



# Ecodesign in the Textile Sector

## Unit 04: Mandatory and voluntary requirements in the EU and in the world



# TYPE OF RISK IN THE TEXTILE AND FASHION SECTOR

Within the textile sector, three types of risk can be identified:

- **Mechanical:** expected possibility that, under normal conditions of use and maintenance, a level of potential danger for the physical integrity of the user is reached through the use of the article or parts of it.
- **Heat and flame:** expected possibility that, under normal conditions of use and maintenance, a potential danger may be created for the physical integrity of the user in the form of "thermal stress" and in relation to the development and spread of flames.
- **Chemical:** expected possibility that, under normal conditions of use and maintenance, through exposure due to contact with the skin and mucous membranes, to inhalation or to ingestion, a danger for the end user of a given chemical or set of several chemicals or a combination thereof, contained in the textile product or its appendages.



# REFERENCE STANDARDS FOR TEXTILE SAFETY

## Reference legislative framework:

- General obligation of product safety:
  - At European level: General Product Safety Directive (SGP) n. 2001/95/EC
  - At Italian level: Codice del consumo D.Lgs 206/2005
- EN harmonized standards:
  - Consisting of UNI/ISO voluntary technical standards and technical standards of other countries
- Use of chemicals:
  - REACH Regulation 1907/2006/EC
  - Regulation CLP 1272/2008



# REACH REGULATION

- **SVHC:** substances of a very high concern that have very serious effects on humans. The REACH regulation aims to ensure the control of risks resulting from the use of SVHCs and the substitution of substances, where possible.
- **Annex XIV:** substances with a high level of risk are subject to evaluation by the European Community and gradually included in Annex XIV of the REACH Regulation passing from the list of SVHC (Candidate List). Once inserted in this Annex, they can not be placed on the market or used from a certain date unless the company is granted an authorization by ECHA.
- **Annex XVII:** contains a list of substances whose production and placing on the market is limited or prohibited. These substances are considered to constitute an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.



## OTHER REGULATIONS OF THE TEXTILE SECTOR

Outside Europe there are several mandatory regulations whose requests must be met in order to market their products within various markets.

- **Cina:** the GB Standard 18401 (2010) has set requirements regarding the textile product so that it can be marketed within its own country.
- **California:** Proposition 65 - Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act - 1986. It requires companies with ten or more employees to clearly and reasonably warn consumers of possible exposure to carcinogenic or teratogenic chemicals and also prohibit their discharge in groundwater or drinking water.
- **USA:** the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (2008) limits the levels of hazardous substances and imposes certain requirements for testing and documentation.

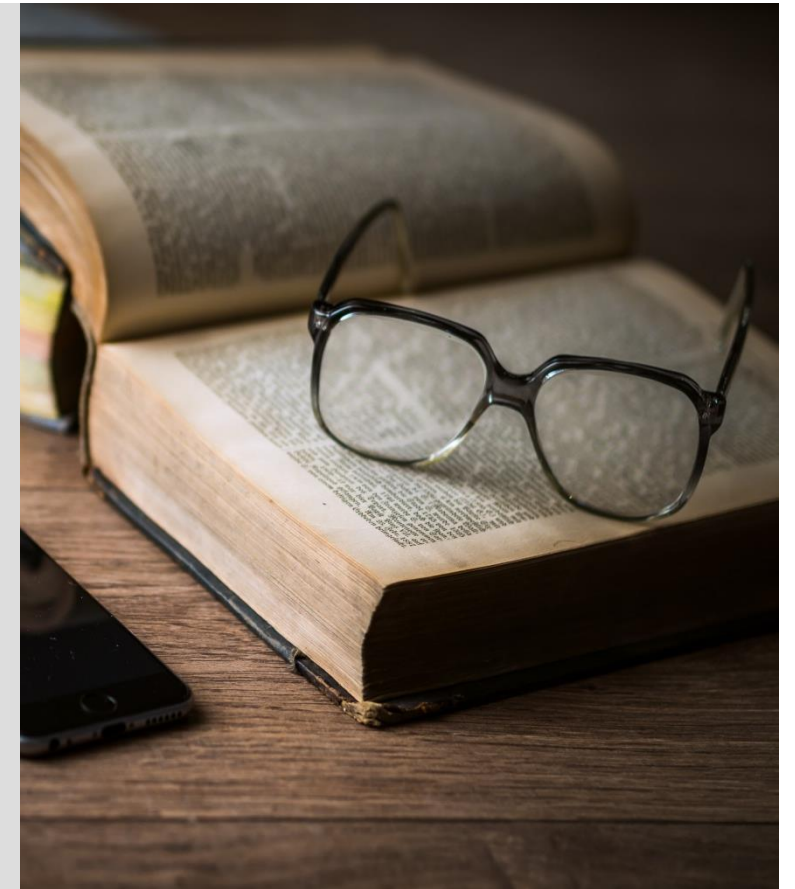


## CUSTOMER SPECIFICATIONS (RSL –RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES LIST):

The increasingly widespread sensitivity to consumer's health and respect for the environment, has meant that the requests related to products are not limited to only mandatory regulations.

The most virtuous companies have begun to require more stringent requirements than mandatory ones and, sometimes, additional requirements to those cogent, which were able to show the high quality of the product, in particular with regard to the compatibility and respect the environment.

These requests are formalized in documents that take the name of PRSL, the Product Restricted Substances List, or the product specifications.

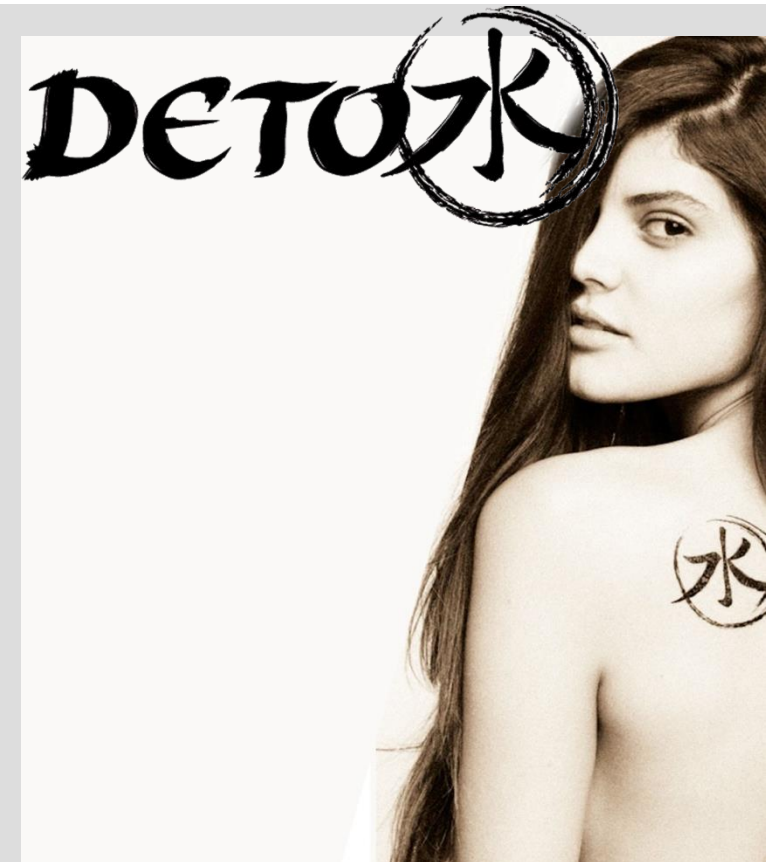


## GREENPEACE DETOX CAMPAIGN:

The DETOX campaign was launched in 2011 and it is a Greenpeace project that aims to bring "zero" discharges by 2020, eliminating the use of all dangerous substances, evaluating all sources of release: discharges, emissions and any pollution. Joining DETOX means taking a global commitment.

To achieve this, companies must:

- Implement a policy on the use of chemistry that no longer uses toxic compounds and identifies clear and realistic deadlines to eliminate them;
- Respond promptly to this emergency with an active action, giving priority to those particularly dangerous substances with the aim of eliminating them immediately;
- Recognize the importance of transparency and the right to information by publishing data on the elimination of hazardous substances.



Thank you

# Ecodesign in the Textile Sector

Unit 04: Mandatory and voluntary requirements in the EU and in the world