

# OUR JOURNEY TOWARDS SAFER CHEMISTRY

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**LEVI STRAUSS & CO.**

# OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

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- What are we doing?
- What are the drivers for our actions?
- What is working and why?
- What will help us be successful?
- What is our vision?

# LS&CO.

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- One of the worlds largest apparel companies with iconic brands – Levi's<sup>®</sup>, Dockers<sup>®</sup>, Signature and Denizen<sup>™</sup> – sold in more than 110 countries around the world
  - FY 2012 NET REVENUES: \$4.6 billion
  - EMPLOYEES: About 17,000 worldwide
  - Source from independent contract manufacturers in over 35 countries
  - No single country represents more than 12 percent of our production
  - All third-party contractors and subcontractors must comply with our code of conduct relating to supplier working conditions as well as environmental and employment practices
  - Require our licensees to ensure that their manufacturers also comply with our requirements

# WHAT ARE WE DOING IN THE AREA OF CHEMISTRY?

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- Building a chemical management strategy and roadmap to meet our goal of zero discharge of hazardous chemicals by 2020
  - Connecting concurrent internal work streams
  - Connecting and aligning our involvement with other apparel and footwear brands that have the same commitment to zero discharge of hazardous chemicals by 2020

# WHAT ARE THE DRIVERS FOR OUR ACTIONS?

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- LS&Co. has an Environmental Vision and chemicals are part of the vision
- Sustainability is a strategic pillar for the company
- Our public commitment to zero discharge of hazardous chemicals by 2020
- Our work and involvement in the ZDHC Roadmap

# WHAT IS ZDHC AND THE ZDHC ROADMAP?

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- Industry collaboration between 17, and growing, apparel and footwear brands to meet the goal of zero discharge of hazardous chemicals by 2020
- Roadmap with timelines and actions
- Systems approach
- Consistency of tools
- Adoption of best practices and the ability to scale

# LOOKING AT HAZARD BASED FRAMEWORKS

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- Within our internal roadmap, there is a work stream to look at hazard based frameworks
  - to see if it can help us achieve our public commitment of zero discharge of hazardous chemicals by 2020
- GreenScreen<sup>®</sup> has specific criteria around environmental and human health endpoints that help us meet our goal
  - May also provide a way to get better visibility into formulations

# WE EVALUATED GREENSCREEN® BECAUSE

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- The GreenScreen® method is public, transparent and peer reviewed
- It is being used by other sectors such as electronics
- It helps us understand what is required to do a Comparative Hazard Assessment
  - Soon to be required by states such as California

# OUR APPROACH TO EVALUATING GREENSCREEN®

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- We ran a small pilot with 2 chemical companies and screened textile auxiliaries, including detergents, resins, pigments and dyes
  - In many cases, each formulation contained several ingredients
  - Imperative that we respected the chemical industry IP
- We partnered with a well known GreenScreen® assessor who is an excellent problem solver and great partner

# WHAT WORKED AND WHAT DID NOT WORK?

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- GreenScreen® is a good tool, but has some limitations
- There is no “one size fits all” tool
- GreenScreen® allows us to make informed decisions due to better visibility into formulations
- GreenScreen® compliments other frameworks
- The IP of the chemical company was protected
- Need to bring in risk when necessary (exposure and dilution)

# WHAT WILL HELP US BE SUCCESSFUL?

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- A publicly available database or list of chemicals that have gone through the Greenscreen® process
- A solution for data gaps
- A better differentiation between benchmark 2 and 3
- A wider adoption of the Greenscreen® framework to help share the cost

# BENEFITS OF A HAZARD BASED FRAMEWORK

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- Better visibility into our formulations
- We can make informed decisions at the front of the pipe
- Encourages innovation in Green Chemistry to find safer alternatives
- Show continuous improvement in our journey towards zero discharge of hazardous chemicals

# OUR VISION

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- Hazardous chemicals used in the apparel and footwear industry will be replaced with non toxic, safer alternatives
  - All chemical mixtures will be formulated from a screened list of ingredients
  - We move away from managing risk to eliminating hazard and therefore minimizing risk