



SYNTHETIC FIBRES & NW PRESS RELEASE

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GRS certification for RadiciGroup recycled polyester

The Group's measured sustainability is also certified to the Textile Exchange standard

RadiciGroup's post-consumer recycled polyester yarns, **r-Radyarn®** and **r-Starlight®** – UNI 11505-certified since 2014 – have recently been certified to the **Global Recycled Standard (GRS)** promoted by the **Textile Exchange**, a non-profit organization that operates internationally for the promotion and responsible development of sustainability in the textile industry. From 22 to 24 October, the organization sponsored a three-day event in Milan where the key theme was *"Accelerating Sustainability in Textile and Fashion"*.

"GRS certification was yet another goal achieved by the Group – evidence of its customary transparency with the greatest clarity," pointed out **Filippo Servalli, marketing and sustainability director of RadiciGroup**, emphasizing how measuring environmental impacts and continuously working to reduce them is always a top priority of the Group. *"Indeed, these are the operative words guiding the RadiciGroup Comfort Fibres Business Area on a daily basis on its road to certifying its fibres obtained from recovered materials."*

The GRS certificates obtained by RadiciGroup cover two families of products: **raw and yarn-dyed 95% r-PET and solution-dyed 85% r-PET**.

Compliance with **GRS requirements** allows the Group to provide a **third-party-verified report** with every delivery of r-Starlight® and r-Radyarn®, certifying the content and the origin of the recycled materials used to make the product, as well as its compliance with the environmental and social requirements of the entire supply chain. Thus product requirements (covered by UNI 11505) are complemented by system requirements: a decision that responds to market demand and moves toward **full traceability** of the raw materials.

r-Radyarn® and **r-Starlight®** post-consumer recycled polyester yarns, are on the **Textile Exchange list of "preferred fibres"**, that is, fibres which can be traced, comply with precise reporting standards and give positive environmental and social results, and whose environmental impact can be calculated using a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA).

Moreover, the GRS-certified products are in conformity with the **Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MSRL) compiled within the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Programme**, an initiative with the objective of eliminating hazardous chemical substances in the textile industry.

*“Again with the aim of saving natural resources, and water in particular,” Mr. Servalli concluded, “the Group offers **solution-dyed polyester (and nylon) yarn**. Solution dyeing requires less water and energy usage compared to conventional yarn or piece dyeing, because the colour is added ‘upstream’ during the extrusion stage and thus becomes incorporated into the polymer matrix.”*

As demonstrated by **LCA studies** conducted by NOYFIL SA and NOYFIL SpA (Group companies engaged in polyester fibre production), solution-dyed yarn has a lower environmental impact compared to traditional yarn-dyed yarn. This difference is even greater for solution-dyed r-Radyarn®, made with recycled polymer.

Solution-dyed yarn offers a number of additional advantages, resulting in excellent performance:

- ✓ Colour and additives incorporated into the fibre
- ✓ High light colourfastness
- ✓ High colour consistency
- ✓ Lower oligomer release

Solution dyeing is typically utilized for dyeing large quantities of product in a standardized production process. However, RadiciGroup is set up to apply this sustainable technique even for the production of small lots, ensuring a high degree of consistency and homogeneity. Furthermore, the company provides an in-house service for the development of colour recipes and samples of solution-dyed yarns capable of meeting any customer need for the creation of colour palettes for any particular purpose.

RADICIGROUP – With approximately 3,000 employees, sales revenue of EUR 1,147 million in 2017 and a network of production and sales sites located throughout Europe, North America, South America and Asia, RadiciGroup is one of the world’s leading producers of a wide range of chemical intermediates, polyamide polymers, engineering plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens. These products – the result of the Group’s outstanding chemical expertise and vertically integrated polyamide production chain – have been developed for use in a variety of industrial sectors, such as: AUTOMOTIVE – ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS – CONSUMER GOODS – APPAREL – FURNISHINGS – CONSTRUCTION – HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES – SPORTS. The basis of the Group’s strategy is a strong focus on innovation, quality, customer satisfaction and social and environmental sustainability. With its business areas - Specialty Chemicals, Performance Plastics and Synthetic Fibres & Nonwovens (Performance Yarn, Comfort Fibres and Extrusion Yarn), RadiciGroup is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery (ITEMA), energy (GEOGREEN) and hotel (SAN MARCO) businesses.
