

## Clean is our favourite shade

Sustainable and socially responsible production.

Made in Germany.



# The company.

Sustainable by tradition.

**TVU Group** in Leutershausen (Bavaria) is one of the largest yarn traders and dyeing mills in Europe. Our 150 employees, of which 12 per cent are apprentices, generate a turnover of approx. EUR 47m. Throughout our existence we have felt a responsibility towards other people and our environment.

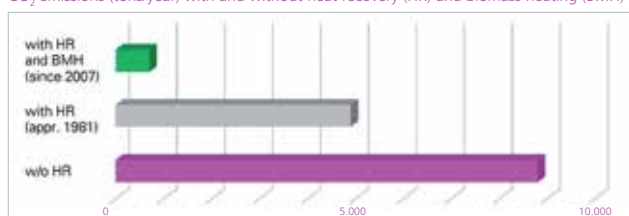


*„Sustainability means wellbeing for everyone, but that must not come at the expense of other countries, other people and future generations, nor must it be to the detriment of the environment. In short: today not at the expense of tomorrow, here not at the expense of elsewhere. Sustainable business therefore means looking to the future while finding a balance between social, ecological and economic goals.“*

## Always ahead.

Today **sustainability** is a term with positive connotations for most people. Likewise, many consumers wish to buy sustainably, socially-responsible and fairly produced products. The international retail and many labels advertise with terms like **“sustainable”** and **“fair”**. Occasionally the requirements and standards for these certifications are not transparent, difficult to scrutinise, and in some cases regrettably mere whitewashing.

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (tons/year) with and without heat recovery (HR) and biomass heating (BMH)



Here at TVU we have been exceeding the minimum requirements for decades, even for renowned certifications and statutory regulations. We began pursuing the philosophy of resource-efficient, economical business in the 1980s, when raw materials and energy were still inexpensive. With our vision for ecologically sensible measures, we continue to prioritise long-term positive solutions to this day.

## Always in our focus.

In 2010 we set ourselves visionary ambitious targets for the year 2020 as part of our “Vision 2020”. We work with great commitment every day to implement this vision and are delighted at every small success on our long journey.

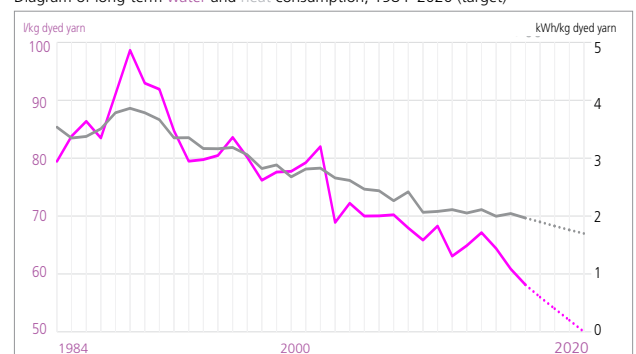
Yarn dyeing enables the production of textiles with greater durability. For example, yarn-dyed tablecloths can withstand significantly more wash cycles than piece-dyed tablecloths, which ultimately leads to less resource consumption.

We don't only whitewash ourselves with certifications. We live our values!

## Always open.

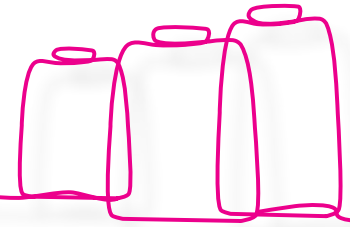
We wish to be judged through our transparent figures. From 1 January 2017 our customers get the average annual specific water and CO<sub>2</sub> footprint per kg of finished yarn disclosed on their invoice. This means that over time every customer can understand where we are currently and where we want to go in terms of our development. The relevant data are always available, both for customers and the authorities.

Diagram of long-term water and heat consumption, 1984–2020 (target)



# The four elements.

Our sustainability concept at a glance.



## ENERGY - PRODUCTION & RECOVERY.



Our energy concept is absolutely exemplary. We produce our own clean energy, and can recover and reuse it by means of modern technology.

- heat production in our own biomass heating plant
- 60% heat recovery after dyeing
- 13% of electricity requirements provided by photovoltaic systems

➔ **CO<sub>2</sub> reduction of over 90% or 8,000 to.**

## DYES, CHEMICALS & ADDITIVES.



Out of strong conviction, we don't use non-degradable pollutants which could accumulate in nature.

REACH regulations, organic textile standards and other statutory regulations only represent the minimum standards we set ourselves.

➔ **That's our promise to you and the generations that follow.**

## WATER, WASTEWATER, WASTE.



Efficiency is economical and good for the environment. And because we work efficiently with dyes, chemicals and all other raw materials, we only produce the minimum waste and wastewater necessary.

- exclusive use of process water
- process optimisations led to a 35% reduction in water consumption
- wastewater decolourisation using partial flow treatment before water reaches the local sewage works

- **Comprehensive, long-term waste and wastewater statistics available to customers and authorities**

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.



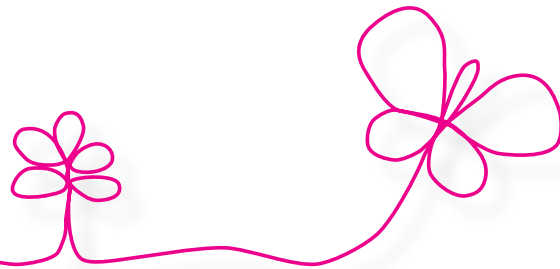
In Germany, compliance with social standards is of course regulated and controlled by law. In Leutershausen, our support for our employees exceeds the standard statutory minimum: for instance, we provide funding for child-care costs and invest in preventative health measures.

We hold our suppliers to our own standards and ensure compliance with social standards personally on site.

**For us, it is the individual that counts. Anyone who visits us experiences the constructive atmosphere of our flat hierarchy.**

# Sustainability is an issue for top management.

Visit us and see for yourself.



## Dear customers and stakeholders,

Many certifications and quality labels confirm compliance with sustainability and social criteria, and of course we comply with these for ethical, economical and legal reasons. But even better – for the most part we exceed them by far!

We are happy to show people around our operations. See for yourself how we take what is written here and implement it every day.

For both economic and environmental reasons, we have improved our processes and developed systems that lower our energy consumption for dyeing, while at the same time preventing pollution of the environment.

Only by conserving resources now can we draw on them in the future.

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