

Textiles and apparel sustainability update, September 2020

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Abstracts

Environmental sustainability is of growing importance within the global fibre, textile and apparel industry, and pressures to improve their sustainability credentials have prompted several companies to develop innovative new products and 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: business news; carpet; contract fabrics; cotton; denim; dyeing processes; fabrics; fashion collections; fibres; insulation materials; protective accessories; standards; and workwear. Furthermore, the report includes information and insight relating to the following innovative brands, companies and other organisations: Ananas Anam, Aquafil, the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI), Bioworks, Burberry, Candiani Denim (Candiani), DSM Niaga, Dyntex, the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, the Fairtrade Foundation, Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture (Field to Market), Freudenberg Performance Materials, Hyosung, Inter IKEA Group, Kemira, Kings of Indigo, Kering, Lenzing Group (Lenzing), Levi Strauss & Co, Manchester Manufacturing Group, Mexar, North West Textiles Network (NW Texnet), Pratibha Syntex, Promethean Particles, Sateri, Spinnova, Sunbrella, TBM, Teijin Frontier, Textile Exchange, The Welding Institute (TWI), Toray Industries (Toray), Touchpoint, the US Cotton Trust Protocol, Vaude and Worn Again Technologies.

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SUMMARY

BUSINESS NEWS

Ananas Anam has achieved B Corp Certification

Aquafil has become a network member of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Inter IKEA Group and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation have entered into a strategic partnership

Kering has published a strategy to support nature conservation and reduce the impact of its operations on biodiversity

Lenzing has been awarded Gold status by EcoVadis for its commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR)

Vaude has developed a Repair Index and is using it to evaluate the reparability of its products

Worn Again Technologies has opened a new pilot research and development (R&D) facility in Redcar, UK

CARPET

DSM Niaga has developed a carpet made from recycled materials

CONTRACT FABRICS

Sunbrella has developed an environmentally sustainable contract upholstery fabric called Sunbrella Assure

COTTON

Field to Market and the US Cotton Trust Protocol have formed a partnership to help improve the environmental sustainability of the US cotton industry

The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) has reported that Better Cotton accounted for 22% of global cotton production during the 2018/19 season

The Better Cotton Initiative Programme (BCI Programme) has been launched in Egypt
The Fairtrade Foundation and Pratibha Syntex are working to develop a breed of nongenetically modified (non-GM) cotton seeds

DENIM

Candiani has collaborated with Kings of Indigo on a range of biodegradable stretch denim fabrics

Levi Strauss & Co claims to have developed its most environmentally sustainable jeans ever

DYEING PROCESSES

Spinnova and Kemira are collaborating in the development of an environmentally sustainable fibre dyeing process

FABRICS

A consortium of UK-based organisations is developing environmentally sustainable water repellent fabrics

Dyntex has developed an ultra-lightweight performance fabric which is biodegradable and an ultra-lightweight performance fabric which is made from bio-based yarn

Lenzing has collaborated with Hyosung in the development of an environmentally sustainable fabric collection

Toray has developed a new version of its Primeflex stretch fabric which contains plant-based materials and polymer derived from plastic waste

FASHION COLLECTIONS

Burberry has launched an environmentally sustainable and socially responsible collection of accessories and outerwear

FIBRES

Sateri has developed an environmentally sustainable viscose fibre which is made using textile waste and wood pulp

Teijin Frontier has developed an environmentally sustainable conjugate filament yarn with “extra stretchability” called Solotex Eco-Hybrid

INSULATION MATERIALS

Freudenberg Performance Materials has launched a new biodegradable padding material as part of its comfortemp Thermal Insulation range

PROTECTIVE ACCESSORIES

TBM and Bioworks have collaborated in the development of an environmentally sustainable face mask

STANDARDS

Textile Exchange has launched the Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)

WORKWEAR

Spinnova and Touchpoint have collaborated in the development of environmentally sustainable workwear

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