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Lenzing boosts circularity and traceability through collaboration with UTEXBEL

- UTEXBEL to use TENCEL™ branded lyocell fibers with REFIBRA™ technology for security workwear of the Belgian Federal Public Service for Justice
- This collaboration will be the first time Lenzing's REFIBRA™ technology is used in the public sector, giving cotton waste a second life while also offering supply chain transparency
- Underscores Lenzing's commitment to promoting circularity and traceability in the supply chains of the public procurement sector

Lenzing – Lenzing Group, a leading global producer of wood-based specialty fibers, has joined hands with Belgium-based UTEXBEL, a vertically integrated textile group and leader in Protective Wear and Workwear fabrics, to provide uniform for security personnel of the Belgian Federal Public Service for Justice (FPS Justice), using TENCEL™ branded fibers with REFIBRA™ technology and recycled polyester.

The collaboration with Lenzing will enable UTEXBEL to provide 80,000 prison personnel shirts for FPS Justice security guards using fabric with TENCEL™ branded lyocell fibers with REFIBRA™ technology. This represents a significant milestone for Lenzing, as it is the first time TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers with REFIBRA™ technology has been used to produce garments for the public sector.

Bringing circularity and traceability to public procurement

Lenzing's pioneering REFIBRA™ technology involves upcycling cotton scraps from garment production and combining them with wood pulp to produce new virgin TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers with REFIBRA™ technology. The fibers are identifiable in yarns, fabrics and final garments, owing to Lenzing's innovative fiber identification technology. This technology enables full traceability of the fiber and is designed to confirm fiber origin, adding to the supply chain transparency of the final product.

"We're delighted to extend our partnership with UTEXBEL to bring circularity and traceability to public procurement. The EU has been pushing strongly for responsible design and use of raw materials in textiles, so it is exciting to see that this has reached the public sector with FPS Justice. While we rely on private sector consumers to adopt a personal sense of responsibility, the authorities can make a strong impact by mandating

sustainability in public tenders,” said Alexandra Steger, Business Development Workwear, Lenzing AG. “By utilizing TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers with REFIBRA™ technology, UXTEBEL is able to reduce the use of new resources and create Workwear products that are more sustainable yet durable and comfortable at the same time.” Steger added.

“We see sustainability as a key priority and are working on several cooperative projects with our partners in the fields of sustainable development, quality and logistics,” said Henk Vandendriessche, Area Manager at UTEXBEL. “We are proud to partner with Lenzing on a collaboration which represents a milestone in advocating sustainability in public procurement as we continue to develop, produce and offer the best yarns and fabrics to cater for all needs, respecting the environment and the well-being of both the workers and the end-users.”

Commitment to creating solutions through industry partnerships

Implementing sustainability in public procurement is still at an early stage. While tenders in the past focused strongly on performance and price, sustainability and traceability are becoming a priority driven by recent European legislations. Lenzing has always been committed to promoting sustainability and delivering value to its customers through innovative fiber solutions. To play a more prominent role in supporting the development of the Workwear industry, Lenzing will continue to collaborate with partners and organizations that support similar goals and care for the environment in the same way.

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About TENCEL™

TENCEL™ is the flagship brand under The Lenzing Group that covers textile specialty product fiber offerings. Since 1992, the TENCEL™ brand has been driving the evolution of fiber solutions for the apparel and home textile segments through several industry-first innovations and environmentally responsible production processes. Product brands under TENCEL™ include TENCEL™ Active, TENCEL™ Denim, TENCEL™ Home, TENCEL™ Intimate, TENCEL™ Luxe and TENCEL™ for Footwear.

Featuring botanic origin and biodegradable quality, TENCEL™ branded modal and lyocell fibers are also gentle on skin with smooth, long-lasting softness, color vibrancy and color retention features. TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are versatile and can be combined with a wide range of textile fibers to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of fabrics. Through moisture management, TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers can also absorb moisture efficiently. Offering endless design possibilities, TENCEL™ Modal fibers can be blended with other fibers and processed using conventional machinery, significantly improving the softness and comfort of fabrics.

Fibers and filaments used under the TENCEL™ brand are derived from certified and controlled sources following the stringent guidelines of the Lenzing Wood and Pulp Policy. They are produced via environmentally responsible production processes and are compostable and

biodegradable, thus can fully revert back to nature. They are designated by the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) BioPreferred® Program. TENCEL™ Luxe is registered by The Vegan Society.

About LENZING™

LENZING™ is the specialty industrial brand under the Lenzing Group. The brand is leading industry standards in sustainability to provide smart solutions from botanic origins that offer advanced performance and are made in environmentally sound production processes. Fibers under the LENZING™ brand are biodegradable and derived from semi-natural forests and sustainably managed plantations, as proved by FSC® or PEFC™ certification.

The LENZING™ brand's solutions cover a range of industrial applications under branded offers LENZING™ for Automotive Interiors, LENZING™ for Protective Wear, LENZING™ for Workwear, LENZING™ for Packaging, LENZING™ for Agriculture, LENZING™ for Engineered Products, LENZING™ for Biorefinery and Co-Products. The solutions feature fiber types LENZING™ Lyocell, LENZING™ Modal, and LENZING™ Viscose. LENZING™ solutions are developed using innovative technologies such as FR technology, REFIBRA™ technology, Eco Soft technology, and Eco Color technology.

About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for ecologically responsible production of specialty fibers made from the renewable raw material wood. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner of global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments.

The Lenzing Group's high-quality fibers form the basis for a variety of textile applications ranging from elegant clothing to versatile denims and high-performance sports clothing. Due to their consistent high quality, their biodegradability and compostability Lenzing fibers are also highly suitable for hygiene products and agricultural applications.

The business model of the Lenzing Group goes far beyond that of a traditional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, creating added value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for the efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials and offers solutions to help redirect the textile sector towards a closed-loop economy. In order to reduce the speed of global warming and to accomplish the targets of the Paris Climate Agreement and the "Green Deal" of the EU Commission, Lenzing has a clear vision: namely to make a zero-carbon future come true.

Key Facts & Figures Lenzing Group 2021

Revenue: EUR 2.19 bn

Nominal capacity: 1,145,000 tonnes

Number of employees (headcount): 7,958

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