



[e-Series]

**GOING GREEN
WITH PLM:
THE 3 CSR
PILLARS
APPAREL
BUSINESSES
NEED TO KNOW**

Calculating your
Carbon Footprint

CALCULATING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

The apparel industry has a big impact on the environment, consuming water, contributing to pollution and so much more. In fact, McKinsey research shows that the apparel sector was responsible for some 2.1 billion metric tons of greenhouse-gas emissions in 2018, about 4% of the global total.¹

With the United States setting a target to achieve a 50-52% reduction in greenhouse gas pollution from 2005 to 2030, it's fair to say there needs to be a monumental shift in the way American fashion businesses source, manufacture and sell goods. If they want to keep pace with worldwide benchmarks—including President Joe Biden's existing goals to create a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035 and net zero emissions economy by no later than 2050—and meet the expectations of increasingly eco-conscious consumers, change must happen.

Is your fashion business equipped for this new eco age?

¹ https://instituteofpositivefashion.com/uploads/files/1/CFE/Circular_Fashion_Ecosystem_Report.pdf

² <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/22/fact-sheet-president-biden-sets-2030-greenhouse-gas-pollution-reduction-target-aimed-at-creating-good-paying-union-jobs-and-securing-u-s-leadership-on-clean-energy-technologies/#:~:text=The%20United%20States%20has%20set%20a%20goal%20to,resulting%20in%20meaningful%20emissions%20reductions%20in%20this%20decade.>

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Consumers have become mindful of their choices, calling for more sustainable, transparent and traceable garments across the supply chain. In order to prosper from this, it is no longer a one-sided equation. All industry actors need to move from policies to action in addressing environmental and economic actions for the full supply chain.

**Debbie Shakespeare,
Senior Director Sustainability,
Compliance & Core Product Line,
Avery Dennison RBIS²**



Read on to discover crucial information about the **carbon footprint** of fashion businesses, a key CSR pillar influencing the industry right now. Researched by the team of experts at Centric Software®, the following pages contain top tips on how to utilize digital tools such as Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) Retail Planning to ensure your business has a green and profitable future.

This ebook is the first installment of our three-piece e-Series 'Going Green with PLM: the 3 CSR Pillars Apparel Businesses Need to Know'. These ebooks are designed exclusively for professionals in the apparel industry covering the following topics:

- **Calculating your Carbon Footprint**
- **Certifying the Supply Chain**
- **Driving a Circular Economy**

Information in this ebook was correct at time of publishing. We advise you to check regularly with your local government and industry organisations for the latest CSR guidelines.



Centric PLM allows us to manage our fabric and trim library, making sure we have all the technical information we need to manage the sustainability at the very core of our business. Plus, PLM helps us reduce the amount of energy that goes into our production process, because we're more aligned as a team.

Lisa Lai, Associate Designer



CHANGES IN MOTION

In order to be considered 'green', apparel businesses must align with the worldwide goal to limit global warming to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius. With the apparel industry's energy-intensive production processes and complex supply chains—and significant contributions to the world's greenhouse gases—the pressure is mounting to be transparent about the industry's carbon footprint - from textile manufacturing all the way through to packaging. According to The Business of Fashion, many of the apparel industry's biggest brands only publish emissions data via third parties, or not at all.³

Many new laws are being introduced in the U.S. and around the world that require businesses to track and reduce the carbon footprint of their products. The overall goal is to encourage the production of garments and products that result in less greenhouse gas emissions, are less harmful to biodiversity and more resource-efficient.



³ <https://www.businessoffashion.com/reports/sustainability/measuring-fashions-sustainability-gap-download-the-report-now/>

One simple way of measuring the carbon footprint of your business is to label or tag information with Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Carbon trackers and consumables. If all of your product data is housed in one centralized database, you can add GHG Carbon trackers to:

- **Compositions**
- **Materials**
- **Bill of Materials (BOM)**
- **Styles**
- **Suppliers**
- **Own company operations**

Many industry innovators are partnering with platforms such as the Better Cotton Initiative and the Sustainable Apparel Coalition (which utilize data from the Higg Index) in order to audit their current carbon footprint and improve results going forward. It's historically been extremely challenging for companies to measure progress against science-based targets, but thanks to the newest cutting-edge technologies such as PLM integrating with these carbon monitoring platforms, that is about to change.



KEY TAKEAWAY:

CALCULATE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT WITH PLM

Next-gen digital transformation solutions such as Centric PLM offer a gateway to various specialized databases, including the Higg index, Trustrace and Greencontact. Within an innovative and responsive PLM platform, teams can import and experiment with validated carbon impact data to calculate the carbon footprint, from fiber through to the finished product. This can be modified at any point of the product journey, putting the power in your hands.



Today we manage quality data in Centric PLM and we can track if products are recycled or which ones are made of organic cotton for example which is helpful to measure our sustainability progress.



INTEGRATED WITH HIGG

To support the apparel and textile sector toward eco-responsibility, Centric Software has conducted around 40 research projects with its customers and partners around the world.

After analyzing the feedback and learning industry best practices from the research, Centric added new configurations to enrich its Centric 8 PLM modules.

These have been grouped into five packages corresponding to the five pillars of corporate social responsibility: carbon footprint calculation, packaging waste management, supply chain certification, circular economy and social responsibility and factory audits.

The development of these CSR solutions is a natural extension of Centric's continuous improvement methodology and its commitment to bring added value to its customers, enabling them to be at the forefront of sustainability and innovation.



Centric PLM is a very important part of our digital transformation journey. Its interconnection with Higg will help Epic to analyze and understand the environmental impact of our products and help us make lower-impact, more sustainable product offerings to our customers.

Ranjan Mahtani,
Executive Chairman of Epic Group.

epic
GROUP



Higg

Trusted
Sustainability
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CENTRIC SOFTWARE

From its headquarters in Silicon Valley, Centric Software® provides a Product Concept to Consumer Digital Transformation Platform for fashion, retail, footwear, luxury, outdoor, consumer electronics and consumer goods including cosmetics and personal care and food and beverage. Centric's flagship Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) platform, Centric PLM™, delivers enterprise-class merchandise planning, product development, sourcing, quality and product portfolio optimization innovations specifically for fast-moving consumer industries. Centric Visual Innovation Platform (CVIP) offers highly visual digital board experiences for collaboration and decision-making. Centric Retail Planning is an innovative, cloud-native solution powered by Armonica Retail S.R.L., that delivers an end-to-end retail planning process designed to maximize retail business performance. Centric Software pioneered mobility, introducing the first mobile apps for PLM, and is widely known for connectivity to dozens of other enterprise systems including ERP, DAM, PIM, e-com, planning and more as well as creative tools such as Adobe® Illustrator and a host of 3D CAD connectors. Centric's innovations are 100% market-driven with the highest user adoption rate and fastest time to value in the industry. All Centric innovations shorten time to market, boost product innovation and reduce costs.

Centric Software is majority-owned by Dassault Systèmes (Euronext Paris: #13065, DSY.PA), the world leader in 3D design software, 3D digital mock-up and PLM solutions.

Centric Software has received multiple industry awards and recognition, including being named by Red Herring to its Top 100 Global list in 2013, 2015 and 2016. Centric also received various excellence awards from Frost & Sullivan in 2012, 2016, 2018 and 2021.

Want to learn more about how to gain supply chain transparency?
Read our next e-book: **Going Green with PLM: Certifying Your Supply Chain**

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