

Planet Textiles 2015 – how to achieve environmental compliance

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SHANGHAI – Tough new environmental legislation in the Chinese textile sector and how it is being enforced will be key topics at the forthcoming Planet Textiles Summit on textiles and sustainability which takes place on 14th October in Shanghai alongside the giant Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics exhibition, organised by Messe Frankfurt.

Key speakers at the event include Phillip Courtenay, senior VP, apparel sourcing with the adidas Group, Sean Cady, VP product stewardship & sustainability, VF Corp, Hu Kehua, deputy director, China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC), Veronique Rochet, Head of Sustainability Asia for H&M, along with representatives from The Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals Group (ZDHC), bluesign technologies, Nimkartek and the influential Chinese NGO the Institute of Public & Environmental Affairs (IPE). The platinum event sponsor is Bayer Material Science.

Also speaking is Zhao Lin of Solidaridad who will highlight the work of the Better Mill Initiative in China. Solidaridad launched the three-year Better Mill Initiative (BMI) in partnership with H&M and other major international retailers. The programme supports 43 textile dyeing and printing mills in China to improve their environmental and social performance through tailor made support, group learning and experience exchange.

The event will take place at the newly built the National Convention and Exhibition Center, Shanghai, China, where for its Spring edition in March this year, Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics saw a 56% increase in buyers compared to 2014. Last year's Autumn edition featured 3,844 exhibitors from 30 countries and regions while over 71,000 visitors from 93 countries and regions attended, numbers are expected to be exceeded this year.

In addition to Planet Textiles, the fair features an increasingly popular 'All About Sustainability' zone which was created in response to market demand both in China and from the global textiles industry. This year's zone increases in size by nearly 30%, and features three sections: an educational zone, ecoBoutique display and seminar area.

In the educational zone, sustainability related NGOs, certifiers, testing companies, as well as manufacturers with eco-friendly products will feature, as will the returning Oeko-Tex Pavilion which expands by over 40%. The ecoBoutique area will highlight exhibitors' outfits and collections made from eco fabrics, while a full seminar programme will present new trends and the latest sustainability issues.

"Sustainability has become a key issue in China in the last few years, not just at a government and textile industry level, but also among consumers as they become more conscious of environmental protection," explained Ms Wendy Wen, Senior General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd. "Both the Planet Textiles Summit and All About Sustainability are a response to this increasing interest in China, and they provide the perfect platform for overseas organisations in the field of sustainability to share their experience & expertise and promote their brand, not only to a domestic audience, but to the global industry as a whole."

“The issue of environmental sustainability in the Chinese textile industry now extends way beyond the boundaries of the supply chain,” said MCL Global director John Mowbray. “Thanks to the work of the IPE and the government, Chinese consumers can now become stakeholders and take a unique role in the governance of textile pollution in China. The Planet Textiles Summit will outline just how this will take place and the event is a crucial learning platform for all industry stakeholders who want their products to be compliant with new, tighter, Chinese and global environmental legislation.”

Planet Textiles 2015 will take place in English with simultaneous translations into Chinese.

For more information, or if you are interested in registering for, or sponsoring Planet Textiles, see: www.planet-textiles.com or email info@mclglobal.net.

NOTE for Editors: Planet Textiles is co-organised on an annual basis by B2B textile magazine publisher MCL Global and international trade show organiser Messe Frankfurt.

Messe Frankfurt, is Germany's leading trade fair organiser, with 424 million euros in sales in 2009 and more than 1,500 employees worldwide. The Messe Frankfurt Group has a global network of 28 subsidiaries, five branch offices and 52 international Sales Partners, giving it a presence for its customers in more than 150 countries. Events ‘made by Messe Frankfurt’ take place at more than 30 locations around the globe.

MCL Global, publishes Ecotextile News, Sustainable Nonwovens, T.EVO, Detox Deconstructed, Knitting Trade Journal, Closing the Loop, Sustainable Sourcing Map, EcoComposites, Cotton Horizons and the biannual Eco-Textile Labelling Guide.