

# ONESOURCE | IML

Uniform And Textile Programs  
Full Circle Sustainability





## UNIFORMS AND TEXTILE PROGRAMS:

# *Full Circle Sustainability*

**SUSTAINABILITY** is the idea of recognizing that the environment is an exhaustible resource that we must protect and use rationally.

How can company uniforms and textile programs become more sustainable?

**FULL CIRCLE** is the concept of “closing the loop” meaning that unwearable or unusable textile items are put back into production via new recycling streams.

How can we collect and reuse items that have reached the end of their lifecycle?



## Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

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“The pandemic year has taught us that Sustainability is not just about tackling environmental risks but much more. It is about creating resilience into infrastructure, and this is where the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) conversation comes into play.

There is a heightened social, corporate, governmental, and consumer attention on the impact of corporations. The US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) recently stated that corporate disclosures on Environmental, Social and Governance ESG issues will be a high priority for them.

Investors are looking for a strong ESG proposition to protect their interests and the company’s success. The fine line between doing good and what is profitable is fast diminishing. According to the SEC, efforts to maximize the bottom line and the pursuit of the public interest are complementary.”

- Sphera (a leader in ESG consulting) April 12, 2021



## The PET (plastic bottle) problem

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The production and transportation process of making plastic bottles from PET (polyethylene terephthalate) requires millions of barrels of crude oil and releases harmful pollutants into our environment.

Billions of plastic bottles are produced each year and most end up in our dumps, landfills, and in our oceans. Plastic bottles take over 700 years to decompose.

PET does not biodegrade but instead breaks down into smaller fragments over time. Those fragments absorb toxins that pollute our waterways, contaminate our soil, and sicken animals (which we eat).



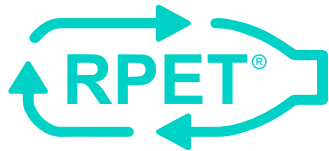
## RPET (Recycled Plastic Bottles)

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When PET is recycled, it is ground up into flakes or made into pellets. This recycled polyethylene terephthalate, or RPET, is a plastic that can be used to make similar products as PET.

RPET can be used to create new products but requires a lot less energy and creates a much lower level of harmful pollutants.

Utilizing RPET makes use of millions of disposed plastic bottles already in existence.





## PROGRAM OVERVIEW



**EMPHASIZE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY** - Build Awareness, Be a positive influence, Make an impact; Understand Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG).

**HIGHER RECYCLED CONTENT** - Garments utilizing 25% - 50% RPET (which comes from recycled plastic bottles). This includes “eco-friendly” finishes for stain resistance, water repellent, etc.

**CONTROLLED COSTS** - Much more in line with standard “non-recycled” garments. Typically recycled garments have been at a “Premium Cost”.

**CLOSED LOOP** - Build a systemized process for getting the garments back once they reach the end of their life-cycle. Everything goes back into production of new garments.

**PROMOTE THE EFFORT** - With Official RPET “Alliance” trademark logos used for inside and/or outside garment branding



## RPET CLOTHING



**What Can Be Done With RPET?** RPET can be used to make a wide range of plastic products as well as all types of polyester fabrics. These fabrics can be used to make a variety of clothing and textile items.

When RPET is used to make polyester fabric, it lessens our dependence on crude oil. The RPET fabric is **identical to regular polyester in all features except for one: rather than being made from crude oil, RPET is made from plastic bottles.**

RPET polyester fabric is lightweight, quick drying and durable – making it a top contender for the manufacture of workwear and company uniforms. **Companies who pride themselves on finding more sustainable ways of producing or consuming products can rely on RPET to help meet their sustainability goals.**

By “closing the loop” we are able to promote new recycling streams for clothing that is no longer wearable or useable.



Our group has stayed ahead of such regulation changes; in this particular case with the renewably sourced finish TEFLON EcoElite. It is through our vertical integration, and the build of strong alliances that we are able to help your business excel in this ever changing market.





## TEFLON® EcoElite™ FINISH

All treated fabrics will incorporate Teflon® EcoElite™ renewably sourced bio-based finishes.

Our Group is an exclusive licensee of RPET fabric and Teflon® EcoElite™

Teflon EcoElite is the first highly renewably sourced finish on the market:

- Based on non-fluorinated, biobased content  $\geq 50\%$  : **Zelan™ R3**
- Focused on outdoor fabrics, excellent water repellency spray rating after 20 washes.
- Up to 3X more durable than existing non-fluorinated repellents
- Consistent quality on a variety of fabrics
- Superior technical support
- Strong consumer preference



## RPET ALLIANCE

The RPET ALLIANCE was created to simplify the entire process of sourcing, delivering, and recycling RPET clothing and ensuring all constituents are “RPET Certified”.

With complete vertical integration we manage the entire supply chain and all related services beginning with the manufacturing of the actual fibers until the garments are recycled and put back into production.





## *Our Solution is simple*

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Our goal is to empower companies that see the value of utilizing RPET and help them lead the way in how they implement sustainable uniform and textile programs.





THANK YOU

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