

# Textile and apparel sustainability update, June 2017

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## Abstracts

Environmental sustainability is a topic of growing importance within the global fibre, textile and apparel industry. Indeed, pressures to focus on environmental sustainability have prompted several companies to develop innovative new products and to adapt their business strategies. This report provides information on the latest product developments and business developments in relation to environmental sustainability, with a particular focus on: apparel and footwear; corporate social responsibility (CSR); dyes and auxiliaries; fabrics; fibres and yarns; home textiles; insulation materials; investments; joint ventures, cooperation, licensing and distribution; sewing threads; and upcycling. The report includes news from the following innovative companies and other organisations: Adidas, American & Efird (A&E), Athleta, Berghaus, Bobo Choses, Boll & Branch, Bolt Threads, Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation, Cordura, DuPont Tate & Lyle Bio Products, Eastman Chemical Company, the Fibersort partner consortium, Grund America, H&M Foundation, HeiQ, Lenzing, Lindex, Mango, Milliken, NSF International, the Oeko-Tex Association, OVS, Parley for the Oceans, Patagonia, PrimaLoft, Primark, Schoeller Textil, Star Sock, Textilcolor, Textile Exchange, Unifi, West Elm and the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Programme.

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### SUMMARY

#### APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR

Athleta has launched its first range of Fair Trade Certified apparel items

Berghaus is expanding its collection of Made Kind apparel

Bolt Threads has developed its first commercial apparel product made from synthetic spider silk

Mango has developed an environmentally sustainable apparel collection called Mango Committed

Parley for the Oceans and Adidas have developed football jerseys and a running shoe which incorporate recycled plastic waste recovered from oceans

Football jerseys

Running shoe

#### CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

#### 13 ADDITIONAL COMPANIES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS HAVE JOINED THE ZERO DISCHARGE OF HAZARDOUS

Chemicals (ZDHC) Programme

Five brands and retailers have signed up as the first participants in the European Clothing Action Plan

#### (ECAP)

Action plans

The ECAP project

Patagonia has announced plans to increase the number of its products which are manufactured in Fair

Trade Certified factories

Textile Exchange and NSF International will collaborate to merge the Responsible Down Standard and the Global Traceable Down Standard

The Oeko-Tex Association has awarded its first certificates for compliance with the Leather Standard by Oeko-Tex

#### DYES AND AUXILIARIES

Schoeller Textil and Textilcolor have collaborated in the development of a new auxiliary which accelerates the polyester dyeing process

## **FABRICS**

Cordura and DuPont Tate & Lyle Bio Products are collaborating in the development of performance fabrics which are environmentally sustainable

## **FIBRES AND YARNS**

Eastman Chemical Company has developed a new brand of cellulosic yarn called Naia  
Lenzing has launched a new fibre called Refibra which incorporates recycled materials

## **HOME TEXTILES**

Boll & Branch has developed a new collection of 100% organic cotton flannel bedding and accessories

Grund America has developed a collection of bathroom rugs and towels which are made from organic cotton

Milliken has developed a collection of environmentally sustainable upholstery fabrics called Breathe by  
Milliken

## **INSULATION MATERIALS**

PrimaLoft has developed a version of its PrimaLoft Gold Insulation Active material which incorporates

## **45% RECYCLED CONTENT**

## **INVESTMENTS**

H&M Foundation has awarded Euro1 mn worth of grants through the Global Change Award

The Fibersort partner consortium has received Euro2 mn in funding from the European Commission's  
Interreg North-West Europe (NWE) Programme

## **JOINT VENTURES, COOPERATION, LICENSING AND**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

HeiQ has entered into a research partnership with Patagonia to develop novel ways of making durable water repellent (DWR) treatments which are environmentally sustainable and breathable

Unifi has collaborated with Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation in the establishment of manufacturing operations for its Repreve continuous filament yarn in Vietnam

### **SEWING THREADS**

American & Efird (A&E) has developed a new sewing thread which incorporates Repreve yarn

### **UPCYCLING**

Lindex has developed a limited edition collection of apparel which is made from upcycled denim garments

West Elm has collaborated with Whole Foods Market and The New Denim Project in the development of an environmentally sustainable kitchen linen and table linen collection

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