

**Press Release:**  
Ismaning, October 24, 2022

PERFORMANCE DAYS © functional fabrics fair  
produced by Design & Development GmbH Textile Consult  
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PERFORMANCE DAYS and Functional Fabric Fair by PERFORMANCE DAYS continue to focus on its proven Focus Topic and move on to Phase 2

## **Phase 2: Increased transparency with the use of CO<sub>2</sub> footprint labeling**

The PERFORMANCE DAYS and Functional Fabric Fair by PERFORMANCE DAYS teams look forward to welcoming all exhibitors and trade fair visitors from 26 to 27 October in Portland, OR and from 3 to 4 November for the first time at the MOC Ordercenter in Munich. As an integral part of the Winter Fair, branch insiders can interact at an early stage in terms of innovations, highlights and trends for the Winter 2024/2025 season. Ever since the recent Spring Fair, both fairs have been driving onwards towards the Spring Fair 2023 with its Focus Topic “Our Journey to CO<sub>2</sub> Neutrality” highlighting fabrics and fibers that provide solutions on how to produce and process climate-neutral materials in the future and how to best recycle them.

As part of a roadmap, the new Focus Topic aims to accompany exhibitors on their way to climate neutrality over the course of three fairs. To coincide with the Winter Fair, the event organizers will now move on to phase 2 of a 3-phase plan. In the PERFORMANCE FORUM “Focus Topic” category, the green light to participate was exclusively given to fabric innovations that could certify initial values in CO<sub>2</sub> reduction for the submitted fiber innovations. In combination with the current Higg Index, the aim is to make it possible in the future to achieve a better assessment of the CO<sub>2</sub> balance in the production and development of new materials and fibers for the industry itself. Nonetheless, as in spring of this year, the new Focus Topic caused quite a stir: After all, how can the values of natural fibers such as wool or Tencel™ be compared with those of recycled polyester, bio-based nylon or recycled wool? How do you deal with the various qualities on the one hand and with different strengths on the other? How important are such factors as the production site and production processes within this context? Still a long way ahead towards CO<sub>2</sub> neutrality. The additional performance codes such as “CO<sub>2</sub> neutral” and “CO<sub>2</sub> reduced” are intended to make the approaches to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction visible also for the winter edition.

### **Lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions - Focus Topic defines even further four categories**

In general, as mentioned previously, four separated categories should be distinguished to have a differentiated view on the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to be able to increase transparency and comparability: First, synthetic fibres with variants made of recycled polyester, recycled polyamide and polypropylene, saving up to 30-40% CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Second, the use of biobased synthetic fibres such as those made from castor oil is exciting as we see significant CO<sub>2</sub> reductions. Work is also currently

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underway to produce biopolymers from plant waste (biomass) in the future. The third group are natural cellulosic based fibres such as Tencel™, hemp, organic cotton, Naia spun fibre or their recycled versions. In the fourth group we evaluated wool and recycled wool within one category.

Register now for The Loop digital sourcing platform! As of now, all innovative materials can also be found online in the Marketplace of the PERFORMANCE DAYS Loop, with the option to order free samples directly from the exhibitor. Happy Sourcing! <https://www.performancedays.com/loop.html>