

News Release



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Textile Exchange launches Accelerating Circularity Project to help reduce Textile Waste

Lubbock, Texas | March 10, 2020 – Textile Exchange is launching a project to help reduce textile waste, called the Accelerating Circularity Project.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the textile industry and consumers create 15 million tons of textile waste annually in the United States alone. This project will help research and map how the industry could move from a “take, make, waste” system to a circular one, in order to avoid the massive amounts of textile waste put into landfills annually. The Walmart Foundation has given Textile Exchange a grant to support this important work. The support will allow the Accelerating Circularity Project to begin researching, mapping and identifying links that develop new models for scalable and cost-effective circular textile-to-textile supply chains. The goal of this work is to increase the use of recycled fibers, decrease textile waste and reduce the industry’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The Accelerating Circularity Project will:

1. Research the availability of textile waste, waste management stakeholders, and the recycling landscape;
2. Map how fibers flow through the textile industry and recycling needs and gaps in the system;
3. Link appropriate recycling technologies compatible with fiber waste;
4. Map how all of these connect to rewire existing textile supply chains for circularity.

This work will provide the industry with the knowledge to enable transformation from a take-make-waste model to a circular textile supply chain. This project aligns with Textile Exchange’s mission as a global non-profit that works closely with members to drive industry transformation in preferred fibers, integrity and standards, and responsibility supply networks.

“Textile Exchange is excited that we are able to facilitate the work of the Accelerating Circularity Project. We believe that aligning and supporting important industry initiatives through close collaborations is what it takes to make significant changes required of our industry to bring scalable sustainable change,” said La Rhea Pepper, Managing Director of Textile Exchange.

Accelerating Circularity will be publishing the results of their work on a regular basis. To stay informed on this project, visit Accelerating Circularity on Twitter at [@AccCircularity](https://twitter.com/AccCircularity) or AcceleratingCircularity.org and [@TextileExchange](https://twitter.com/TextileExchange) and visit TextileExchange.org.

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About Textile Exchange

Textile Exchange is a global nonprofit that creates leaders in the sustainable fiber and materials industry. The organization manages and promotes a suite of leading industry standards, as well as, collects and publishes critical industry data and insights that enable brands and retailers to measure, manage and track their use of preferred fiber and materials. With more than 400 members who represent leading brands, retailers and suppliers, Textile Exchange meaningfully accelerates the use of preferred fibers and increases the adoption of standards and certifications across the global textile industry. To learn more about Textile Exchange, visit: [TextileExchange.org](https://www.TextileExchange.org). Follow us on Twitter at @TextileExchange.