

Press information

Oeko-Tex Standard 1000 awarded to a textile company outside Europe for the first time

Zurich/Alexandria (hm) – On 18 January 2005, the “Oeko-Tex International – Association for the Assessment of Environmentally Friendly Textiles” recognised a textile company from outside Europe as an environmentally-friendly production site according to the Oeko-Tex Standard 1000 for the first time in its ten-year history. The certificate was awarded to the Egyptian spinning and doubling mill SETCORE SPINNING S.A.E. in Borg El Arab New City / Alexandria, which succeeded in fulfilling the ecological criteria demanded under the audit within just three months thanks to its exemplary production conditions. The company, led by Nassar Ayman, thereby sets new standards not only for yarn production in Egypt; it also draws the attention of the entire textile production chain in North Africa and the Middle East to the opportunities for opening up new markets by successfully documenting the environmental standards achieved.

With its efficient machine pool of 28,000 spindles which operate around the clock, 365 days a year, SETCORE SPINNING S.A.E. achieves an average production run of 12 tonnes combed cotton yarn per day. The company exclusively uses Egyptian cotton as a raw material and the product quality ranges from Ne 20 to Ne 100. The social protection of the 212 workers, who are organised in four teams working a multiple shift system, is an excellent role model for the entire country, as well as setting standards from a technological and ecological perspective.

In addition to the award as an environmentally friendly production site, the spinning mill in Alexandria also had its products successfully tested and certified in line with the human-ecological requirements of the Oeko-Tex Standard 100 last year. This means that the company is entitled to identify its yarns and twisted yarns with the “Oeko-Tex Standard 100plus” label which combines the skin-friendly product features with the considerable efforts involved in terms of production ecology.

Production at the company’s two facilities is permanently monitored and optimised by a six-man quality and environmental management team, headed by the technical director, Ba Joseph. This team comprises a production manager, a workshop manager, a supply manager, a QM manager and a technical manager. The last two are also responsible for internal staff training in quality and environmental requirements, which takes place regularly on-site. As well as the successful auditing according to the Oeko-Tex Standard 1000, SETCORE SPINNING S.A.E. is in the process of implementing the cross-sectoral requirements for quality management in accordance with ISO 9000.



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Soon clients will be able to access the company via its own web site on the Internet. Please contact the Oeko-Tex secretariat for the contact details or visit the Oeko-Tex Standard 1000 homepage at <http://www.oeko-tex1000.com/de/main/index.asp?IDMain=11&IDSub=98&sid=&aid=1>.

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The Oeko-Tex Standard 1000 is an international standardised testing, auditing and certification system for environmentally friendly production sites. It enables textile and clothing companies at all stages of production to objectively document the standard of environmental protection achieved by a production site to the outside. The required criteria include the preservation and protection of natural resources, the use of environmentally-friendly auxiliaries, chemicals, dyestuffs and technologies, water and energy consumption, the reduction of emissions and production waste and waste water treatment. Certified companies must also comply with defined specifications in terms of operating conditions (safety at work, noise and dust) and must not use child labour.



The six-man quality and environmental management team of the Egyptian SETCORE SPINNING S.A.E. is responsible for compliance with the required criteria according to the Oeko-Tex Standard 1000.



SETCORE SPINNING S.A.E. exclusively uses Egyptian cotton as a raw material. The company produces around 12 tonnes of combed cotton yarns ranging from Ne 20 to Ne 100 daily.



An above-average ecological commitment and a modern machine pool enable SETCORE SPINNING S.A.E. to position itself as a top quality manufacturer of yarns and twisted yarns. Since the end of January, the company has also been the first environmentally friendly production site outside Europe in accordance with the Oeko-Tex Standard 1000.