

Environmental Working Group - Newsletter

Quarterly EWG Updates

July 2014

Issue 2

ZERO DISCHARGE OF HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS - ZDHC



Helping to lead our industry towards zero discharge of hazardous chemicals

Since the 1990s, many apparel and footwear companies have been working on the restriction of harmful substances in products. In support of this, industry organizations have been working collaboratively for the past decade to harmonize product standards and communicate these standards throughout the supply chain. While these efforts have achieved great progress, it is clear that it is essential for brands to consider more than just controlling restricted chemicals in products.

In 2011, the ZDHC (The Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals programme) formed to catalyze positive change in the discharge of hazardous chemicals across the product life cycle.

The ZDHC programme's mission is highly ambitious and sets a new standard of environmental performance for the global apparel and footwear industry. Moving towards the goal of zero discharge of hazardous chemicals from the production of apparel, footwear, and accessory goods, will be an enormous challenge.

The first Joint Roadmap, released in November 2011, identified the areas in which ZDHC members could collaborate to conduct research and take action, moving the group towards our 2020 goal of zero discharge of hazardous chemicals.

For the first year of work, the group identified projects in seven main categories:

- Benchmarking and Phase Out
- Water Repellency
- Chemical Identification and Hazard Assessment
- "Green" Chemistry
- Audit Protocol
- Joint Training
- Disclosure

To know more about the projects in each of these categories, specific timelines and milestones set by the group kindly visit the website:

Most Recent Update

The ZDHC group has recently published the first Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL) for apparel and footwear Industries on the 5th of June 2014.

The MRSL addresses hazardous substances potentially used and discharged into the environment during manufacturing and related processes, not just those substances that could be present in finished products.

To get a detailed list of chemicals in the MRSL, [Click here](#)

COLUMBIA SPORTSWEAR, GAP, PVH, H&M, CARREFOUR, NIKE, , BESTSELLER, WAL-MART

Calibration Session On Chemical Management

Recently, the EWG had organized a calibration session for all the BEWG members. The session was conducted by Dr. Siva Kumar Pariti, Global Audit Manager of Sustainable Textile Solutions . Dr. Siva has a vast experience on Chemicals and is working closely with the ZDHC Group.

Topics like requirements for Chemical storage and handling, Importance of Secondary containment, Adequate use and storage of PPE's, Best practices of Chemical Procurement were covered in the session .

The EWG Group takes this opportunity to thank the management of Gokaldas Exports—Unit GG3, for all the support and co-operation extended during the Group's factory visit .



News at a glance

The new Companies Act, 2013, has made it mandatory for companies to be socially responsible by introducing the 'corporate social responsibility' (CSR) regime. Section 135 of the new Companies Act, read with the CSR Rules, mandates companies meeting certain criteria to set aside two per cent of their net profits for undertaking and promoting socially beneficial activities and projects in India. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) recently issued the CSR Rules, 2014, to implement this legislative mandate, which come into effect on April 1, 2014 - [Responsible Business India](#)

A World Bank study shows that nearly 1.2 to 2 million tonnes of food grain production is lost in India every year due to waterlogging. It further states that almost 1.93% of the total command area being served by major and medium irrigation projects in the country, is waterlogged. As per the Ministry of Water Resources, the Centre gives Rs. 25,000/hectare to farmers facing waterlogging issues and nearly 78 thousand hectares of area have been already reclaimed by the Government - [India Water Portal](#)

What's New ?

Do we know what is the biggest threat to humanity and nature and what is the role being played by a leading conservation group in addressing this cause ? [\(Click here\)](#)

How can we be responsible living beings on this planet—Read a few concrete things we can do , to help our Living Planet ! [\(Click here\)](#)

Looking for change over to Renewable sources of Energy ? Here are 10 Things you should know about investment in Renewable Energy [\(Click here\)](#)

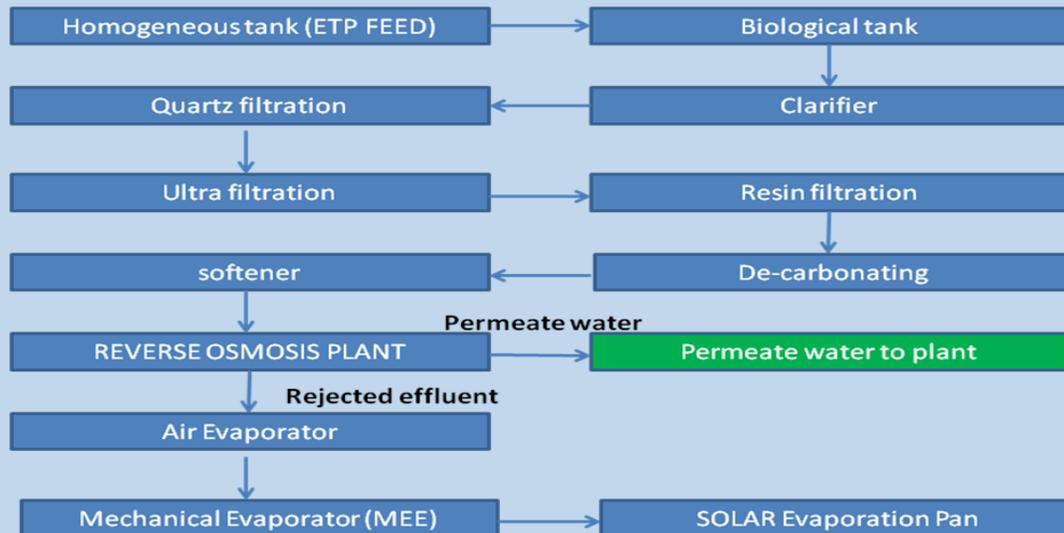
Did you Know

- Some lipstick contains lead acetate or sugar of lead. This toxic lead compound makes the lipstick taste sweet.
- You've lost about 1% of your body's water by the time you feel thirsty.
- The chemical name for water (H₂O) is dihydrogen monoxide.

Suppliers Voice

Vardhman A&E threads excels with Zero Discharge ETP in Perundurai, Tamilnadu

Effluent treatment plant process flow



Vardhman Textile has a joint venture for sewing threads operations in India with American & Effird, A&E, one of the world's leading manufacturers of sewing, embroidery and technical textile threads for global industrial markets. The Vardhman A&E Threads has always strived to achieve the highest level of sustainability compliance through eco-driven initiatives.

Vardhman A&E Threads is equipped with the state of the art ETP unit constructed with American and Italian technologies at their manufacturing plant in Perundurai, Tamilnadu. The unit is reusing 90-93% of water in the dye house while the remaining 7-10% reject is being evaporated through air, mechanical and solar evaporators to save energy. Vardhman has Effluent treatment plant (ETP) to treat the trade effluent and a Sewage treatment plant (STP) to treat domestic waste water separately.

Average requirement of water for Process is 300 KLD and for Domestic usage it is 22 KLD. The total usage is 322 KLD. Out of this, 92% (276 KLD) of process water is recovered. The remaining quantity of water for process and domestic use to the tune of 46 KL (24 KL make-up for process and 22 KL for domestic purposes) is procured from local sources on daily basis. The total recycled water used per day is 286 KL (276 KL from RO and 10 KL from STP).

The cost of water is Rs. 40/- per KL from outside agency and hence the cost saving on usage of recycled water can be calculated at around Rs. 11440/- per day (The treatment cost for RO and STP to be considered).

Source: Vardhman A&E threads