



Trade Groups as Leaders in Advancing Green Chemistry and Design for Environment

Staples, Inc.
1 Environmental Way
Broomfield, Colorado
May 4- 6, 2009



Lowell Center for
Sustainable Production
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS



GC³ Green Chemistry &
Commerce Council

Who we are



➤ **About AAFA**

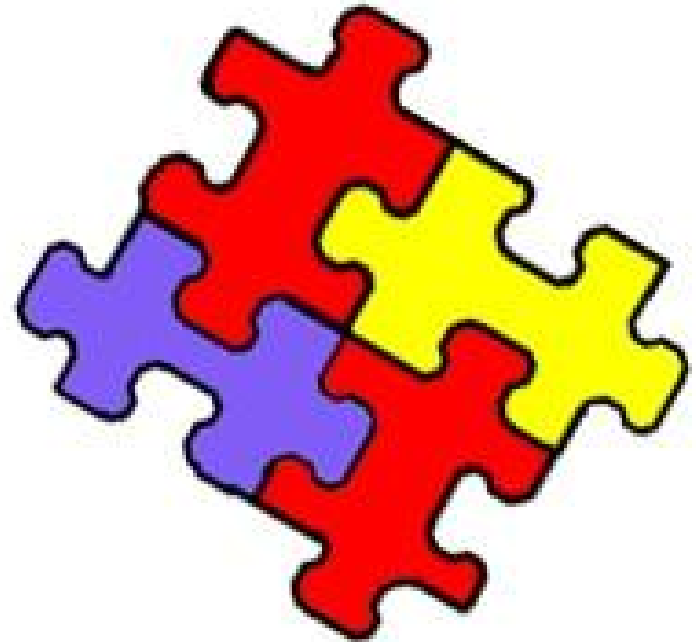
The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) is the national trade association representing apparel, footwear and other sewn products companies, and their suppliers, which compete in the global market.

Traditional Views of Trade Associations?



What we do

- Align the industry
- Share best practices
- Disseminate information
- Represent the industry with one voice.





Environmental Committee

Objective:

To create opportunities for member companies to continuously improve industry environmental standards and practices,

To ensure that member companies are apprised of global environmental legislative and regulatory developments, and

To educate policy makers on the industry's efforts to be responsible environmental sustainability stewards.



Environmental Committee

- Develop industry tools
 - RSL
 - Best Management Practices
- Create training programs and seminars on environmental and sustainability topics
- Provide technical reviews and updates of legislative and regulatory proposals and requirements.
- Provide briefings with other stakeholders and create forum for members to exchange views.
- Benchmark and validate industry environmental practices.

- Members wanted us to develop an industry RSL
 - Sound environmental practices are the right thing to do
 - Chemical management of substances in products is a key environmental practice.
 - Members desiring “industry-wide” approach
 - Increased requirements from retailer customers.
 - National and international regulatory regimes
 - Simple concept
- Team of Experts from Member Companies



Concept

- RSL covers substances whose presence in textiles, clothing, and footwear is restricted by a government regulation or law (including state governments).
- RSL identifies the most restrictive global restriction or prohibitions on the substances with respect to textiles, clothing, and footwear. RSL identifies any applicable test method.
- RSL does not identify substances that are used in manufacturing process or are found at manufacturing facility
 - Ex. Greenhouse gases emitted from factory, asbestos in insulation
- RSL does not identify substances subject to voluntary standards.

AAFA RSL Status

- Freely downloadable
 - <http://www.apparelfootwear.org/Resources/RestrictedSubstances.asp>
- Companies adopting it to their use
- Training – U.S., Latin America, and Asia
- Updated every 6 months
 - (Release 5: Aug 2009)
- Strategic Partnerships – AFIRM
- New Items
 - Translations
 - Addition of voluntary restrictions
 - Tool kits and guides



AAFA RSL (sample page)

CAS Number	Chemical Name/Color Index Name	Restriction / Limit on Final Product or Tested Component	Country	Regulation	Test Method [detection limit]	Other Countries that also Regulate this Substance	Comment
MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICALS							
50-00-0	Formaldehyde 0-36 months old	Not Detected (below detection limits - see test method)	Japan	Japanese Law 112	ISO 14184-1 or JIS L1041 (Law 112) or DIN 53315 [detection limit is 20 mg/kg]	Poland, China, Russia, Finland, Norway, France, Netherlands, Austria, Lithuania, Germany, New Zealand, South Korea	Poland defines baby products as 0-36 months, other countries including Japan, South Korea, and China define baby products as 0-24 months. South Korea also regulates bedclothes with a limit of 300 ppm.
	>36 months old (with direct skin contact)	75 ppm	Japan	Japanese Law 112	ISO 14184-1 or JIS L1041 (Law 112) or DIN 53315 [detection limit is 20 mg/kg]		
	>36 months old (no direct skin contact)	300 ppm	See other countries		ISO 14184-1 or JIS L1041 (Law 112) or DIN 53315 [detection limit is 20 mg/kg]		



Environmental Standards and Best Practices

- Industrial Wastewater, Domestic Sewage, Storm Water, and Biosolids Management
- Air Emissions
- Energy Management and Conservation
- Hazardous Materials Storage, Handling, and Transportation
- Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste





Sustainability: Turning Responsibility into Opportunity

May 18-19
Portland

Creating a business case for sustainability
Creating a sustainable corporate culture
Sustainability in a down economy
Lessons from other industries
Green marketing
Carbon and energy management
NGO/Business partnerships in climate change
Packaging
Brand stewardship





Thank You

American Apparel and Footwear Association

1601 N. Kent Street, 12th Floor

Arlington, VA 22209

703-797-9041

slamar@apparelandfootwear.org

www.apparelandfootwear.org