

## TESTEX Seminar “Sustainable Textile: Green and Responsible Supply Chain” in Indonesia

Contributed by Testex  
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TESTEX is joined by 180 participants from 77 companies at its Seminar “Sustainable Textile: Green and Responsible Supply Chain” in Indonesia. Discussion at the seminar centered around the topic of sustainable textile production in today’s global industry.

With consumer demand shifting beyond price and appearance towards healthy, environmentally friendly and socially responsible textiles, adapting to these changes has become the main challenge for the textile industry, both today and in the future. Attendees were primarily from textile and garment manufacturing companies, followed by chemical and dyestuff suppliers. The Indonesian Textile Association gave a summary of the current textile production market in Indonesia, and was encouraged by the attendees to start a project in collaboration with the government with the aim of supporting the local industry and reducing the amount of orders placed abroad by buyers. TESTEX gave the attendees the latest news about OEKO-TEX®. Tracing products with the MADE IN GREEN by OEKO-TEX® label was an exciting feature of the talk and there was great interest in how to acquire the label. Further questions covered chemicals management, including how to differentiate between chemical manufacturers by proving that products are hazardous chemical free by using ECO-PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certification. The seminar was supported by the Austria based Lenzing Group and its subsidiary South Pacific Viscose, both OETI certified, provide innovative solutions for the industry with their wood-based viscose fibres, modal & lyocell fibres and filament yarn. Their positive impact on environmental protection makes them exemplary in regards to sustainability. Questions to Lenzing included how they can achieve a sustainable foresting strategy. The ZDHC Foundation also joined the seminar as a supporter and its contribution was one of the most interesting of the event. It gave a presentation via web meeting of the foundation’s vision to implement sustainable chemistry, drive innovation and best practices and to protect consumers, workers and the environment. She also spoke about the ZDHC Gateway for chemicals and wastewater and which certificates they recognise such as ECO-PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX®. Many attendees were interested in how to become a ZDHC member. The final presentation was made by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, and covered the sensitive topic of wastewater, as many chemicals are used in wet processing. She gave an update on government policy concerning environmental pollution (water pollution in particular), covering points of UU 32/2009 about environmental management and protection. To conclude, the company PT. Idaman Eramandiri was given the STeP by OEKO-TEX® excellence award to praise the internal team for its hard work and support for their accomplishment. It was the first company in Indonesia and all of South East Asia to become STeP certified in 2015. The event was of great importance in Indonesia as TESTEX demonstrated how the OEKO-TEX® certification can help the textile industry in Indonesia be more sustainable and competitive. It was also a confirmation for the attendees that with the correct support (offered by TESTEX), even the most stringent certification such as STeP by OEKO-TEX® is in fact within reach for Indonesian manufacturers. By enhancing awareness of market news and international requirements to bridge the gap to certification, Indonesian manufacturers are able to fulfil the needs of brands and consumers in the international market.