

Notice and Apology Regarding an Issue Revealed Concerning Textile Product Certification (Second Report)

June 11, 2024

Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation

After issuing the [“Notice and Apology Regarding an Issue Revealed Concerning Textile Product Certification”](#) on May 15, 2024, Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation (hereinafter, “MCC”) conducted internal investigations into the situation concerning the updating of certifications that MCC has acquired for its products. As a result, another certification-related issue has been revealed concerning Soalon™ triacetate textiles (hereinafter, “Soalon™”).

We deeply apologize to our customers and all other related parties for the inconvenience and concern caused by this series of issues. MCC takes these issues seriously and will strive to prevent the reoccurrence of similar issues as it works to enhance compliance.

1. Details of the issue

For Soalon™ yarns, copies of a certificate stating that the product has valid bluesign®* certification were submitted to customers despite such certification having been invalid for the product since December 25, 2022 due to a failure to make appropriate responses to the issues pointed out in an audit carried out as a precondition to have the certification updated.

2. Background to the occurrence of the incident

The certification is required to be updated regularly through an audit carried out by a certification body. After such an audit was carried out for the updating of the certification for Soalon™ yarns, the responsible personnel in charge of the certification at MCC failed to make appropriate responses to the issues pointed out by the certification body in the audit, which resulted in the expiration of the certificate on December 25, 2022. However, as revealed through internal investigations, the responsible personnel continued to sell the products by submitting copies of a forged certificate to customers. The responsible personnel is the same person as was mentioned in the notice issued on May 15, 2024.

3. Measures to be taken for customers

With regard to customers to whom copies of the forged certificate were submitted, MCC will inform and discuss subsequent measures with them respectively. For Soalon™ yarns, no changes have been made to the raw material or to the manufacturing and processing methods since the certification for the yarns was obtained in 2020. MCC will strive to regain the certification in accordance with international standards, receiving advice from the certification body.

4. Measures to prevent reoccurrence

Regrettably, the two certification-related issues revealed could have been avoided if MCC had been

operating a more effective checking system. Based on this understanding, MCC has implemented/will implement the following reoccurrence prevention measures:

Since May 2024, MCC have established a system of multiple checks on the work related to the certification of textile products.

In addition, MCC will raise employees' awareness about certification-related issues through education and training and will also conduct investigations concerning all certifications obtained for MCC Group products. Further, MCC will begin examinations to consider the introduction of a system to prevent certification-related issues, including those concerning the updating procedures, through the central management of certification status and valid periods by the corporate administration department.

5. Effectiveness of other certifications

As a result of the internal investigations, it has been confirmed that for Soalon™, there are no certification-related issues other than the issue related to OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 certification (N-KEN 18043) as announced on May 15, 2024 and the issue concerning bluesign® certification as announced in this news release.

* bluesign® certification is given by BLUESIGN TECHNOLOGIES AG to textile products provided through supply chains that are sustainable in terms of protection of the environment, workers and consumers.

Contact for inquiries about this issue:

<https://www.mcgc.com/english/contact/contact/index.php?code=other>