Leather-Design-Guidelines for Sustainable Development
Author's Guide & Review Phase 3

Results of the 3. Workshop on March 3rd 2021   Release: March 2021

Background:
This document illustrates the interim results of the subproject „Leather-Design-Guidelines for Sustainable Development" as part of the research project "System innovation for a more sustainable leather chemistry". The key insights will be described based on the workshop on March 3rd 2021. This paper aims at elaborating and summarizing the work done so far and building the basis for the currently starting writing phase.

ORGANIZATIONAL REMARKS
Project members are kindly asked to **review and comment on this document.** They are also invited to support the ongoing collection phase regarding methods and examples.

The project group agreed on being transparent regarding the overall project progress and interim results and the parties involved. The university team will therefore present parts of this process and a list of parties involved in publications such as its website and progress reports.

1. Moving from separate methods to paradigms

The 3rd workshop marked a turning point for the subproject as the project group moved from a conceptual phase to actually writing the design guidelines. Based on the work done so far (workshops, desk research and bilateral interviews) the project group agreed to the following:

Leather goods pose a highly complicated subject which becomes most obvious in its often intransparent and complex supply chains. As opposed to many other product categories and materials, it is unlikely that design guidelines can provide „recipes" for more sustainable leather goods by collecting lists of methods, approaches and case studies only. While these elements are important for the design process, creating more sustainable leather goods requires a profound understanding of leather as a material and its complex context.

Considering these requirements, the first output of this subproject - the actual design guidelines will no longer only

aim at collecting methods and case studies in the sense of a tool box, but will focus on a more holistic approach by highlighting various paradigms and perspectives onto this subject.

Therefore, the design guidelines for sustainable leather products are conceptualised as an edited book that features a number of chapters dedicated to different relevant topics that should be considered when designing leather goods in the context of sustainable development. These chapters will be rather essayistic in scope and style. However, the methods and case studies chapter will still feature the ongoing collection of relevant design methods. The work done so far (e.g. the framework of design approaches and design process aspects) will be the basis for the guidelines.

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2. Author's Guide

This guide aims at facilitating the writing process and fostering a homogeneous style and structure of the texts. In case of uncertainty or due to special topics, authors can refer to Jonas Rehn (jonas.rehn@h-da.de) to adapt these guidelines according to the progress in the writing process.

2.1 Roles of Author and Supporter

Authors and Co-Authors are supposed to be responsible for the content and progress of a chapter. They will be explicitly mentioned as (Co-)Authors of the chapter and are in charge of editorial tasks.

Supporters - as planned so far - are meant to give impulses (e.g. information or case studies) and review this process. They might be incorporated into the writing process depending on the chapter group and topic.

All chapters will be subject to an ongoing and a final review phase by the university team. This shall make sure that quality standards and unity of the texts are ensured and that all pieces fit to each other.

2.2 Mode of Work

Chapter groups should organise themselves individually. Authors are advised to get in contact with each other and with the supporters to form a chapter group. Supporter might switch roles and become more active authors.

The writing phase will be more asynchronous than the work done so far. Authors are requested to use the google-documents in **this google-drive-folder**. These documents should comprise the most current state of the text for other groups to review and link their texts to the content of this chapter. In upcoming workshops, feedback tasks and discussions will be performed that aim at elaborating the texts.

2.3 Extent of Chapters

Each (sub-)chapter (e.g. 1.2 or 3.4) should have a minimum length of 2000 word (approximately 3-4 DinA4-pages). If appropriate, the text might be much longer. In case of redundancies, several chapters might be combined to one. Texts can be supported by pictures, illustrations, tables etc. To illustrate information using a new graphic, authors might refer to the university team to get design support.

2.4 Writing Style and References

The target group of the guidelines is people working in the context of design and development for leather goods (designers, product managers, marketer, sourcing etc.). Therefore, the text should be „popular scientific" - informative and dense but at the same time have a good flow and be comprehensible. We encourage you to use references. However, the guidelines do not aim at being a scientific paper. For references endnotes should be use. We recommend using **APA style** for referencing.

2.5 Important Dates

15.05.2021	First draft of chapter should be online
June 2021	Workshop #4 (Review of Texts)
Aug 2021	Finalised Chapter should be online
Oct 2021	Finalised Manuscript will be provided by University Team
Oct 2021	Workshop #5 (Discussion on Final Version)
Nov/Dec 2021	Publication of Guidelines (print / web)
Dec 2021	Official Start of Pilot Study Phase

Additional Information and Service

If necessary, the university team offers help in translating texts and giving advice on copyrights of material and text style. The university team can also be referred to for questions and help regarding references, graphic design and general inquiries for illustrating information.

Note: It is also the role of the university team to ensure that goals are achieved.

3. Wording and Definitions

These guidelines refer to topics and discources that are complex and sometimes controversial. We therefore recommend to use similar wording and key phrases when writing about the same topic. The subsequent list is meant to support this:

Sustainable Development vs. Sustainability
While in many cases companies and the media refers to „sustainability", we recommend using the term „sustainable development" instead, as is emphasises an ongoing process that is constantly reorganised and iterative. Sustainability in fact describes a goal that be default cannot be achieved as constantly new information, technology and developments influence this process.

Leatherette
There is an increasing amount of materials that aim at replacing leather while striving for similar material properties. We recommend to not call them „artificial leather" or „vegan leather" as leather is defined by it natural origin - the skin. One term that might be useful is „leatherette" referring to all materials that are supposed to look like leather.

Sustainable Leather
As this term will be defined in a more complex process across all four subprojects, we recommend using this sensitively, by putting it for example in brackets or referring to in as „what we might call more sustainable leather".

Note: This list will be constantly adapted throughout the writing process by all members. We therefore encourage you to consider terms and phrases that should be discussed in our group and mail them to Jonas Rehn.

4. List of Chapters and (Co-)Authors

The table of content including the list of (co-)authors and supporters can be found attached to this document. Authors and supporters are encouraged to acquire additional authors if applicable to the chapter at hand.

The guidelines consist of the following main chapters:

1. Introduction / Project Context
General text on the context of this subproject refering to the work done so far.

2. Purpose and Structure of Guidelines
Illustration of the use and structure of these guidelines. This paragraph while explane who should use these guidelines when, how and for what purpose.

3. General Topics
Here overarching topics will be considered that are a relevant theoretical and practical basis to understand and make use of the upcoming chapters.

4. Design Approaches
Design approaches are general paradigms for a design process that focus on a specific goal or purpose. They might comprise a number of design techniques and methodologies. This chapter aims at elaborating on the various approaches and creating an understanding of the specific scope of these paradigms.

5. Design Process Aspects
This chapter deals with various aspects to be considered throughout the design process that have an impact on howfar a product supports sustainable development. Chapters 4 and 5 are interelated (see the matrix we created in workshop #2).

6. List of Design Methods
This list comprises all methods and techniques we are constantly collecting throughout this project. Chapters might refer to specific methods explained in this chapter.

7. Decision Tree
The decision tree aims at guiding design decisions by illustrating consequences and options of certain design paths. The exact concept of this tree ist to be defined.

8. References
Comprises all references used in the chapters above.
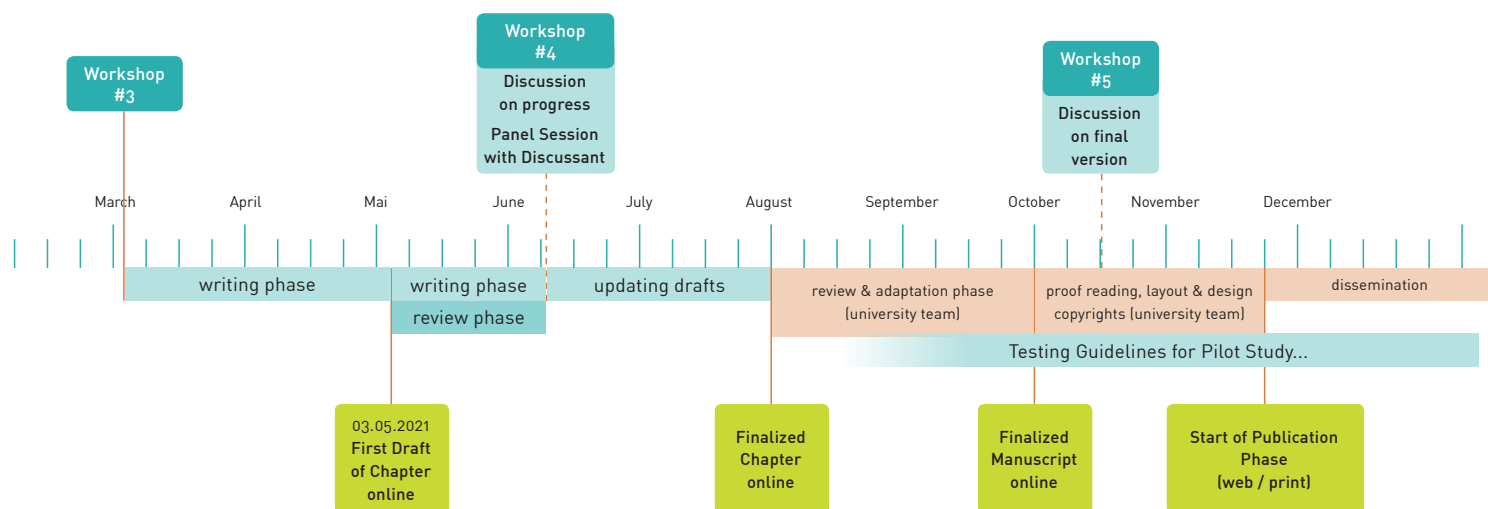
9. Further Readings
This is a loose list of literature, talks, movies, podcasts, etc. that are helpful to deepen the knowledged presented in these guidelines.

10. List of Authors and Organisations
All authors will be given a short paragraph to present themselves and their organisation in a non-commercial style.

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5. Timeline & Project Plan

The proposed project plan is subject to change according to project progress. The exact dates for workshops will be communicated once agreed upon by the project team.

Workshop #3

Workshop #4
Discussion on progress
Panel Session with Discussant

Workshop #5
Discussion on final version

March	April	Mai	June	July	August	September	October	November	December

writing phase | writing phase | updating drafts | review & adaptation phase (university team) | proof reading, layout & design copyrights (university team) | dissemination

review phase

Testing Guidelines for Pilot Study...

03.05.2021
First Draft of Chapter online

Finalized Chapter online

Finalized Manuscript online

Start of Publication Phase (web / print)

Other subprojects

In several subprojects, potential solutions are to be examined to foster „more sustainable leather chemistry". Together the subprojects address different aspects of the system innovation required in this respect. Any person or organisation wishing to contribute to the achievement of the objectives in the subprojects can participate.

Subproject #1
Harmonisation of standards for a "more sustainable" leather chemistry
Dr. Julian Schenten | julian.schenten@h-da.de

Click here to go to **subproject #1**

Subproject #2
IT Tools and Governance for Traceability
Dr. Julian Schenten | julian.schenten@h-da.de
Eleni Kaluziak | eleni.kaluziak@h-da.de

Click here to go to **subproject #2**

Subproject #3
Chemical und Process Innovation
Prof. Dr. Frank Schael | frank.schael@h-da.de

Click here to go to **subproject #3**

Subproject #4
Leather-Design-Guidelines for Sustainable Development
Dr. Jonas Rehn | jonas.rehn@h-da.de

Click here to go to **subproject #4**

Further information concerning the project to find under:

► **sne.h-da.de/leather-chemistry**