

# LIEBAERT'S SUSTAINABILITY APPROACH

## INTRODUCTION

Conducting a business with integrity and respect towards our environment and our personnel has always been a part of the Liebaert DNA. We believe 'premium' is a title that should be earned over and over again. It follows that our commitment should go beyond the boundaries of our own enterprise. Through our sustainable business development we try and show this commitment and make sure that the next generations are able to live in the same environment as we did.

Each year, we confidently invest over a million euro in cutting-edge technologies which help us decrease our ecologic footprint. But we don't stop there, together with our suppliers we are constantly looking for ways to decrease our impact on the environment. That's why we created our sustainable ECO fabrics made out of 100% recycled PA yarns. Today, Liebaert is one of the only companies in the industry to have an ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 certificate.

## ECO-FABRICS

Our ECO fabrics are made out of RECONYLON, a Nylon yarn that is produced out of 100% pre-consumer waste and meets all our requirements in terms of sustainability and quality standards.

The RECONYLON yarn is GRS approved and generates only 53% of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of a standard nylon 6 production. By combining this yarn with our unique expertise we were able to develop high quality and eco-friendly fabrics for different applications.

Our ECO fabrics can be found in all of our collections and across all our product groups.

## SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Water - Liebaert is one of the very few European companies that has its own water purification installation to purify the water used during our processes. The purified water meets the highest environmental requirements. Every year we purify around 133.000 cubic meters of water which is the equivalent of 1.1 million baths.

Air - By purifying the mixture of air and oil that is created during our production process, we decrease our carbon dioxide emission to 0%. By Investing in new machinery and using the best raw materials on the market we are able to decrease our carbon footprint every year.

Electricity - Our new production site is fitted with state of the art solar panels able to produce up to 250.000 KWH per year: Enough to provide 80 average-sized households of electricity for an entire year.

Waste - Every year multiple tons of paper, plastic and glass are recycled. We recently started a new project to re-use fabrics which contain small errors to make products, such as bags and laptop covers.

People - The lack of textile schools in Europe have had a huge impact on the European textile industry. We believe it's our mission to continue to teach people the art of knitting and weaving to ensure the future of European textiles. For this reason we created the Liebaert training academy which concentrates on not only improving the skills of our talented staff, but teaching students and customers the complexity and beauty of our craft.

#### AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS

- ISO 9001 certified
- ISO 14001 certified
- ISO 50001 certified
- OEKOTEX Standard 100 certified
- REACH Compliant
- Selected for the "TechTextil Frankfurt 2019 Sustainability Program"

#### PROJECT BAWEAR

Beginning of 2019 Liebaert entered into project BAWEAR. The project's goal was to give a complete insight in the ecologic footprint of our products and our supply chain. Our suppliers and production process were analyzed from top to bottom conform the ISO 14040/44 Life cycle assessment standard. Through this analysis we are able to provide our customers with concrete data on the total ecologic footprint of our products and are able to measure the ecologic impact of certain changes in our production process or supply chain.