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## GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY

### BEING GREEN

CONE DENIM IS A LEADING SUPPLIER OF FABRIC TO TOP DENIM APPAREL BRANDS ACROSS THE GLOBE. WE MAKE AUTHENTICITY AND INNOVATION COMBINED WITH UNPARALLELED INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE OUR BUSINESS. OUR MANUFACTURING PROCESSES COMPRISE RING-SPINNING, DYEING, WEAVING, AND FINISHING, AND WE CONTINUE TO INSPIRE THE GLOBAL MARKET WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART, VERTICALLY INTEGRATED FACILITIES IN THE US, MEXICO, CHINA, AND NICARAGUA. STRENGTHENED BY INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE GROUP'S GLOBAL NETWORK OF OPERATIONS AND SERVICES, TODAY WE OFFER A TOTAL SOLUTIONS PACKAGE TO CUSTOMERS, REGARDLESS OF THE DESTINATION.

CONE HAS BEEN A LEADER IN PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT SINCE WE OPENED OUR DOORS OVER A CENTURY AGO. BECAUSE THIS IS OUR PLANET TOO, CONE DENIM CONTINUES TO STAND BEHIND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AT EACH OF OUR FACILITIES AROUND THE WORLD. SUPPORTING COMMUNITY MEANS OPERATING IN WAYS THAT MINIMIZE A FACILITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT AND PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE AREA'S NATURAL RESOURCES. OUR GLOBAL LOCATIONS ALLOW US TO REDUCE TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY AND SHIPPING RESOURCES AND COSTS NEEDED TO MOVE OUR PRODUCTS ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN AND DECREASE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS CONE DENIM SHOWS ITS COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY.

#### **ALTERNATIVE FUEL**

BOILERS ARE IMPORTANT IN CREATING THE STEAM NEEDED TO PROCESS DENIM. INSTEAD OF BURNING COAL IN BOILERS, OUR WHITE OAK PLANT IN NORTH CAROLINA RELIES ON AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE -- TRASH. THE RECYCLED METHANE GAS, A BYPRODUCT PIPED FROM A NEARBY LANDFILL, IS USED TO MAKE STEAM TO HEAT THE PLANT AS WELL AS DYE AND FINISH DENIM FABRIC. IN THIS WAY, CONE CREATES WEARABLE MATERIALS WITH A UNIQUE, RECYCLED FUEL SOURCE THAT REDUCES GREENHOUSE GASES AND THEIR IMPACT ON GLOBAL WARMING.

#### **RECYCLING - GREEN IN, GREEN OUT**

CONE DENIM IS COMMITTED TO RECYCLING OUR RESOURCES WHEREVER POSSIBLE—BOTH IN THE MATERIALS WE PURCHASE AND THE REUSABLE BYPRODUCTS OF OUR MANUFACTURING.

- WE PARTNER WITH OUR SUPPLIERS TO SPECIFY PRODUCTS IN RETURNABLE TOTES, SUPER SACKS AND DRUMS WHICH ALLOW US TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE OUR LANDFILL WASTE.
- REUSABLE COTTON FIBERS ARE RECOVERED AND REINTRODUCED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YARN-MAKING PROCESS.
- COTTON WASTE IS RECYCLED BY FORMING IT INTO BRIQUETTES AND USING AS CATTLE FEED.
- CONE WAS THE FIRST DENIM MANUFACTURER TO APPLY ORGANIC SOLIDS FROM WASTEWATER TREATMENT ON NEARBY LAND FOR FERTILIZER.
- FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS, LAMPS AND BALLASTS ARE RECYCLED.
- MATERIALS FROM OUR MANUFACTURING FACILITIES ARE SOLD TO RECYCLING COMPANIES FOR OTHER USES.

## ENERGY CONSERVATION

CONE DENIM USES BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RESOURCES TO IDENTIFY, ANALYZE AND IMPLEMENT RESPONSIBLE ENERGY PRACTICES THROUGHOUT ITS OPERATIONS.

- PURCHASING PRACTICES ARE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT AND MINIMIZE ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND IDENTIFY ALTERNATIVE SOURCES.
- EQUIPMENT AND ILLUMINATION SYSTEMS ARE ENGINEERED TO REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION INCLUDING THE USE OF HIGH-EFFICIENCY, ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY FLUORESCENT LIGHTING FIXTURES.
- HVAC SYSTEMS ARE OPTIMIZED TO REDUCE REFRIGERATION REQUIREMENTS SAVING ENERGY AND IMPROVING SYSTEM CONTROL.
- AIR, HEATING AND WATER SYSTEMS ARE MONITORED CLOSELY TO MINIMIZE LOSS OF ENERGY RESOURCES.
- LIGHTING LAYOUTS AND EQUIPMENT ARE DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE ELECTRICITY USE. LIGHTING IS CONCENTRATED WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED FOR OPERATORS, AND SKYLIGHTS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN SEVERAL AREAS TO REDUCE ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION.
- GREATER LEVELS OF INSULATION USED FOR WALLS, DOORS, WINDOWS, AND STEAM PIPES SIGNIFICANTLY SAVE ENERGY AND IMPROVE EFFICIENCY.
- CONE DENIM'S "WEAVE DIRECT SYSTEM" REDUCES THE AIR VOLUME AND CHILLER CAPACITY NEEDED TO CONDITION THE WEAVING AREA.
- FINISHING SYSTEM DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS REDUCE STEAM PRESSURE NEEDS, LOWERING GAS AND WATER CONSUMPTION.

## WATER SOLUTIONS

CONE DENIM OPERATIONS USE STATE-OF-THE-ART WASTE TREATMENT PLANT PROCESSES WHICH ARE THE INDUSTRY GOLD STANDARD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FOR TREATING WASTE WATER USED IN MANUFACTURING.

- AT OUR CONE DENIM PARRAS PLANT IN MEXICO WE USE CARBON DIOXIDE GAS EMITTED FROM THE PLANT'S BOILERS TO NEUTRALIZE CHEMICALS IN THE PROCESS WATER COMING FROM THE PLANT. THIS LOWERS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND PROVIDES AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY WASTE WATER TREATMENT.
- AT OUR WHITE OAK PLANT, THE WATER WE USE FOR MANUFACTURING COMES FROM THE COMPANY'S OWN NEARBY LAKES. PROCESS WATER IS TREATED IN OUR WASTE WATER FACILITY AND THEN SENT TO THE CITY FACILITY FOR FINAL TREATMENT BEFORE BEING RETURNED TO ITS NATURAL STREAM.
- TREATED WASTEWATER IS REUSED TO IRRIGATE AND FERTILIZE NEARBY LAND.
- RAINWATER IS COLLECTED, STORED AND REUSED IN THE MANUFACTURING PROCESS.
- WATER CONSERVATION GOALS ARE STRESSED BY TRAINING OUR EMPLOYEES, WHO ARE ORGANIZED IN TEAMS TO ENCOURAGE CONSERVATION SUGGESTIONS.
- HIGH TECH EQUIPMENT MONITORS AND CONTROLS WATER FLOW TO MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCY.
- WATER FROM STEAM PRODUCTION AND FINISHING IS RECOVERED FOR REUSE. RINSE WATER FROM ONE DYEING PROCESS IS REUSED FOR ANOTHER.
- SPILL PREVENTION AND CONTAMINANT PROCEDURES (SIMILAR TO THOSE RECOMMENDED BY OSHA) ARE FOLLOWED IN ALL LOCATIONS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT. CHEMICAL STORAGE AREAS HAVE CURBS AND PROPER DRAINAGE TO ENSURE THE SAFEST HANDLING OF CHEMICALS.

### **ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY SUSTAINABLE COTTON**

- U.S. COTTON IS A SUSTAINABLE, RENEWABLE AND BIODEGRADABLE RESOURCE THAT, UNLIKE MANY CHEMICAL FIBERS, OFFERS MANY ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS..
  - NEW DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS REDUCE THE NEED FOR WATER. THE MAJORITY OF U.S. COTTON GROWN DOES NOT USE ANY IRRIGATION.
  - NEW INSECT RESISTANT PLANTS AND THE USE OF NATURAL INSECTS LIKE LADYBUGS, GRASSHOPPERS AND CATERPILLARS HAVE LOWERED PEST APPLICATIONS DRAMATICALLY IN THE UNITED STATES.
  - SPACE-AGE GLOBAL POSITIONING AND SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY TELLS FARMERS WHERE AND WHEN TO APPLY FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES, NOW A FRACTION OF WHAT THEY ONCE WERE.
  - NO-TILL FARMING PRACTICES HELP SAVE WILDLIFE HABITATS OF BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE. REDUCED TILLING PRACTICES ALSO SAVE FOSSIL FUELS AND REDUCE RUNOFF.
  - THE TREMENDOUS GAIN IN PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY FROM MODERN TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS COTTON GROWERS TO PRODUCE ALMOST TWO TIMES MORE COTTON WORLDWIDE NOW THAN IN THE 1960S ON ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AMOUNT OF LAND, RESULTING IN MORE COTTON OUT FOR THE ENERGY PUT IN.
- CONE DENIM IS A PIONEER IN DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIC COTTON DENIM FABRICS.

### **CONE DENIM LOCATIONS**

CONE DENIM OPERATES AT THE CORE OF INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE GROUP'S (ITG) JEANSWEAR DIVISION THROUGH STATE OF THE ART MANUFACTURING AND CUTTING EDGE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT. CONE DENIM OPERATIONS INCLUDE WHITE OAK IN GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA; CONE DENIM YECAPIXTLA AND CONE DENIM PARRAS, BOTH IN MEXICO; CONE DENIM NICARAGUA IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA; AND CONE DENIM JIAXING IN CHINA. THE GROUP ALSO WORKS WITH AN ITG PARTNER MILL IN VIETNAM. SHOWROOMS ARE LOCATED IN NEW YORK, LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO, DALLAS AND HONG KONG.

### **ABOUT ITG**

ITG WAS FORMED IN 2004 BY NEW YORK FINANCIER WILBUR L. ROSS, JR. WITH SALES OF APPROXIMATELY \$1 BILLION AND MORE THAN 11,000 EMPLOYEES WORLDWIDE, ITG OPERATES 27 FACILITIES ACROSS 11 COUNTRIES. STRATEGICALLY AND GLOBALLY FOCUSED, ITG OFFERS NEW TECHNOLOGIES, SOLID FINANCIAL ASSETS, REGIONAL EXPERTISE AND STRONG RELATIONSHIPS.