

Editorial: Getting closer to Closing the Loop with Polyester

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Abstracts

The global fashion industry generates some 1.2 bn tons of greenhouse gases annually—more than the amount generated by international flights and shipping combined. The global textile industry produces around 60 mn tons of waste annually, and 68% of this ends up in landfill. The fibres in landfilled textile waste degrade only slowly, causing soil and water contamination. Also, sending textile waste to landfill results in a loss of scarce and non-renewable resources in the form of the polymers from which the textiles are made. To address these problems, concerted action is needed and this was discussed at length by industry leaders at the 57th Dornbirn Global Fiber Congress (Dornbirn-GFC) which was held in Dornbirn, Austria, during September 12-14, 2018. Following the conference, a number of new developments—particularly in relation to polyester products—have been announced. In this report, Robin Anson discusses some of the most significant developments made by PrimaLoft, the National University of Singapore (NUS), and a joint venture comprising Indorama Ventures and Loop Industries.

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Introduction

Polyester staple fibre made from rPET

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IVL's agreement with loop industries gives it an exclusive worldwide licence

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