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**Date** November 09, 2020

## **Canopy ranking: Lenzing for the first time achieves highest Hot Button category**

Sbtl.: In its annual ranking of sustainable wood procurement, the Canadian environmental organization Canopy particularly highlights Lenzing's continuous leadership over the last number of years.

Lenzing – The Lenzing Group scored a total of 30.5 points (4 points more compared to last year) and received for the first time a leading dark green shirt, the highest Hot Button ranking category. Lenzing once again convinced the non-profit organization Canopy with its innovative vision with regard to circular economy and REFIBRA™ technology, its high level of transparency in wood and pulp sourcing, as well as its active contribution towards protecting forests and preserving biodiversity.

In this widely recognized ranking, Canopy grades the world's 31 largest producers of wood-based fibers with respect to their sustainable wood and pulp sourcing, their efforts with regard to using alternative non-wood feedstock and their achievements for lasting conservation in critical forests around the globe.

"We are very proud to be leading the industry with regard to responsible wood and pulp sourcing. Innovation as well as transparency and sustainable raw material sourcing are part and parcel of our sustainability strategy which covers the whole value chain, from raw material to the final product", says Stefan Doboczky, Chief Executive Officer.

### **Leading in sustainable sourcing with a decade-long clean record**

Wood and pulp are the most important raw materials for Lenzing's sustainable production of cellulosic fibers. The Lenzing Group is particularly proud of its decade-long clean record of sustainable wood sourcing, evidenced by its long-standing credible commitment to wood certification, which Lenzing pioneered already in the 1990s.

Lenzing's commercial wood sources are 100 percent either certified by FSC<sup>®1</sup> or PEFC<sup>™2</sup>, or controlled in line with FSC<sup>®</sup> standards. In addition, Lenzing has successfully completed the second Canopy verification audit.

### **Social impact and afforestation project in Albania**

At the backdrop of Lenzing's long history of clean sourcing, the company is even more aware that the global forests are seriously threatened by illegal logging and deforestation but also by the consequences of climate change. This is why Lenzing – in addition to supporting a number of Canopy's conservation projects – has set up a social impact and afforestation project in Albania (Southern Europe). The forest areas in this country are among the European regions with the greatest need for improvement. The project addresses the most urgent issues that society will have to tackle in the upcoming 10 years: land degradation, biodiversity loss, deforestation and climate change.

### **Special focus on sustainable plantations in Brazil**

For its latest investment in a pulp mill in Brazil, Lenzing actively collaborates with Canopy to ensure that the wood sourcing is in line with sustainable practices. The plantation is fully compliant with Lenzing's wood and pulp sourcing policy. The plant will be among the highest productive and energy-efficient facilities in the world and will feed the 40 percent excess bioelectricity generated on site as "green energy" into the public grid.

### **REFIBRA<sup>™</sup> technology: Commercially available since 2017**

As a long-standing player in the industry, Lenzing has undertaken extensive research into many different alternative non-wood cellulose sources such as annual plants, like hemp, straw, and bamboo. Until now, textile waste has turned out to be the most promising alternative feedstock for scaled commercial use.

Lenzing's lyocell fiber produced with the breakthrough REFIBRA<sup>™</sup> technology (Eco Cycle technology for nonwoven applications) uses textile waste as part of the feedstock and is an important step towards a circular economy. The technology has been commercially available since 2017. It successfully combines the environmentally responsible lyocell technology with a closed-loop production process and the upcycling of cotton waste materials. The fiber is currently available with 30 percent recycled textiles as a raw material.

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<sup>1</sup> FSC-C041246

<sup>2</sup> PEFC/06-33-92

## **50 percent recycled content by 2024**

It is Lenzing's vision to make textile waste recycling a common standard process like paper recycling and to offer fibers produced with REFIBRA™ technology with up to 50 percent recycled content from post-consumer waste by 2024.

### **Photo download:**

<https://mediadb.lenzing.com/pinaccess/showpin.do?pinCode=n4J1nOqwgHs7>

PIN: n4J1nOqwgHs7

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### About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for ecologically responsible production of specialty fibers made from the renewable raw material wood. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner of global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments.

The Lenzing Group's high-quality fibers form the basis for a variety of textile applications ranging from elegant ladies clothing to versatile denims and high-performance sports clothing. Due to their consistent high quality, their biodegradability and compostability Lenzing fibers are also highly suitable for hygiene products and agricultural applications.

The business model of the Lenzing Group goes far beyond that of a traditional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, creating added value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for the efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials and offers solutions to help redirect the textile sector towards a closed-loop economy.

### Key Facts & Figures Lenzing Group 2019

Revenue: EUR 2.11 bn

Nameplate capacity: 1,045,000 tons

Employees: 7,036

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### About Canopy

Canopy is an international not-for-profit environmental organization dedicated to protecting our forests, species and climate. Canopy collaborates with more than 750 companies to develop innovative solutions, to make their fibre supply chains more sustainable, and to help protect our world's remaining Ancient and Endangered Forests. Canopy's partners include H&M, Sprint, Target, Amazon, Penguin Random House, Zara, TC Transcontinental, and Scholastic. Canopy's work relies on the support of individual donors who share our passion for the planet. [www.canopyplanet.org](http://www.canopyplanet.org)

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