

Soalon™, a triacetate fiber, is a raw material procurement policy for forest protection 2020.03.30

“Soalon™” is the only one triacetate yarn in the world, produced from natural wooden pulp by Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation.

Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation is committed to making responsible use of wood-derived raw materials for the production of Soalon in accordance with the following policies.

Protection of endangered ancient forests and ecosystems

1. All wood-derived raw materials are prioritized to be procured from suppliers that have obtained FSC certificates under Forest Stewardship Council. FSC COC and FSC certified plantations are part of the solution.
2. Prohibit the procurement of wood harvested from forests of high conservation value, and wood harvested from ancient and endangered forests¹ such as Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests; Coastal Temperate Rainforests; tropical forests and peatlands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa, or endangered species habitat.
3. Prohibit sourcing from companies engaged in illegal logging of forests or procured from plantations since 1994, and do not procure from areas where logging violates the rights of indigenous peoples or local residents.
4. If any forest-derived raw materials are found to be procured from threatened ancient forests, endangered species habitats, or by illegal logging, investigate their supply chains, encourage them to change their procurement methods, and, in some cases, review our business relationships with those suppliers.
5. The above-mentioned efforts will be collaborated with Canopy etc.⁽¹⁾, an NGO aiming at forest protection, to promote sustainable forest management and the protection of forests that have long been in danger. Where appropriate, we will support collaborative and visionary system solutions that protect remaining ancient and endangered forests.

Recognizing, respecting and upholding human rights and the rights of local communities

Mitsubishi Chemical expects all suppliers to respect the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to grant access to controlled areas, land and resources to which indigenous peoples and local communities have been granted by laws and customs. To this end, Mitsubishi Chemical supports the rights of indigenous peoples to obtain voluntary, prior, informed consent (FPIC) prior to allocating new logging rights and developing plantations. Suppliers are required to resolve and correct any complaints, disputes, or human rights violations through an agreed-upon process that is transparent and accountable.

Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Mitsubishi Chemical recognizes the importance of forests as carbon reserves and supports efforts to reduce the loss of carbon-valued forests. For this reason, we will prioritize transactions with suppliers that take the opportunity to avoid harvesting in the region and that adopt strategies to actively and effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Innovative and Alternative Fiber Development

We will explore and encourage the development of products using sustainable raw materials and manufacturing process, in collaboration with our suppliers.

Transparency, Traceability and Verification

We will ensure the transparency & traceability of our own operations and supply chains and will identify the origin of our raw material sourcing, including pulp and original wood material. We will complete a third-party verification of our operations and supply chain with the goal to be verified low risk of sourcing from ancient & endangered forest by 2020.

“KAITEKI”, the vision of Mitsubishi Chemical, is to “continue the comfort of people, society, and the earth”. Based on this vision, Mitsubishi Chemical aims to contribute to the sustainable development of society and the earth, in addition to solving environmental and social problems, through its corporate activities, with the vision of realizing the KAITEKI.

Please refer to the Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings website for details of efforts to realize a sustainable society.
<https://www.mitsubishichem-hd.co.jp/english/sustainability/>

¹ <https://canopyplanet.org/tools/forestmapper/>