

LEVI STRAUSS & CO.

Commitment to Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals

Levi Strauss & Co.ⁱ is deeply committed to minimizing the environmental impacts of our clothing manufacturing processes. Levi Strauss & Co. supports the goal of eliminating the industrial releases of hazardous chemicalsⁱⁱ into the environment, as reflected in the [Joint Roadmap Toward Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals](#)ⁱⁱⁱ.

In line with the Joint Roadmap and the precautionary principle^{iv}, Levi Strauss & Co. is committed to the goal of zero discharge^v of hazardous chemicals for all its products across all pathways of release in our supply chains by 2020.

In order to achieve this goal, systemic change across the industry is required. Thus, our commitment includes investment in moving industry, government, science and technology to deliver on that systemic change.

Levi Strauss & Co. is intently focused on following the Joint Roadmap's path with clear milestones and positive long-term outcomes. The scale and complexity of this endeavor make this a very challenging task, but we will continue to work with the other brands that have committed to the Joint Roadmap, material suppliers, the broader chemical industry, NGOs and other stakeholders to achieve this goal.

If we are to deliver lasting solutions, our actions need to be guided by collaboration, transparency, fact-based decision-making, and based on a precautionary and integrated approach to chemicals management. We will apply value-chain as well as life-cycle thinking and innovation toward the development of integrated chemicals management.

To achieve our goal of zero discharge of hazardous chemicals by 2020, mechanisms for disclosure and transparency about the hazardous chemicals used in our global supply chains are important and necessary. Recognizing that disclosure, in line with the right to know principle^{vi}, will be challenging, we will drive toward innovative solutions for transparency in chemical management disclosure.

To make this commitment a reality, and based on our industry-leading [Restricted Substances List](#), Levi Strauss & Co. will continue phasing out hazardous chemicals in our supply chain and we will accelerate the phase out of the highest priority hazardous chemicals.

We also are calling for other companies and stakeholders to join forces with us and other industry leaders in the Joint Roadmap. We believe we can do more together than we can alone.

ⁱ Levi Strauss & Co. designs and markets jeans, casual wear and related accessories for men, women and children under the Levi's®, Dockers®, Signature by Levi Strauss & Co.™, and Denizen® brands.

ⁱⁱ Hazardous chemicals means all those that show intrinsically hazardous properties (persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT); very persistent and very bio-accumulative (vPvB); carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic for reproduction (CMR); endocrine disruptors (ED); or equivalent concern), not just those that have been regulated or restricted in other regions.

ⁱⁱⁱ Available at: <http://www.roadmaptozero.com/joint-roadmap.php>

^{iv} The Precautionary Principle means that when (on the basis of available evidence) an activity may harm human health or the environment, a cautious approach should be taken in advance – even if the full extent of harm has not yet been fully established scientifically. It recognizes that such proof of harm may never be possible, at least until it is too late to avoid or reverse the damage done. The process of applying the Precautionary Principle must involve an examination of the full range of alternatives, including, where necessary, the development of sustainable alternatives where they do not already exist.

^v Zero discharge means the elimination of all releases, via all pathways of release, i.e. discharges, emissions and losses, from our supply chains and our products. In light of the increasing sophistication of analytical tools and methods, references to “elimination” or “zero” must be understood as “not above background concentration” rather than “not detectable.”

^{vi} “Right to know principle” is defined as practices that allow members of the public access to environmental information – in this case specifically about the uses and discharges of chemicals based on reported quantities of releases of hazardous chemicals to the environment, facility-by-facility, year-by-year.