

Press release

October 1, 2018

TEXAID Textilverwertungs-AG · Militärstrasse 1 · CH-6467 Schattdorf · Tel.+41 41 874 54 16 · Fax +41 41 874 54 01 · www.texaid.ch

Texaid publishes first sustainability report

- Texaid Group sustainability report published for the fiscal year 2017
- Report drawn up in accordance with the international guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- Five areas of action: sustainable business management, climate and environmental management, social commitment, employees and society, research and association work

Texaid has published its very first sustainability report. This report covers the business activities of Texaid's sites in Switzerland, Germany, Hungary, and Bulgaria from January 1 to December 31, 2017, and documents the growing focus on sustainability shown by the textile recycling firm.

"With this sustainability report, which has been drawn up in accordance with the guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), we are able to provide our stakeholders – as well as interested members of the public – with a transparent and comprehensive look at the work processes, measures, and developments that are helping us to create a completely sustainable business," states Martin Böschen, CEO of the Texaid Group.

The sustainability report is mainly intended for the Group's employees, customers, partners, shareholders, and political and social decision-makers, as well as any other stakeholders who are interested in Texaid and its long-term development.

Identifying key issues via stakeholder analysis

Texaid has performed a materiality assessment to identify key issues. Internal workshops, external surveys, and joint projects with the consulting firm Swiss Climate AG have helped to pinpoint the topics that carry the most weight for Texaid and its stakeholders in all three areas of sustainability.

Based on the findings, the report summarizes the main objectives, strategies, areas of action, and measures of Texaid's sustainability management plan. These include employee development, occupational health and safety, energy and resource efficiency, climate and environmental management, social commitment, and increased research and association work. In addition, current strengths and weaknesses are recorded and appropriate measures defined to continually question and optimize the company's sustainability strategy.

Greater transparency and continuous development

"Our goal is to establish more and more transparency, and to demonstrate how Texaid incorporates the ever-growing demands and expectations of its stakeholders into its business activities," explains Michael Emmenegger, Head of Corporate Development.

According to the evaluation, charitable donations and resource efficiency are the two most crucial issues. The importance of charitable donations can largely be explained by Texaid's relief agencies, and the fact that the company was founded by charitable organizations. The sustainability report places special emphasis on the Group's business activities in Switzerland and Germany, taking into account the corresponding indicators of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). Texaid plans to gradually include its other sites in future reports, using the relevant GRI indicators to evaluate their activities.

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The sustainability report can be downloaded from the Texaid website at <https://www.texaid.ch/sustainability-report/> and is also available in printed form on request.

Texaid was founded in 1978 as a charity-based private partnership by six Swiss relief organizations (Swiss Red Cross, Winterhilfe, Solidar, Caritas, Kolping, and HEKS), along with an entrepreneur. With headquarters in the Canton of Uri and branches in Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Morocco, the company is one of Europe's leading textile recycling service providers. Texaid has an ISO-certified quality and environmental management system in Switzerland (ISO 9001 & ISO 14001) and has been awarded the "carbon dioxide neutral" label by Swiss Climate AG. Texaid employs over 1,000 members of staff in all its locations combined.

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