An Introduction To Textile Exchange’s Recycled Standards (GRS & RCS)

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Agenda

1. About Textile Exchange
2. Preferred Fibers And The Role Of Standards
3. Introduction Textile Exchange’s Recycled Standards
4. Definitions
5. Recycled Material Verification
About Textile Exchange

About Us
Mission & Vision
How we drive transformation
Meet the Integrity Team
About Us

• Founded 17 years ago (2002), originally focused on organic cotton (Organic Exchange)

• Global non-profit with 300+ members that represent leading brands, retailers and suppliers in the textile industry.

• Since 2010, expanded from a focus solely on organic cotton to include other fibers such as lyocell and recycled polyester to promote a portfolio approach for brands and retailers to adopt at a strategic level.

• ~30 staff in 11 countries
Our Mission & Vision

**OUR MISSION**

Textile Exchange *inspires* and *equips* people to *accelerate sustainable practices* in the textile value chain. We focus on *minimizing the harmful impacts* of the global textile industry and *maximizing its positive effects*.

**OUR VISION**

We envision a global textile industry that *protects* and *restores* the environment and enhances lives.
How We Drive Transformation

BENCHMARKING

TOOLS & BEST PRACTICES

STANDARDS & CERTIFICATION

INDUSTRY REPORTS

FIBER COMMITMENTS

LEARNING CENTER

PREFERRED FIBER & MATERIALS ROUND TABLES

VALUE ADDED SERVICES

CONVENING & COLLABORATING

SDG RESOURCES
Preferred Fibers And The Role Of Standards

The backdrop
Why standards?
Textile Exchange Standards
Global fiber production has doubled in the last 20 years.

In 2018, we’ve reached an all-time high of 107 million metric tons.

By 2030, fiber production is expected to grow to 145 million metric tons.
The Backdrop 2: Preferred Fiber & Materials Market Report 2019

✓ **Now** is the time to
  ✓ accelerate the growth of preferred (*) fiber and materials
  ✓ embrace innovations to reduce, reuse and regenerate

✓ **Standards offer you a tool** to
  ✓ verify you’re using materials that are better for the world
  ✓ gain confidence by proving recycled content in your product

(*) Preferred = production of fiber and materials with improved social and environmental impacts
A voluntary standard

✓ is a market-driven tool that can drive lasting change
✓ addresses key social, economic and environmental issues in production and processing
✓ can make an impact in contexts where legal protections are weak
Our Standards
Introduction To Textile Exchange’s Recycled Standards

Goals
Scope
Certified Sites
Goal Of The Recycled Claim Standard and Global Recycled Standard

Increase the use of recycled materials in products.

Increase the use of recycled materials in products + reduce/eliminate the harm caused by its production.
Scope Of The Recycled Claim Standard +
Global Recycled Standard

- COLLECTOR
- CONCENTRATOR
- RECYCLER
- FIBER
- YARN
- FABRIC
- GARMENT
- BRAND/RETAILER

Chain of Custody (CCS)

Verification of Reclaimed Material

GRS: Social, Environmental, and Chemical
Sites Certified To The Global Recycled Standard + Recycled Claim Standard

1926 certified sites
35 countries
+40 % YOY Growth

689 certified sites
20 countries
+36 % YOY Growth
Definitions

- Reclaimed Material
- Recycled Material
- Pre-Consumer Material
- Post-Consumer Material
Reclaimed Material

Material that would have otherwise been disposed of as waste or used for energy recovery but has instead been collected and reclaimed as a material input, in lieu of new primary material, for a recycling process.

Examples:
- Used clothing
- Used plastic bottles
- Fabric cutting waste
- Off-spec products
Recycled Material

Material that has been reprocessed from Reclaimed Material by means of a manufacturing process and made into a final product or into a component for incorporation into a product.

Examples:
- Shredded fiber from used clothing
- Polyester chip from used plastic bottles
- Shredded fiber from cutting waste
Pre-Consumer Material (may also be called Post-Industrial Material)

Material diverted from the waste stream during the manufacturing process. Excluded is the reutilization of materials such as rework, regrind or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it.

Examples:
- Fabric cutting waste
- Off-spec products
Post-Consumer Material

Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product that can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of materials from the distribution chain.

Examples:

• Used clothing
• Used plastic bottles
Recycled Material Verification

Chain of custody
Our Standards Revisited
The Challenge: Complexity

Everyone’s **Dream**

Everyone’s **Reality**
Verifying Claims

Material Certification

= X\% certified?
The aim of chain of custody, is to preserve the identity of the claimed material, and to track its movement through the supply chain up to the final product. This is done through 1 Scope Certificates (SC) and 2 Transaction Certificates (TC).
Examples Of Industry Commitments

H&M Group and IKEA have the ambition to become 100% circular and renewable by 2030 and plan to achieve this through the use of recycled or renewable materials.

Patagonia is moving toward 100% renewable and recycled raw materials. By using both synthetic and natural fibers made from pre-consumer and post-consumer waste, we are limiting our dependence on raw materials and reducing carbon emissions.

Volcom is committed to increase their share of recycled nylon to 20% by 2020.

Adidas is committed to using only recycled plastic by 2024.
TextileExchange.org/Integrity

Questions? Email Integrity@TextileExchange.org
Thank you

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Creating Material Change

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