



COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF VISCOSE

Sustainability in Action: Leading Viscose Players Join Hands to Shape a Sustainable Pathway for the Viscose Industry

Shanghai, China, 15 March 2018 – With market growth and rising scrutiny over the sustainability performance of sourcing and production of viscose, 10 leading global viscose producers and two trade associations in China have joined hands to form the Collaboration for Sustainable Development of Viscose (CV) to address sustainability challenges and drive market transformation. Senior representatives of the member companies and trade associations convened at the Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics Spring 2018 event today to officially launch the CV.

Over the past decade, the global production of viscose has increased from 2.3 million tonnes in 2008 to 5.6 million tonnes in 2017, a testament to the market's liking for viscose as one of the preferred fibre materials for textile. China contributes to about 63% of the viscose global output.

However, the environmental impact from its general manufacturing process, coupled with recent shutdowns of some viscose enterprises for rectification by the Chinese government for environmental non-compliance in the increasingly stringent regulatory landscape, led to increasing enquiries if viscose is an environmentally-friendly and sustainable product.

The Chinese viscose industry, as the world's biggest viscose producer, recognises it is a major stakeholder and has an important role to play in driving sustainability in the global textile/apparel value chain, from forest to fashion.

It is against this background that the CV is established. The CV initiative commits its members to adopt and implement a time-bound framework of actions to address environmental and social issues through the adoption of industry best practices and international certification standards. Its framework, known as the *CV Roadmap*, is the first of its kind in the man-made cellulose fibre sector to cover the full viscose supply chain, from responsible sourcing to responsible production.



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Members of CV include (in no particular order):



China Chemical
Fibers
Association



China Cotton
Textile Association



Tangshan Sanyou



Sateri



Zhejiang Fulida



Jilin Chemical Fibre



Funing Aoyang



Xinxiang Bailu
Chemical Fibre



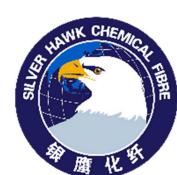
Yibin Grace



Shandong Yamei



Hengtian Helon



Shandong Yinying

Speaking at the launch, Mr. DUAN Xiaoping, Deputy President of China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC) and President of China Chemical Fibers Association (CCFA), said, “CV is entirely an industry-led initiative which aims to provide a technical platform with clear objectives for industry players to share clean and green manufacturing best practices and technology. It is hoped that CV, with its current members making up more than 50% of the world’s viscose production, can make a positive impact not only at the local industry level in China, but in the global textile/apparel sector.”

Mr. YU Hanjiang, Deputy General Manager of Tangshan Sanyou and Chairman of CV, pointed out that although viscose currently only makes up only about 6-7% of the materials used in textile/apparel, its appeal to consumers is fast rising, “The viscose industry is rapidly growing, which fully demonstrates the market's favour for viscose.



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And with rising popularity comes greater environmental challenges, more stringent brand requirements and higher stakeholder requirements for the sustainable development of the industry. We need to do better to meet the expectations of multi-stakeholders."

The CV launch brought together a cross-section of industry stakeholders, including viscose producers, yarn spinners, textile manufacturers, supply chain expert Li & Fung, and apparel brand/retailers H&M. Also present were non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including the Institute of Public & Environmental Affairs (IPE), the Office for Social Responsibility of China National Textile & Apparel Council (CNTAC) and the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Foundation; influencer Textile Exchange and sustainability standards body OEKO-TEX.

Mr ZHANG Zixin, CV's Secretary General, stressed that collective action is key to ensuring a sustainable viscose industry, "Consumers are increasingly favouring responsibly-produced goods. While there are efforts by individual companies to pursue responsible production, there is a need for momentum to be stepped up towards a sustainable future. The goals and targets may be ambitious but we believe these can be achieved if all key stakeholders work together. The first key step is to push the sustainability agenda to the fore and put an actionable framework in place."

From the outset, CV is meant to be an inclusive initiative. CV welcomes more producers to its cause, both within and outside China. CV is already in discussion with a number of local and international producers who have expressed interest in joining.

The CV Roadmap draft is undergoing a final round of stakeholder review, and is expected to be unveiled in Q2 2018.

More information can be found on CV website: www.cvroadmap.com/en.html

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About CV

The Collaboration for Sustainable Development of Viscose (CV) offers viscose producers a platform to achieve sustainable viscose and help their customers deliver on their sustainability commitments.

CV is formed by 10 of viscose fibre producers – collectively representing over 50% of the world's viscose staple fibre production – in partnership with two trade associations. This self-regulating initiative will see its members adopt a much-needed sustainability roadmap for the viscose industry. The roadmap will include a set of credible, practical and widely accepted sustainability standards to help the viscose industry adopt and implement sustainability best practices.

About the CV Roadmap

The CV Roadmap is an actionable framework that sets out the guiding principles, best practices and standards for sustainable development of viscose with which members must comply within a given timeframe. It is underpinned by four key attributes: full supply chain (from plantations to factory), time-bound implementation, transparency and continuous improvement.

The standards and best practices benchmarks are chosen, based on the principles of relevance, credibility, inclusivity, objectivity, comprehensiveness and clarity. They include the Standard 100 and Sustainable Textile Standard Production (STeP) by OEKO-TEX, The Higg Facility Environmental Module (Higg FEM), Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC), forest product chain of custody certifications such as the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification™ (PEFC™) and Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®), Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI) and Social Accountability SA 8000.

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