

## The bluesign® standard – a unique concept for success

### Where's the actual problem?

Consumers and NGOs are calling for environmentally friendly production methods, non-hazardous products and more in-depth knowledge about the manufacturing processes. Recurring ecological scandals and product recalls have shaken the consumer's trust in the textile industry and prove existing solutions to be nominally effective. However, proactively managing all environmental aspects during production will be crucial for future success.

### Proactive new approach: Intelligent «Input Stream Management»

The bluesign® standard is built around five principles: Resource productivity, consumer safety, air emission, water emission and occupational health and safety. It is designed to provide solutions concerning «Environment, Health and Safety» (EHS) on all levels. The strength in this approach is that it links together suppliers, manufacturers, retailers and brands to jointly reduce the environmental footprint and to foster a healthy, responsible textile industry.

The bluesign® standard tackles the problem at its roots. Instead of focusing on finished product testing, all input streams – from raw materials, to chemical components, to water and energy resources – are analyzed with a sophisticated «Input Stream Management» process. Prior to production, every component is assessed and receives a rating based on its ecotoxicological impact eliminating potentially harmful substances before production even begins.

A key aspect of the bluesign® standard is never to compromise on product functionality, quality or design. Consequently it is in some instances, for the reason of performance requirements, inevitable to use specific intelligent chemistry. In those cases it is fundamental to properly manage the manufacturing process that also includes the use of smart process controls and end-of-pipe solutions to protect the people in the supply chain and the environment.

### The bluefinder™ - a valuable chemical components database

The bluefinder™, developed by bluesign technologies, is a powerful tool for textile manufacturers which greatly simplifies the «environment, health and safety» aspects of chemical components management.

#### Select compliant components

The bluefinder™ contains non-hazardous «bluesign® approved» components in a database searchable by every common textile application.

#### Meet brand requirements

Instead of only focusing on restricting the use of certain substances, the bluefinder™ leads manufacturers towards components that comply with various brand and retailer requirements.

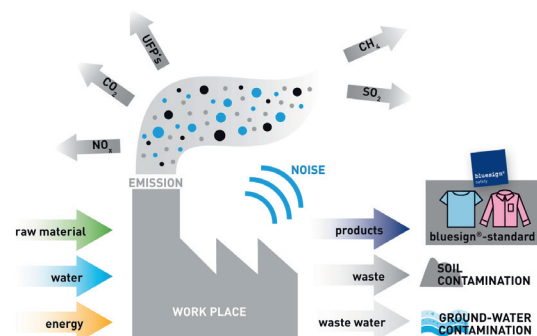
#### Reduced testing

The pre-evaluated «bluesign® approved» components help reduce the need for testing of the final product which leads to reduced analysis costs.

### Benefits for the textile manufacturer

#### Compliance with EHS criteria – worldwide

The independent bluesign® standard guarantees that only «bluesign® approved» components and audited processes, that are harmless for people and the environment, are used throughout the entire





bluesign technologies ag  
EMPA Building  
Lerchenfeldstrasse 5  
CH-9014 St.Gallen  
Switzerland  
Fon: +41 (0)71 272 29 90  
Fax: +41 (0)71 272 29 99  
info@bluesign.com  
www.bluesign.com

textile manufacturing chain. Complying with its strict international requirements means not only meeting the demand for sustainable products, but also fulfilling various «Restricted Substance Lists» (RSLs).

#### Maximum cost efficiency

Managing the input streams and optimizing the EHS situation during production inevitably leads to higher resource efficiency. Saving resources means saving costs which results in maximum cost efficiency.

#### Lasting image boost

Compliance with high-level EHS criteria like those of the bluesign® standard means a long-lasting investment in consumer trust and hence in a positive image.

### How to participate

[The best way is to begin by conducting a bluesign® screening – Complete evaluation for long-term security;](#)

It is one thing to choose environmentally preferred chemical components, however in order for manufacturers to achieve truly eco-friendly production, and to meet the bluesign® standard, an on-site bluesign® screening evaluating the local environmental, resource and workplace situation according to the five principles of the bluesign® standard is required. Essentially the input streams and procedures used as well as the installed end-of-pipe situation undergo careful evaluation. A bluesign® screening also reveals resource and cost saving potentials. Producing according to the highest environmental standards leads to a more efficient resource usage which also translates into cost savings. Hence, true eco-friendly production not only protects the consumer and the environment, it also allows reducing resource usage and production costs.

[An alternate preliminary approach is to subscribe to the bluefinder™ - Quick access, quick results;](#)

The bluefinder™ – specifically designed for textile manufacturers – is a unique online database developed by bluesign technologies which contains «bluesign® approved» components (auxiliaries, dyestuffs, finishing agents, coatings, etc.). «bluesign® approved» components meet the worldwide valid strict requirements of the bluesign® standard regarding EHS aspects and comply

with various relevant RSLs. The often complex scientific background is reduced to an understandable level by means of a rating based on ecotoxicological data. The bluefinder™ contains all the relevant information for the manufacturer to consciously select the most appropriate chemical components for any process and product, without compromising functionality, quality or design.

However, the bluefinder™ provides no information regarding resource efficiency. Optimization of the resource situation and reducing related costs is only possible with the bluesign® screening.

### Contact

bluesign technologies ag  
EMPA Building  
Lerchenfeldstrasse 5  
CH-9014 St.Gallen  
Switzerland  
Phone: +41 (0)71 272 29 90  
Fax: +41 (0)71 272 29 99  
Mail: info@bluesign.com  
Web: www.bluesign.com