in the world. Therefore we want to put more focus on empowering our community to spread kindness in their daily life. We want to do this by launching a Kindness Club with activities for our community that inspires a kinder lifestyle.

GOAL 2: MAKE THE MOST OF BROKEN AND WORN OUT PRODUCTS

We want to find a sustainable business model for our claimed and flawed items as well as for items that served our customers well for a long time and cannot be repaired anymore.

In 2024, we want to explore 3 different routes:

- 1: Collaborate with a local company to develop an affordable and scaleable repair platform.
- 2: Explore the possibility of turning end-of-life-bags into methanol which will be used for new plastic products with a local company.
- 3: Explore the possibility of creating new products at a small scale out of non-repairable and end-of-life bags.

All above projects are trials and as we move forward we will assess if they are the best possible solutions for us.

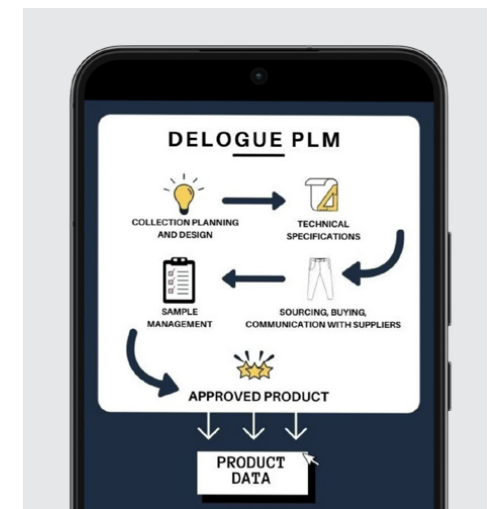
GOAL 3: CO2 Calculation

We want to do the first small attempt at calculating the cradle-to-gate CO2-impact of our individual products in order to better understand how we can lower our emissions even more.

GOAL4: PLM system

In 2024 we want to implement a Product Lifecycle Management system in order to manage and store data regarding our production in a more optimized way.

We hope to improve the collaboration with our suppliers through this system and also lower the risk of human error when it comes to managing, analyzing and communicating our compliance data.



GOAL 5: DEVELOPING A DATA STRATEGY

In 2024 we want to understand and plan how we can work better with hard data.

Every operation and interaction in our company generates numbers based data; from energy consumption to supply chain logistics. We want to understand how to capture data from this sea of information and what data truly matters in order for us to evaluate and improve our environmental impact and provide the highest level of transparency and accountability for our surroundings.

We will start the journey by investigating the following questions

- What data matters the most?
- What data is accessible at the moment?
- Can we map more of our Tier 3&4 suppliers to get access to more data?
- How can we obtain the data we're missing?
- What should our tech stack look like to support our work with data?



