
ZDHC Recognizes ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® as Indicator of MRSL Conformance

OEKO-TEX® is pleased to announce that the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Programme will now accept ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certification as an indicator of conformance with the organization's Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL) in connection with the ZDHC Gateway-- Chemical Module. The ZDHC's MRSL covers chemical substances that are limited or banned from intentional use in the production of apparel and footwear materials and trim. Controlling or excluding the use of these substances supports the ZDHC's mission of removing hazardous chemicals from the apparel and footwear value chain so that they do not harm workers, consumers, or the environment.

Since 1992, OEKO-TEX® has worked to provide safer products by eliminating hazardous substances from the global textile supply chain. In January of this year, OEKO-TEX® announced a partnership with ZDHC in order to collaborate with other leading brands and apparel and footwear sustainability advocates. The ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certification program provides a confidential mechanism for chemical suppliers to confirm that their chemical products are safer to use in manufacturing. With ZDHC's announcement, chemical formulations that are ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certified are recognized as conforming with the ZDHC MRSL.

"We understand that chemical suppliers face challenges. The industry, consumers, governments, and NGOs are asking for safer chemistries to be used in supply chains and that takes a degree of transparency. The ECO PASSPORT program serves as a trusted third party system to review formulations. We help chemical suppliers verify their formulations while safeguarding their intellectual property (recipes)," says John Frazier, Sr. Technical Director for OEKO-TEX® in North America.

The ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® program analyzes a broad set of chemicals including colorants, scouring agents, adhesives, inks, pigments, and auxiliaries in a confidential, two-step process that confirms that the formulations and individual ingredients (CAS level chemicals) meet specific criteria for sustainability, safety, and regulatory compliance. Chemical formulations are checked against the comprehensive OEKO-TEX® list of substances of concern and then verified by laboratory evaluation to ensure that they do not contain unsafe contaminants. Compounds that pass these two phases are granted the ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certification. The ECO PASSPORT certification program provides transparency by allowing the certificate number to be verified at www.oeko-tex.com.

More information about the ZDHC is available at www.roadmaptozero.com. More information about the OEKO-TEX® portfolio of testing and certification products can be found at www.oeko-tex.com.

About OEKO-TEX®

With 25 years of experience, OEKO-TEX® leads the world in empowering and enabling consumers and companies to protect our planet by making responsible decisions. OEKO-TEX® provides standardised solutions which optimise customers' manufacturing processes and help deliver high quality, more sustainable products. All of the products within the OEKO-TEX® portfolio are used to strengthen our customers' systems, processes or products and, ultimately, they help create more sustainable companies. To date, 10,000 manufacturers, brands, and retailers in almost 100 countries are working with OEKO-TEX® to ensure that their products are tested for potentially harmful substances and millions of consumers around the world look for OEKO-TEX® labels before making buying decisions. OEKO-TEX® certified products and suppliers can be located in the OEKO-TEX® Online Buying Guide at www.oeko-tex.com/products. Connect with OEKO-TEX® on Facebook, on LinkedIn, and on Twitter.