Press Release

Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft
Werkstraße 2
4860 Lenzing, Austria
www.lenzing.com

E-mail v.leung@lenzing.com

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Lenzing and OceanSafe partner to launch next-gen performance textiles featuring TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 and naNea

- The collaboration introduces next-generation yarn combining wood-based[1] TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 fibers with biodegradable[2] naNea co-polyester.
- Debut capsule sportswear collection showcases a market-ready alternative to conventional synthetics for active lifestyles, delivering enhanced comfort[3,4], additional performance[5] and functionality, and end-of-life solutions[2,6,7].
- Lenzing will be showcasing the collection during **Performance Days Munich (October 29-30), [T11 in hall A2]** and **Functional Fabric Fair Portland (November 11-13), [Booth 752]**.

Lenzing – The Lenzing Group, a leading supplier of regenerated cellulosic fibers for the textile and nonwovens industries, teamed up with OceanSafe, an innovator in novel textile materials, to introduce a next-generation yarn. This collaborative innovation synergizes Lenzing's wood-based[1] TENCEL™ branded lyocell A100 fibers with OceanSafe's high-performance, biodegradable[2] in the ocean co-polyester, naNea. By offering a common textile knowledge, resource-efficient[2,4,8] solution that meets growing demand for sustainable, technically

[1] Adhering to the company's commitment to environmental protection and resource preservation, Lenzing procures wood and pulp only from certified or controlled sustainable sources. In its Wood and Pulp Policy, Lenzing is committed to procuring wood and pulp exclusively from non-controversial sources.

[2] Biodegradable in the ocean: Marine biodegradable in 99 days by >93% (according to ASTM D6691-17, Lab: Archa Srl, Pisa, Italy, Test No. 22302453, https://www.archa.it/) https://www.oceansafe.co/textile-materials/nanea

[3] TENCEL™ Lyocell and Modal fibers are naturally soft and smooth to the touch. Published studies using the Tactile Sensation Analyzer (TSA) and Fabric Touch Tester (FTT) as measuring devices have confirmed the softness of fabrics made of TENCEL™ Lyocell and Modal fibers.

[4] Fabrics based on naNea are softer and smoother than fabrics based on conventional polyester. An academic comparative study using the Tactile Sensation Analyzer (TSA) as measuring device has confirmed the softness and smoothness of fabrics made from naNea by OceanSafe.

[5] naNea's novel polymer structure provides built-in moisture management with higher hydrophilicity, absorbency, and fast drying. It matches PET in abrasion resistance, dimensional stability, and outperforms in UV fastness, confirmed by a comparative study at the Taiwan Textile Research Institute (August 2025). In addition, DTNW Krefeld tests (November 2022) verified naNea's inherently flame-retardant nature with a significantly higher LOI than PET.

[6] TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are produced in a closed loop process which recovers 99.8% of the solvent – resulting in close-to-zero wastage. The results were calculated according to LCA standards (ISO 14040/44) and are made available via the Higg Materials Sustainability Index (MSI) v3.10 (April 2025).

[7] To foster a sustainable global textile and nonwovens industry, Lenzing follows three strategic principles within the context of its "Naturally Positive" sustainability strategy, which focuses on greening the value chain, driving systemic change and advancing the circular economy through partnerships with key industry stakeholders, such as Textile Exchange, Cascale, Canopy, Together for Sustainability, Renewable Carbon Initiative, and UN Global Compact.

[8] TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are made with at least 50 percent less carbon emissions and water consumption, compared to generic (unbranded) lyocell. The results were calculated according to LCA standards (ISO 14040/44) and are made available via the Higg Materials Sustainability Index (MSI) v3.10 (April 2025).

advanced materials, this partnership provides an alternative that balances durability[5], function, and environmental responsibility[2,6,9].

As a first milestone of this partnership, Lenzing and OceanSafe introduced a sportswear capsule collection of performance wear and athleisure clothing, showcasing the yarn's versatility and performance. Beyond apparel, its potential applications span footwear, home textiles, bags, and technical textile applications, unlocking diverse opportunities for responsibly produced[2,4,6,8] textiles across sectors.

A yarn with people at heart

Central to this yarn innovation is the synergy between TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 and naNea fibers. TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 fibers are made using a resource-saving, closed-loop process[6,8] while naNea fibers are biodegradable[2] in the ocean and recyclable[10]. naNea´s Cradle to Cradle Certified® Gold status underscores its environmental standards[2,9].

The fabric offers comfort and functionality, with TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 fibers providing natural softness, effective moisture control[11], and resistance to odor-causing bacteria[12], while the naNea co-polyester adds endurance, tear strength and quick-dry capabilities.[2]

"In developing this new yarn, we made sure that it isn't just environmentally responsible[2,6,8,9], but also improved performance, functionality and durability[2]," Matthias Fuchs, CMO at OceanSafe noted. "We believe making responsible choices should feel like an upgrade, not a compromise. This yarn provides brands with a scalable, plug-and-play solution that supports their environmental commitments while enhancing garment performance."

From concept to closet: redefining sportswear through collaborative innovation

The capsule sportswear collection made with TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 and naNea fibers features women's yoga wear, men's athleisure T-shirts and fleece jackets**.** Engineered to meet the needs of active lifestyles, the collection offers durable[2], common textile knowledge, achieved through the fibers' advanced material properties, without the need for additional surface treatments. To be unveiled at Performance Days in Munich at the end of October [T11 in hall A2], followed by the Functional Fabric Fair in Portland in November [Booth 752], this capsule

[9] naNea contains no heavy metals such as antimony (certified under Cradle to Cradle Material Health 4.1 and verified by Archa Srl, Pisa, Italy), has passed the OECD 202 environmental safety and toxicity test (Archa Srl, Pisa, Italy), and has also passed the DIN EN ISO 20079:2006-12 duckweed growth inhibition test (Hohenstein, GU-912337).

[10] naNea has been successfully tested by commercial chemical and thermo-mechanical textile recycling providers to be used in their chemical textile recycling processes. naNea can be recycled along with conventional PET in the same process.

[11] The structure of TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers allows the absorption and release of moisture. In the final textile product, these effective moisture controlling properties support a drier microclimate on the skin, increasing the wearer's thermal comfort.

[12] TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers absorb sweat efficiently, resulting in reduced moisture on the fiber surface. This creates a less favorable environment for the growth of odor-causing bacteria.

targets manufacturers and brands looking to transition to circular[2,4,5,7], biodegradable[2,13] fiber materials that align with their values and reduce reliance on conventional polyester.

“Creating this collection was truly a joint effort that brought together experts from across the entire industry,” said Nicole Schram, Head of Global Technical Business Development at Lenzing Group. “We had Tearfil working their magic with yarn development, Impetus bringing their know-how for amazing knits and seamless fabrics, Kingwhale perfecting the fleece that feels so good against your skin and G-LOFT® Premium Insulation contributing with their filling technology for jackets. This collection is a testament to the power of collaboration in driving meaningful change[1] and scaling innovative solutions[5].”

Facts & Figures:

TENCEL™ Lyocell - A100 fibers

- Carbon emissions: ≥50% reduction compared to generic lyocell[8]
- Water consumption: ≥50% reduction compared to generic lyocell[8]
- Raw material: FSC® (FSC-C041246) or PEFC certified wood sources[1]
- Production: Closed-loop process, >99.8% solvent recovery[6]
- Functionality: Effective moisture control[11], unfavorable to odor-causing bacteria[12]

naNea by OceanSafe[2]:

- A novel and proprietary co-polyester
- Raw material: Recycled, bio-based, or virgin feedstocks
- Biodegradable in the ocean: Marine biodegradable in 99 days by >93% (according to ASTM D6691-17)[2]
- Consumer safe: No toxicants or heavy metals, naNea meets ambitious Cradle to Cradle® Certified Gold standards[9]
- Production: Produced with 50% renewably sourced energy in the final manufacturing stage according to Cradle to Cradle® Certified Gold standards[9] and saves energy during the dyeing process due to lower dyeing temperatures
- End-of-life: Recyclable, and does not release persistent microplastics, as it is marine biodegradable[2]
- Functionality: Soft hand-feel[4], absorbent, quick-dry, durable, easy care[5]

Images related to the announcement can be downloaded from here.

[13] TENCEL™ Lyocell standard fibers are certified by TÜV AUSTRIA as biodegradable in soil, freshwater and marine environments, and compostable under home and industrial conditions.

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For more information, please contact:

Vincent Leung

Head of Global Brand Communication (Textiles)

Email: v.leung@lenzing.com

About TENCEL™

TENCEL™ is the flagship textile fiber brand under the Lenzing Group. Since 1992, TENCEL™ brand has been a powerhouse advocating for a positive change in the textile industry through resource-efficient production processes and ongoing fiber innovations. TENCEL™ branded Lyocell and Modal fibers are resource-efficient, high-comfort materials made from sustainably managed wood sources. Both fibers are naturally soft, smooth to touch and can support rich colors in fabrics. With effective moisture control, fabrics made of both fibers also support a natural dry feeling.

As sustainable textile solutions, TENCEL™ Lyocell and Modal fibers are highly versatile and can be combined with a wide range of textile fibers to offer an almost endless variety of product designs and functions. The fibers can be incorporated in almost any textile categories, from ready-to-wear, denim, intimate wear, to active wear, workwear, footwear, and even home textile products.

Made from natural raw material wood, TENCEL™ Lyocell and Modal fibers can break down and compost at the end of their life cycle. The fibers are also certified with the EU Ecolabel (license no. AT/016/001) for environmental excellence, recognizing the high environmental standards throughout their entire life cycle.

To learn more about the TENCEL™ brand, please visit https://www.tencel.com/. For more details around the sustainability features, performance, as well as the technology and production processes behind TENCEL™ branded fibers, please visit https://www.tencel.com/claims.

About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for the responsible production of specialty fibers based on cellulose. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner to global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments. The Lenzing Group's high-quality fibers are the raw material for a wide range of textile applications – ranging from functional, comfortable and fashionable clothing through to durable and sustainable home textiles. TÜV-certified biodegradable and compostable Lenzing fibers are also ideal for demanding use in everyday hygiene applications.

The Lenzing Group's business model extends far beyond that of a traditional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, adding value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials and offers solutions for the transition of the textile industry from the current linear economic system to a circular economy. In order to align its commitment to limiting man-made climate change with the goals of the Paris Agreement, Lenzing has a clear, science-based climate action plan that provides for a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (Scopes 1, 2, and 3) by 2030 and a net-zero target by 2050.

Key Facts & Figures Lenzing Group 2024

Revenue: EUR 2.66 bn

Nominal capacity (fibers): 1,110,000 tonnes

Employees (full-time equivalents): 7,816

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OceanSafe

OceanSafe AG is a Swiss polymer science company dedicated to developing next-gen materials. Founded in 2019 by Manuel Schweizer in Bern, Switzerland, the award-winning company is driven by a vision of a future where resource depletion is eliminated, and all materials are engineered for true circularity—leaving no waste behind. OceanSafe operates a technology licensing business. Their high-performance materials are utilized by the world's leading brands.