



Sustainable Apparel and Textiles Conference

How brands can transform factories, increase transparency and implement circularity in fashion and textile supply chains

9th-10th April 2019, Amsterdam

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For more information on speaking, sponsoring or attending please contact Tanya Richard
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Confirmed speakers so far:

- **ASOS**, Tara Luckman, head of sustainable sourcing
- **Hugo Boss**, Andreas R. Streubig, director global sustainability
- **Sustainable Apparel Coalition**, Baptiste Carriere-Pradal, vice president, transparency
- **VF Corp.**, Anna Maria Rugarli, senior director, sustainability & responsibility, EMEA
- **Puma**, Stefan Seidel, head of corporate sustainability
- **Fenix Outdoor Group**, Aiko Body, group chief sustainability officer
- **ESPRIT**, Sara Bermúdez Couto, head of product safety & environmental sustainability
- **G-Star RAW**, Frouke Bruinsma, corporate responsibility & communications director
- **H&M**, Anna-Karin Sundelius, strategy lead circular
- **Marks & Spencer**, Phil Townsend, sustainable raw materials specialist
- **Inditex**, Alfred Vernis Domenech, sustainability academic director
- **C&A**, Aleix Busquets Gonzalez, global head of external stakeholder engagement, global sustainability
- **Veja**, co-founder and managing director, François-Ghislain Morillion
- **Fashion for Good**, Katrin Ley, managing director
- **Asia Pacific Rayon (APR)**, Cherie Tan, vice president, communications and sustainability
- **Sustainability Agents (SUSA)**, Sebastian Siegele, managing director
- **C&A Foundation**, Lee Risby, head of effective philanthropy
- **CottonConnect**, Alison Ward, CEO
- **Circle Economy**, Gwen Cunningham, program lead, circle textiles program
- **Fairtrade**, Subindu Garkhel, cotton and textiles lead
- **CottonConnect**, Arvind Rewal, regional director south Asia
- **Oxfam**, Sabita Banerji, advisor
- **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**, Sabine Schlorke, global manufacturing manager
- **Carbon Trust**, Pauline Op De Beeck, fashion sector lead and client manager
- **DyeCoo**, CEO, Reinier Mommaal
- **Earthworm Foundation**, Boris Saraber, chief operating officer
- **Denim Expert Ltd. (Bangladesh)**, Mostafiz Uddin, managing director
- **Re:newcell**, Mattias Jonsson, CEO
- **Bank & Vogue**, Steven Bethell, co-founder
- **Sustainability Agents (SUSA)**, Jenice Hartmann, manager CSR and capacity building programmes
- **PEFC International**, Antonio Brunori, secretary general for PEFC Italy
- **Canopy**, Nicole Rycroft, founder and executive director
- **Fair Wear Foundation**, Margreet Vrieling, associate director
- **Wageningen University**, Kim Poldner, Professor in Circular Business
- **Indorama (WellMan International)**, Edmund Ingle, CEO
- **Samil Vina Co., Ltd**, I.B.Park, General Director
- **Idh**, Sibbe Krol, Senior Program Manager, Apparel and Electronics
- **Apparel Impact Institute**, Una Harcinovic, Mill Improvement Program Director

DAY 1 – 9th April 2019

09.00-10.00 **Opening debate: Who is leading who in sustainable fashion – consumers or brands?**

Brands such as Everlane, Reformation and Patagonia were built on the foundation of sustainability and have these values at their core. Other mainstream companies have released full collections and lines centered around organic, sustainable and recycled fabrics. But what's prompted these mainstream brands to launch lines with sustainability as a focal point? Have brands noticed a consumer trend and met a marketing opportunity? Or are they taking a lead and encouraging more ethical purchasing?

This session will debate this, and will look at what is likely to drive the next step change in sustainable fashion, the brand or the consumer.

Anna Maria Rugarli, senior director, sustainability & responsibility, EMEA, **VF Corp.**

Aiko Bode, group chief sustainability officer, **Fenix Outdoor Group**

Sabine Schlorke, global manufacturing manager, **IFC**

Moderator: Toby Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

10.00-10.30 *Break*

10.30-11.30 **How transparency can build trust and scale impact across textile supply chains**

The logic is simple. Companies that aren't transparent will lose the trust of their customers. According to Fashion Revolution, transparency is trending. In their 2018 Fashion Transparency Index, 55 out of the 150 brands included have published a complete list of their tier 1 factories.

In this session, we will discuss:

- What to do with the influx of supply chain data once it has been collected
- How brands can best communicate the social and environmental impact of their operations through radical transparency
- With so many brands sharing supply chain data, can sector-wide initiatives can be scaled?

Andreas R. Streubig, director global sustainability, **Hugo Boss**

Mostafiz Uddin, managing director, **Denim Expert Ltd. (Bangladesh)**

Alison Ward, CEO, **CottonConnect**

Sebastian Siegele, managing director, **Sustainability Agents (SUSA)**

Moderator: Ian Welsh, publishing director, **Innovation Forum**

11.30-12.30 **Fighting climate change in the apparel sector: Are science-based targets actually impacting company strategy and practices?**

The apparel industry accounts for 10% of global carbon emissions and fashion emissions are predicted to increase by over 60% in the next 12 years. With the recent aspirational ambition to keep temperature increases below 1.5°C, the fashion industry needs to reconsider how its operations can be carried out within these planetary limits.

In this session, we will look at how fashion and textile brands have been applying science based targets to their company strategy and how these can be scaled.

- What are some examples of companies effectively using science-based targets in their strategy?
- What other methods are at your disposal to reduce your climate impacts?
- How can the fashion industry innovate without compromising nature?

Sara Bermúdez Couto, head of product safety and environmental sustainability, **ESPRIT**

François-Xavier Morvan, sustainability performance senior manager, **Kering**

Pauline Op De Beeck, fashion sector lead and client manager, **Carbon Trust**

Moderator: Lee Risby, head of effective philanthropy, **C&A Foundation**

12.30-13.30 *Lunch*

13.30-14.30 **Breakouts**

Empowering the 85%: The role of business in empowering female garment workers

There are 40 million garment workers in the world today, of which roughly 85% are women. Research by Fashion Revolution shows that gender-based inequality is still a major problem across the industry. This session will provide insight into the daily realities facing women in the garment industry, and how brands can empower women through projects that further their participation at the workplace. An interactive session will help to illustrate the power of participation for women's empowerment.

Sebastian Siegele, managing director, **Sustainability Agents (SUSA)**

Jenice Hartmann, manager CSR and capacity building programmes, **Sustainability Agents (SUSA)**

Engaging factories in sustainability: Best practice and lessons learned

By working with factories to improve energy efficiency, brands can reduce emissions down the supply chain, and save money while doing so. Win-win? Maybe, but this is easier said than done. In this session, we'll look into specific case studies where brands have successfully engaged factories. We'll look for the clear, tangible results and ask how the same outcomes can be achieved at scale.

Sibbe Krol, senior program manager, apparel and electronics, **idh**

Una Harcinovic, mill improvement program director, **Apparel Impact Institute**

Moderator: Toby Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

Closing the gap: What is still standing in the way of brands implementing living wage policies

Raising wages to 'living' standards is a difficult process for brands to be implementing individually. If done collaboratively with relevant brands, retailers, manufacturers and trade unions, systems can be scaled far more effectively. This session will take an in-depth look at organisations such as ACT (Action, Collaboration, Transformation) that have been set up to improve wages through collective bargaining, better manufacturing standards and responsible purchasing practices. We will also be looking at what hasn't worked and what is still needed from brands to truly implement living wage policies.

Aleix Busquets Gonzalez, global head of external stakeholder engagement, global sustainability, **C&A**

Sabita Banerji, advisor, **Oxfam**

Margreet Vrieling, associate director, **Fair Wear Foundation**

Moderator: Ian Welsh, publishing director, **Innovation Forum**

14.30-15.30 **Breakouts**

Six years on from Rana Plaza, what real change has occurred and what are companies doing to ensure safe working conditions

As an industry that has historically relied heavily on cheap labour, the treatment and safety of workers should be at the centre of labour policies. The Rana Plaza disaster is just one of many examples of where this went wrong and a constant reminder of the importance of this work. This session will look at the leading case studies in improving working conditions and worker's rights and where some brands are still falling short of providing a healthy and safe working environment.

Subindu Garkhel, cotton and textiles lead, **Fairtrade**

H.E. Sheikh Mohammed Belal, **Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Netherlands**

Moderator: Toby Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

Traceability: How to trace, track and monitor beyond tier two

Traceability has long been identified as one of the most critical areas for the apparel industry. A company needs to know its supply chain to comprehensively assess its risks and engage in tackling them. While most brands have managed to map their tier 1 suppliers, getting further into the supply chain is a challenge.

We will discuss the key challenges facing brands in tracing beyond tier 2 and what useful and innovative solutions are already available.

Phil Townsend, sustainable raw materials specialist, **Marks & Spencer**

Alison Ward, CEO, **CottonConnect**

Katrin Ley, managing director, **Fashion for Good**

Antonio Brunori, secretary general for PEFC Italy, **PEFC International**

Moderator: Ian Welsh, publishing director, **Innovation Forum**

The business case behind sustainable fashion: What is driving a \$3tn industry to adapt and change its business model

According to recent research, brands that embrace more sustainable practices now, are more likely to be successful in the long term – but how realistic is this shift? In this session, IFC's Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Services will highlight its work in fostering a sustainable apparel sector. We will look at businesses that are effectively implementing more sustainable practices, and what their motivations and drivers are. How are companies innovating with their business models and products? What are the cost-savings potentials of sustainable investments? How are companies integrating sustainability into company culture and practices starting with their purchasing units?

Edmund Ingle, CEO, **Indorama (WellMan International)**

I.B.Park, General Director, **Samil Vina Co., Ltd**

Moderator: Sabine Schlorke, global manufacturing manager, **IFC**

15.30-16.00 *Break*

16.00-16.45 Viscose: The challenges of a truly sustainable supply chain

Market demand for viscose and other synthetic fibres has significantly outpaced the growth in demand for cotton over recent decades. Made from cellulose, derived from wood pulp typically grown from plantation trees, sustainability produced viscose offers important product and environmental benefits just as poorly produced viscose can be associated with a variety of environmental issues including deforestation.

In the absence of any recognised global production standards or approaches for verifying the sustainable production of viscose, how can end buyers distinguish between good and bad? How can NGOs, customers and the industry collaborate better to develop inclusive approaches for a viscose industry built on an integrated sustainability approach including sustainable sourcing, responsible manufacturing and corporate citizenship.

Nicole Rycroft, founder and executive director, **Canopy**

Cherie Tan, vice president, communications and sustainability, **Asia Pacific Rayon (APR)**

Boris Saraber, chief operating officer, **Earthworm Foundation**

Moderator: Toby Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

16.45-17.30 **The Higg Index: Benchmark, measure and communicate your impacts through better reporting**

Measuring and reporting impact is a way for brands to better understand their own operations, do their due diligence, and see what areas they should be focusing on. The Higg Index provides brands, retailers, and other supply chain actors with tools to accurately measure and score a company or product's sustainability performance.

This session will look at the growing importance of the Higg Index within the apparel industry and provide brands with the tools to effectively see where they stand amongst their competitors.

In this session, we'll discuss:

- Effective ways to incorporate impact data into your company reporting
- How brands can build consistency, credibility and comparability through these scores

Tara Luckman, head of sustainable sourcing, **ASOS**

Baptiste Carriere-Pradal, vice president, transparency, **Sustainable Apparel Coalition**

Moderator: Ian Welsh, publishing director, **Innovation Forum**

17.30-18.30 *Networking Drinks*

See next page for Day 2

DAY 2 – 10th April 2019

09.00-10.00 **Breaking down barriers: What are brands doing to get beyond pilot schemes and establish circularity as mainstream?**

Circularity has taken center stage in sustainable fashion within the past few years. Brands such as H&M, C&A and Gap have diligently been attempting to incorporate it into their practices with various success.

However, fast fashion is big business. An industry now worth \$1.2 trillion has largely benefited from a take-make-dispose economy. Most projects are difficult to build beyond pilot schemes and there are multiple barriers to establishing circularity as mainstream within operations.

In this session we will look to answer questions such as:

- Are these new models even viable at the scale that is required for wholesale change?
- What are the best ways to align internally to ensure different departments are on board with shifting business models?
- What have leading brands done to implement circularity effectively within their operations?

Alfred Vernis Domenech, sustainability academic director, **Inditex**

Gwen Cunningham, program lead, circle textiles program, **Circle Economy**

Moderator: Ian Welsh, publishing director, **Innovation Forum**

10.00-10.30 *Break*

10.30-11.30 **How do you truly engage and enable consumers in circular fashion?**

At present, the textile system operates in a linear way. Most pieces of clothing are only worn a couple of times and then mostly end up in landfill. For brands to move away from this business model, engaging consumers is key.

However, with the growth of cheap online fast-fashion brands, the risk is that consumers move further and further away from engaging in sustainable practices. On the other hand, Lyst recently reported a 47% increase in shoppers looking for more sustainable and ethical items.

Various company initiatives are under way. H&M and Levi's have separately partnered with I:CO to collect clothing from consumers to be reused and recycled. Patagonia also collects used items in store and offers repair services to its customers.

With a panel of specialists, we will discuss:

- What evidence is there that consumers are willing to engage in circularity?
- How brands can ensure that consumers have the information they need to make more sustainable choices
- The methods that enable consumers to participate in a straight forward, user friendly way

Anna-Karin Sundelius, strategy lead circular, **H&M**

Frouke Bruinsma, corporate responsibility and communications director, **G-Star RAW**

Kim Poldner, professor in circular business, **Wageningen University & Research**

Moderator: Toby Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

11.30-12.10 **Innovation case studies: The technologies shaping the future of apparel production**

In these sessions, we will look at case studies of technological advances at various stages of apparel and textile supply chains.

1. **Water reduction methods in textile dyeing**

Reinier Mommaal, CEO, **DyeCoo**

Nelleke Glazema, material development manager, **CleanDye**

Moderator: Tanya Richard, project director, **Innovation Forum**

2. **Recycling post-consumer blended textiles**

Mattias Jonsson, CEO, **Re:newcell**

Steven Bethell, Co-Founder, **Bank & Vogue**

Moderator: Tanya Richard, project director, **Innovation Forum**

12.10-13.10 *Lunch*

13.10-13.30 Q&A with François-Ghislain Morillion, co-founder of Veja

Veja, a company selling sneakers made from recycled plastic bottles, has practically become synonymous with 'sustainable shoes'. Since launching the brand in 2005, François-Ghislain Morillion and fellow co-founder Sebastien Kopp, have put transparency at the heart of their business. In this Q&A with François-Ghislain we will look at what was the driving force behind the brand and what he is envisioning for the future of the apparel industry.

Moderator: Ian Welsh, publishing director, **Innovation Forum**

13.30-13.50 Q&A with Stefan Seidel, head of corporate sustainability at Puma

Stefan Seidel will be sharing the company's work in the launch of the UN Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action and its efforts in reducing carbon emissions in its supply chain.

Moderator: Tanya Richard, project director, **Innovation Forum**

13.50-14.50 Looking towards the future: How will consumer expectations shift the retail environment in the next 5 years?

Consumer mindsets are changing. They are more likely than ever to base purchasing decisions on the sustainability performance of a product. With a shift in mindsets, apparel and fashion brands need to adapt production processes to keep up. But will this shift in consumer attitudes impact the retail environment in an even more drastic way? Increasingly brands, such as Patagonia and Filippa K, are incorporating resale into their offering, both instore and online. Subscription services are also continuing to grow in popularity and availability. And 3D printing has long been promised as a transformational technology.

In this closing session, we'll ask our experts to debate the most significant retail trends and how they'll be impacted by the rise of the ethical consumer.

Alfred Vernis Domenech, sustainability academic director, **Inditex**

Anna Maria Rugarli, Senior Director, Sustainability & Responsibility, EMEA, **VF Corp.**

Moderator: Toby Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

14.50-15.00 **Closing remarks**

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