







SYMPHONYMILLS

















ACT FOR HOME TEXTILES: DURABLE INTERIOR FABRICS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Textile Group Love Home Fabrics Launches Sustainable Fabrics Collection for the Entire Home

COLOGNE, 21 MAY 2019 – At Interzum Cologne, interior textile group Love Home Fabrics today launched Act for Home Textiles, an international overarching sustainable solution for interior fabrics. All companies under the umbrella brand joined forces to go greener, now also presenting collections of durable fabrics and highlighting the efforts they've been making for a better environment.



#ACTFORHOMETEXTILES

With Act for Home Textiles, Love Home Fabrics actively takes part in a story that has acquired growing awareness around the world. The growing awareness for sustainability prompts people to change the way they eat, use transportation, but also dress their home. To address that question, the international textile group gathered all durable fabric collections within its companies in one overarching project. With the help of the Act for Home Textiles label, customers can immediately see the best ecological fabric options for furniture, mattresses, curtains and towels. The fabrics are recyclable and/or made from recycled or upcycled materials.

Not only does the Act for Home Textiles label indicate sustainable fabrics, it also implies the fabrics were made during a more durable production process. For the past years, all eleven companies within the group have invested in numerous solutions, in order to save water, reduce the energy levels and cut back on transportation.

"Our biggest asset is that our group has every step of the production process in-house", said Gregory Tack, CEO at upholstery and curtain fabric producer Ter Molst Belgium. "Together, on a yearly basis, we produce more than 1300 tonnes of yarn without water and we can seriously decrease the amount of transport as our design, production and finishing departments are all housed under the same roof." With its own water purification stations, the group additionally cleans almost 150 million liters of waters every year. Next to that,

by improving the machines, the group yearly decreases its CO₂ emissions by 4000 tonnes and its water use by 25 million liters.

All big steps start with many little ones, Tack confirmed. "Act for Home Textiles is not limited to customers only. We introduced it to our employees as well, who have been using a digital invoicing system, electric forklifts, and reusable drinking bottles and water fountains. Our employees, many of them concerned with our planet, have reacted positively to the changes we've been making."

Act for Home Textiles was launched at the international trade show Interzum Cologne (Germany) today. Until Friday, visitors can discover the entire durable collection at Love Home Fabrics' booth in hall 11.2, NO26-Q033.

About Love Home Fabrics

Love Home Fabrics was established in 2017 as a one-stop shop for interior textiles. The group joins 11 textile companies worldwide, specialised in designing, producing and distributing fabrics for the entire home. Love Home Fabrics brings a story of craftsmanship and dedication, and is a promise of high quality to both the consumer and end consumer.

For more information, go to www.lovehomefabrics.com

Media

lovehomefabrics.com/ press-kit-interzum

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ACT FOR HOME TEXTILES: THE DURABLE COLLECTIONS



Vivalife

Ter Molst

Performance fabrics made from upcycled materials. The Vivalife collection is 100% locally produced, from the yarns in our own extrusion plants, to the design and the production of the fabrics. Vivalife's production process is extremely water conserving, as no water is needed to extrude or dye our yarns. All fabrics in this collection are completely recyclable.



Phoenix

Monks

Upcycled, recyclable mattress fabrics. For Monks, being sustainable and eco-friendly starts at the birth of every product. With a philosophy that starts before a first life cycle, Monks created Phoenix. The strong yarns are produced in-house, leaving out transport during the production process. All Phoenix fabrics can be recycled up to ten times.



L.E.A.FPieters Textiel

Short for Love Environment and Fabrics, L.E.A.F. joins all durable fabrics that Pieters Textiel has in its existing collections. All L.E.A.F. fabrics are made from upcycled or recycled materials.

ACT FOR HOME TEXTILES: THE DURABLE COLLECTIONS

Mayan Green

Artilat

Latex foam made from all-natural latex. Mayan Green latex toppers and cores are completely recyclable. Certified with the Rainforest Alliance label, this collection is environmentally healthy, and socially and economically sustainable.



C2C Clarysse

Clarysse's cradle-to-cradle towels, 100% locally produced, are made from recycled material and are completely recyclable themselves. On top of that, the durable C2C towels are bio-degradable and have the same guaranteed Clarysse quality.



Towel 2 Clarysse

A towel consisting of almost 50% of recycled textile, such as denim. For every 1,000 Towel2s made, Clarysse saves no less than 3.7 million gallons of water and 900 pounds (ca. 408 kg) of $\rm CO_2$. To give you an idea: that's half an Olympic swimming pool and the $\rm CO_2$ emission during a car ride from Lisbon to Athens.



ACT FOR HOME TEXTILES: THE DURABLE PRODUCTION PROCESS



LOVE HOME FABRICS CARES.

Cares about people, about animals, and about the environment that provides us with resources to make qualitative interior fabrics.

Over the past years, we have made some serious efforts to reduce our ecological footprint. Water purification, durable production processes, internal energy teams... they are all part of the bigger picture. By producing more sustainably, we are contributing to a world that remains healthy for future generations.

We're not the only ones: the end consumer has a growing awareness for sustainability as well. It affects the way they eat, the way they use transport, but also the way they dress their home. That's why we established Act for Home Textiles. Act for Home Textiles joins all the sustainable collections from our 11 Love Home Fabrics companies worldwide, giving you the opportunity to select all the durable fabrics you need in one go.

Without making compromises on our quality, price and service, we are taking steps to decrease our impact on the environment. By closely working together with textile experts, customers, employees and suppliers, we go for fabrics that are as sustainable as possible.

Act for Home Textiles. Let's act together.

#actforhometextiles

PRODUCING MORE SUSTAINABLY

Reducing energy levels

A few years ago, we entered an agreement with the government regarding our energy policy. We analysed every step of our production processes and formulated a thorough energy plan with actions to produce more sustainably.

Together with our internal energy teams, partly consisting of employees, we're constantly revising our actions and adjusting them when needed. These are the results up to today:

- \bigcirc 82 ton CO₂ less emitted by reducing the steam pressure in our dyeing machines
- 3870 ton CO₃ less emitted by replacing our lights by LED lights
- 8.5 ton CO, less emitted by using automated lighting systems
- 22 ton CO₃ less emitted by reducing our standby power consumption
- 🏷 68 ton CO, less emitted by optimising our planned shutdown plan
- No use of fossil fuels to heat our building, as we recover heat from our machines

Full-circle water use & water purification stations

Purifying water happens in our own water purification stations. Monks, Symphony Mills, Clarysse, Pieters Textiel and Ter Molst pump water from the adjacent canal and filter it together with captured rainwater to use it in production. Afterwards, they purify their waste water and lead it back to the river Leie.

- 🗽 125.000.000 liter water pumped from the nearby canal every year
- 35.500.000 liter rain water used during production every year
- 🥟 140.000.000 liter water purified and lead back to nature every year

Limiting our water use is at least as important as using it responsibly. A part of our production already went from a wet to a dry treatment (a so-called hot melt), and by dyeing differently we can substantially cut back on water. A side effect is that our machines produce less steam, turning the working environment for our employees into a much more pleasant space. On a yearly basis, this saves us more than 25 million liter water:

- 750.000 liter water saved every year by using a hot-melt finishing
- 24.708.000 liter water saved by using a different dyeing process

No harmful substances

Not only should our fabrics be qualitative and durable, they should also be safe throughout their entire lifetime. As a consequence, we make sure that all Love Home Fabrics textiles meet and exceed international standards. The majority of our fabrics are Oeko-Tex certified and Reach compliant as well.

Most of the chemicals we use nowadays are already harmless, but we aim to ban all harmful substances by 2020, as part of the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals Programme. By optimising every step in our production processes, we're getting closer to our goal on a daily basis.

Involving employees

Our 1,500 employees are the central point of our companies. We think it's important they share the same vision on sustainability and help us carry out our values, without ever sacrificing their wellbeing. By making them part of our in-house energy teams and training them to work as eco-friendly as possible, we are convinced that they help us create the better world we're working on.

RECYCLING

Avoiding waste is our first goal, but sorting and recycling the waste we do produce is high on our agenda. Our waste is sorted into 22 different categories, and with our exhaustive waste action plan, we reduce the amount of waste to a bare minimum in every department. Specialised firms collect the sorted waste and process or recycle it afterwards. The waste of our own yarn extrusion plant is completely turned into upcycled raw materials for the automobile and carpet sector.

In our fabrics, we also integrate recyclable and upcycled materials more frequently. By producing locally, we ensure that our fabrics are made within a relative short production chain.

EXTRA EFFORTS

The changes in our facilities and production units will have the biggest impact on our carbon footprint, but even small acts can add up to a big one. That's why we also facilitated some processes in our daily workings, going from less paper to initiatives that benefit our employees' health.

Reusable drinking bottles

All Love Home Fabrics employees have a personalised drinking bottle that can be refilled at one of the drinking fountains in every company. We highly encourage the use of this reusable bottle as the number of reduced plastic waste is gigantic: in just one year time, all employees combined will have saved 90.000 plastic bottles from our oceans. Taking into account the extra bottles we presented to our customers, this number amounts to a phenomenal 200.000 plastic bottles a year.

Paperless invoice system

Our accountancy departments no longer send out invoices on paper, nor do they accept them. The entire invoice system was digitalised and saves us 10 tons of paper every year, which equals 240 trees.

Improved health

When researching for new innovations, sustainability and health conditions are high on our priority list. Our companies run on the commitment of over 1,500 employees worldwide, which makes them the key figures in our daily activities. By watching over their well-being when investing in new technologies, we're convinced that our employees stay happy and passionate for their job. Indirectly, both our textiles and our service benefit from these innovations as well, which again serves you and your customers.