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## **Textile recycling and MMCFs; systemic challenges, market opportunities and advancing technologies.**

### **Abstract**

The textile and clothing industry is one of the oldest industries in the world. It's also large – exceeding 100Mt/a production volume and approaching 2trillion US\$ of annual sales, thanks to an annual growth rate of c. 3,7%.

Recycling of textiles is still in its infancy – but the baby is active and is learning fast. However, several challenges are to be overcome in order to bring textile recycling rate to a level comparable to that of, e.g., paper or metals, or to extend the recycling system as widely as, e.g., for home appliances.

Drivers of improved textile recycling are strong: Environmental impacts are to be minimized; some 100billion US\$ worth of material is currently wasted, and inaction would put the reputation of brands and companies at risk.

The outlook of textile recycling is discussed with a view to the expected impact of Man-made Cellulosic Fibres.