

PRESS RELEASE

Mahlo GmbH + Co. KG is a new supporter of the bluesign® standard



St.Gallen, September 17, 2008

St.Gallen, Schweiz - bluesign technologies ag announces cooperation with Mahlo GmbH + Co. KG. In the future Mahlo will endorse the systematic of the bluesign® standard as a bluesign® supporter with a focus on process optimisation and process engineering. The idea of the bluesign® standard perfectly reflects Mahlo's company philosophy. Only the "Best Available Technologies" regarding process technology, resource efficiency and product quality as well as reduction of the "environmental footprint" at the same time are supported by bluesign technologies in cooperation with Mahlo to be used in the manufacturing chain. Also inputs for new development goals for the machine industry are expected to arise from the work of bluesign technologies within the textile supply chain.

"Mahlo breaks new ground with bluesign technologies as the first system partner of the machine industry. Due to the difficulty of the large resource usage in the textile industry, bluesign technologies is very much looking forward to a strong and close cooperation with the best manufacturer of textile machines with respect to energy optimisation, reduction of water usage etc. We're very happy about this completely new aspect in our system", says Detlef Fischer, VP of bluesign technologies ag.

Robert Daul, Mahlo's managing director remarked: "I am very delighted to work together with bluesign technologies in future. We are very proud of the fact, that Mahlo has been chosen as the partner for "best available technologies". Our highly motivated, in-house trained engineers and technicians have developed and manufactured our appliances exclusively in Germany over many decades. Therefore we can guarantee quality of the highest standard. We are listening very careful to our customers individual requirements, aspirations and ideas in mind and can give our experts the direction which they require to design a new product. Mahlo's customers always get exactly what they really need."

The independent standard of textile industry

In response to consumers, who are more aware of sustainable production and harmful substances in textiles than ever, bluesign technologies ag has developed the bluesign® standard. The bluesign® standard addresses not only consumer safety aspects, but covers the complete range of environment, health and safety (EHS) issues within the entire textile manufacturing chain, namely air emission, water emission, occupational health and safety and resource management. With a particular focus on "Best Available Technology" the resource usage can significantly be reduced within the entire textile supply chain. The improved resource efficiency leads to a positive

contribution to the conservation of the environment, and the related decline in CO₂ emissions contributes to the reduction of global warming. This is exactly where this new cooperation can make a big contribution, which results in an economical benefit for the manufacturers thanks to improved resource efficiency in their manufacturing processes.

The bluesign® standard follows an opposing principle. Instead of testing the end-product, it maintains an intelligent “Input Stream Management”, i.e. it certifies chemical formulations and compounds that have been rigorously tested against harmful effects on humans and the environment. At the same time it also optimises consumption of the relevant resources water, energy and raw materials during textile manufacturing. It is a holistic approach towards the effective management of relevant resources within each single textile process of the supply chain, from fibre production to retail, from consumer until disposal.

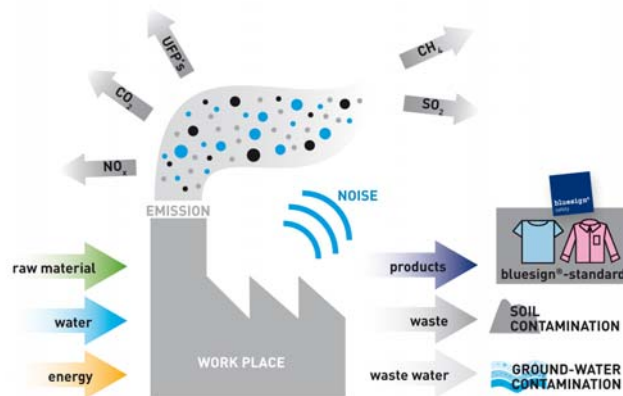


Figure 1: The Input Stream Management System of bluesign technologies ag

Background information on bluesign technologies ag

bluesign technologies ag was founded in 2000. Since then, the bluesign® standard has been adopted by different worldwide leading textile manufacturers. Various significant key players of the chemical industry rely on the bluesign® standard and endorse it as bluesign® supporters, including Huntsman Textile Effects, Clariant International Ltd., DyStar Textilfarben GmbH and CHT Group. Finally, several well-known brands of the sporting goods industry such as Patagonia Inc. (California, USA), MEC (Mountain Equipment Co-op, Canada), The North Face (California, USA) or Vaude (Germany) benefit as bluesign® members of the extensive know-how of bluesign technologies ag. Recently SGS has acquired a 50 % stake in bluesign technologies ag.

www.bluesign.com

Background information on Mahlo GmbH + Co. KG

Mahlo GmbH & Co. KG was founded in 1945, and up to now has remained a family-owned concern. Mahlo, in the tradition of a progressive, medium-sized family enterprise, knows what's what and is the world-leading provider of control and automation systems, with a worldwide network of agencies and service centres. Mahlo's products range from amongst other things systems for detection and correction of distorted materials, process-control systems (eg. for control of residual moisture, heat setting, fabric temperature) to appliances for online guiding or continuous inspection of products (faults, colour, coating, etc.).

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