

## Giorgio Armani commitment to zero discharge

November 2013

### Summary

- **Our commitment: safety of products is not enough: we aim at having an environmentally sustainable supply chain**

The Giorgio Armani group of companies works to ensure that its products are safe, in compliance with the strictest legislation, and carries out a comprehensive, state-of-the-art testing programme on its products.

We also acknowledge that the use of certain chemical substances in the manufacturing of textile and clothing products, even if not harmful for the consumers of such products, may cause release of substances into the environment where the manufacturing facilities are located. Therefore, we have decided to take positive action to address this issue by adopting a long-term sustainability programme, setting goals and promoting positive action, addressing all stages of the supply chain of our textile and clothing products.

In doing so, we recognize the value of a positive interaction between our company and many stakeholders, including our suppliers, non-governmental organizations, industry groups, governmental agencies and local communities, and will be open to co-operation with each of these in order to better define our scope and better implement our actions.

- **Our long-term sustainability programme**

Our long-term sustainability programme aims to reduce the emission of hazardous chemicals in our textiles and clothing supply chain with the final goal of eliminating all hazardous chemicals from our production procedures by 01 January 2020 (zero discharge goal).

The programme will involve both our own production facilities as well as those of third party suppliers. In respect to our third party suppliers, we will introduce contractual requirements that may be stricter than the local or international regulations (such as a RSL – Restricted Substances List), and we will implement an audit procedure to test the compliance to our programme and objectives.

- **Our action plan**

#### **Alkylphenols (APEs); alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEOs)**

Armani Group wants initiate an investigation into the current compliance to this requirement, and simultaneously strengthening our supplier contract language to ensure only APEO-free chemical formulations are utilized by 2015

#### **PFCs: perfluorocarbons/polyfluorinated compounds**

Armani Group wants initiate an investigation into our current level of compliance with this requirement, while simultaneously strengthening supplier contract language to reduce all PFC use, with the scope to definitely eliminate PFC no later than 31 December 2015

## **Phthalates**

Our target is to ensure that there is no use of such substances across our supply chain, and to this end we will enforce supply agreements providing that only chemical formulations not containing phthalates banned by Armani's RSL are utilized in relation to our products by no later than 1st July 2015.

## **Long-term sustainability programme updates**

We will review our action plan on a yearly basis and will adhere to the industry's best standards, updating our restricted substances list and our deadlines.

In particular, our scope is to eliminate the following classes of substances by the year 2020: alkylphenols, phthalates, brominated and chlorinated flame retardants, azo dyes, organotin compounds, perfluorinated chemicals, chlorobenzenes, chlorinated solvents, chlorophenols, short chain chlorinated paraffins, and heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, mercury and chromium. To this end, by the end of 2015 we will be considering the available alternatives to such substances.

In line with progress and development within the industry, we will consider and publish case studies encouraging the substitution of the most used chemical substances with more sustainable new substances.

## **Accountability**

We will work to ensure that our work is accountable, and will launch a dedicated sustainability website that will publicize the current status of our sustainability programme.

Our website will track our programme's progress and publish information based on our suppliers' self-assessment of their social and environmental compliance as well as the results of our audit programme.

The launch of this website will take place in early 2014.

In addition, we will encourage our suppliers to adopt transparency policies that may include the adhesion to reliable third party online information platforms (such as the IPE platform).

## **Audit programme**

To test the progress of the implementation of our commitment, the Giorgio Armani Group has a comprehensive audit programme in place, which starts with an assessment of our suppliers' environmental practices. The audit programme includes the Far East region.

In the second half of 2013, up to 50 audits will be conducted globally (many have already been completed).