

India will soon have its own Footwear Sizing System



Digital Data Capture
Foot contour in weight on position
3D scan
25+ Parameters



Process using mathematical algorithms
Vectorized data – foot data
for analysis



Statistical analysis of Data
Grouping of data into sizes
Establishing length – width increment
Last grading parameters
Derive equivalence with English and
French Standards – For ease of
industries and users



SINCE British time, we have followed the English sizes for our footwear; interestingly, most are not even suited to Indian wearers. Therefore, India will soon have its own footwear sizing system. Scientists at the CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Chennai, have come up with the Indian footwear sizing system. Considering the proper foot health, around 10,000 individuals between the age group of 5 to 55 years of age will be monitored for walking style, distribution of pressure points on the feet and comfort. These customised shoes are further planned to be certified by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to confirm the best fit.

Until now, we haven't had a scientifically established "Footwear Sizing System" in India. It became crucial to create an "Indian Footwear Sizing System" tailored to the dimensions of Indian feet. The footwear is crafted using an adapted English Sizing System, currently employed in India, that sometimes does not provide adequate comfort due to the distinct characteristics of Indian feet compared to English feet. Thus, CLRI initiated a project to gather foot data, conduct statistical analysis, and develop a tailored "Footwear Sizing System" specifically suited to Indian feet, achieving success in the endeavour.

Implemented by CSIR-CLRI in association with Synergy Partners, under the umbrella of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, has conducted a nationwide survey for gathering reliable data on foot dimensions of the Indian population. 3D digital imaging technique has been used to establish the Indian Footwear Sizing System.

Indian Footwear Sizing System: Technology involved

Footwear design is a complex task that requires interdisciplinary engineering and science. With the increasing lifestyle diseases, people are becoming aware that good foot health also contributes to the overall well-being of an individual. That is why the need for a local footwear design system holds significance, justifying the demand for achieving self-sufficiency, "Atmanirbhar".

The primary aim is to achieve the footwear requirements of children, youth, adults, men, and women. Also included in the list are diseased individuals, for example, children who have cerebral palsy and people with diabetes, disabled, and older adults. Footwear for All! For this, the Bureau of Indian Standards notified its Footwear Sizing Standards. This must