Textile Exchange

Materials Matter

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Dr Kate Riley
Synthetics Lead, Textile Exchange

Kate joined Textile Exchange in November 2021 as Strategy lead for Synthetic fibres. She has previously worked in advanced development at a leading sportswear brand in the areas of chemical recycling for polyester and research into microfibre shedding. She also has a PhD in Sustainable Textiles and experience working as a consultant to a range of different organisations including in the private and public sector.

Mission

Textile Exchange inspires and equips people to accelerate the adoption of preferred materials through clear and actionable guidance. We convene the textile industry to collectively achieve climate reduction goals and holistic positive impacts across fiber and raw material production.

Vision

We envision an enriching global textile industry that protects people and planet by positively impacting climate, soil health, water, and biodiversity.

Climate+

Textile Exchange - Vision 2030

A driving force for urgent climate action in textile fiber and materials production. Enabling and guiding the textile industry to reduce GHG emissions (co2 equivalents) 45% by 2030 in the pre-spinning phase of textile fiber and materials production.

Grounded in Partnership+
Amplifying positive impacts in soil health, water, + biodiversity.

Soil Health

Biodiversity

Water

Textile Exchange

We are the only organization tracking uptake of preferred fibers & materials. We use this data to deliver exclusive reporting and guidance to the industry to accelerate change.

We publish 3 annual reports that are the only of its kind, delivering critical information to the industry.

- Corporate Fiber and Materials Benchmark
- Preferred Fiber & Materials Report
- Organic Cotton Market Report

Textile Exchange by Numbers*

760+

Active members of Textile Exchange

2,400+

Participants across 11 Round Tables

320+

Companies engaged in benchmarking their use of preferred materials

1,900+

Industry professionals convened at our Dublin 2021 hybrid conference

48,000+

Sites certified in 98 countries to our 8 active standards with 28 certifying bodies

70+

Online educational events hosted throughout 2021

Textile Exchange

* Numbers correct as of May 2022

Textile Exchange

Climate+ Strategy
Synthetic fibers & materials

Using Playing To Win Methodology

Synthetics Strategy Pivot

FROM (2012-2020)

Measure
- PFMR volume data being collected and reported
- Uptake of rPET and Biosynthetics

Convene
- Developed and positioned Round Tables in rPET and Biosynthetics to convene and lead the industry
    - rPET – created in 2016 and currently with more than 250 members (as of end Q1 2022)
    - rPET Challenges created and gaining traction, significant industry representation into working group calls
    - Significant uptake and signatories to the 2025 rPET challenge
    - Biosynthetics – created in 2016 with the aim of developing a framework around biosynthetics and defining preferred biosynthetics
    - Currently approx. 180 members (as of end Q1 2022)
    - Steering committee in place, whitepaper draft paper prepared, microsite launched

TO (2020-2030)

Serve as Trusted Authority
- Collection of volume data and leveraging across the industry to guide choices towards preferred synthetics
- Create a gap analysis of the impact data currently available for synthetic fibers
- Provide guidance and leadership on the preferred synthetics category

Accelerate Uptake
- Lead industry challenges to accelerate uptake in preferred synthetics
    - Expand challenges within Synthetics category
- Increase adoption of standards to connect to uptake of preferred synthetics and Climate+ impacts

Convene Solutions
- Round Tables which convene the industry to execute tangible actions that drive measurable impact reduction and achieve goals and vision
    - Revisit and redefine the scope of the RTs in the Synthetics Fiber and Materials category
- Aligning with partners to promote and provide platforms for the industry to collaborate

Goals & Aspirations

What this means for synthetic fibers & materials

Short-Term (2025): Drive uptake of preferred synthetic fibers to 45% (in alignment with UNFCCC rPET Challenge). Set the direction of travel for the synthetics category and define preferred synthetics for the industry.

Long-Term (2030): Accelerated uptake of preferred synthetic fibers. All synthetic fibers used in the industry are coming from preferred sources. Infrastructure to support truly circular models to be implemented and ensure no materials are ending as waste or causing environmental harm.

Vision: Synthetic fiber production is driving beneficial impact, through preferred fiber choice and circular recycling options. No new virgin fossil-based synthetics are entering the supply chain and all materials are coming from a recycled or regenerative source. Materials are created to support recycling processes, within defined thresholds.

How will we achieve our goals and priorities?

Textile Exchange will leverage / build 3 unique value drivers to focus and execute strategy for members and stakeholders:

Trusted Authority / Measure

- Measure: Conduct research to inform impact indicators.
- Measure: Identify fiber volume and impacts in partnership with Accountability and Climate+ teams.

Accelerator

- Set industry fiber targets and goals to achieve climate+ goals.
- Identify fiber solutions to achieve climate+ targets.

Convener

- Align industry on climate+ fiber action plans through RTs and strategic fiber partnerships and programs
- Leverage RTs to align industry on climate+ best practices and reduction focused action plans

Value Drivers to achieve Synthetics Strategy

Trusted Authority/Measure

- Define preferred synthetics for Textile Exchange
- Leverage volume data on synthetics to support and guide towards preferred choices
- Identify barriers and opportunities for the supply and demand for rPET
- Create a gap analysis for impact data on synthetics
- Publish Biosynthetics whitepaper
- Develop internal and external guidance on a synthetic's glossary, terminology and Textile Exchange positions

Value Drivers to achieve Synthetics Strategy

Accelerating Uptake

- Future roadmap for rPET Challenge
- Work with members and Signatories on best practices and how to accelerate uptake of preferred synthetics
- Support the Standards team on the development of GRS and the Unified Standard

Value Drivers to achieve Synthetics Strategy

Convening for Solutions

- Revisit and redefine the Synthetic Fiber & Materials Round Tables
- Define the R&Rs for Advisory Groups in Synthetics RTs
- Develop clear deliverables and workplans for each RT in 2022 and beyond
- Establish engagement with external partners on key synthetics topics

Each of us has the power to create a more responsible fashion and textile industry.

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Questions?

Contact:

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