

## The kigo footwear Footprint

When kigo footwear was no more than an idea, the team was casually responsible. We recycled, biked or walked when it made sense, and even supported our local CSA. Initially, kigo footwear set out to do little more than to provide a good (portable shoes), a service (a comfortable way to stay on foot), and a mission (to help others enjoy an active lifestyle).

All that changed quickly when the idea of kigo became a reality. We knew we didn't want to make shoes for the singular purpose of making shoes. (Even stylish, comfortable, portable shoes.) We wanted to do it right – right from the start. So from the earliest stages, we have strived to use sustainable materials, to be responsible throughout the entire business, and always to keep striving to do better.

Here is the kigo footprint.

### we work | virtual commuting



With mobile phones that can surf the Web, tiny laptops with WiFi that go anywhere and reliable VoIP systems, why commute to an office? The kigo footwear team works together via phone and computer. It means less driving and keeps us always focused on our shoes in the world, not just in the office.

### we reuse | textiles



All kigo footwear uppers are created from a unique textile called CYCLEPET, a fabric made of post-consumer PET bottles (plastic). In layman's terms, that means that plastic jugs are cleaned, broken down into flakes and woven into yarn, which is used to craft a fabric that is lightweight, strong, breathable and attractive.

### we reuse | packaging

Most shiny, new shoes are packaged with all kinds of stuff inside – plastic tube shapers, cardboard forms, plastic bags, extra tissue...any number of niceties. With kigos, there is nothing more than what is necessary to protect the shoes. Just a box and a small amount of tissue. Because we think kigos are better on feet than in the box, each box is slim, downsized and made of recycled corrugate printed with eco-friendly inks. If it is unneeded, it can be recycled, tissue and all.



### we care | the other stuff

The product lifecycle offers countless opportunities to be responsible. Not all fall under the reduce/reuse/recycle umbrella, but they are important nonetheless. Here are a few of our efforts:



All kigo shoes are assembled using only water-based adhesives and stitching, rather than toxic chemical glues.

Included with each pair of kigos is a storage bag that can be used when the shoes are dirty. This special bag is made not of plastic, but cornstarch, which allows the bag to biodegrade just like a vegetable.



Finally, to keep kigos clean and dry, they are treated with a groundbreaking, EPA approved stain/water resistance treatment called C6. It is the first of its kind to be almost 100% protective, as well as environmentally friendly.

