



International Design Competition

Design Competition 2018

Sustainability

Any global industry needs to ensure that sustainability is at the top of its agenda and the textile industry is no exception.

This not only includes environmental sustainability but social and financial sustainability too.

It's vital that the industry cares for and respects the environment in which it operates and the people that it relies on.

Environmental damage is a major concern within the textile industry and some of the factors that need consideration include;

- the sourcing and production of the chemicals involved
- the energy and water use during production of fibres and fabrics
- the treatment of any waste chemicals
- the transportation methods and distance involved
- the energy, chemical and water use during the life of a garment
- what happens at the end of a garment's life

Some of these factors require careful thought and it always pays to question whether there is an alternative material, process or production method that may reduce the environmental impact.

Being socially sustainable means that the company cares for its workforce and rewards them appropriately. Are the companies that you deal with behaving in such a manner?

Financial sustainability means that the company can continue to make a positive impact for years to come.

Whatever aspect of sustainability is under consideration – environmental, social or financial – we must always look for, and support, the most sustainable practice available and the companies that endorse those practices.

To find out more about sustainability have a look at our extended video on the subject and to find out more about some of the processes involved in textile colouration look at our videos on fibres and dyes.