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WestPoint Home takes milestone step toward sustainability

LIGONIER, Ind. (Sept. 23, 2019) – On Sept. 12, New York based textile manufacturer WestPoint Home achieved STeP by OEKO-TEX® certification for sustainable and responsible textile production in the United States.

The newly certified WestPoint Home plant, located in Chipley, Fla., produces comforters, bedspreads, pillows and other filled bed products for the home textiles market.

"We believe that STeP by OEKO-TEX® represents the next progression in our sustainability leadership position," Environmental Department Director Eddie Lanier said. "Our retail customers and the guests that visit our Hospitality customers deserve quality textiles made in the most sustainable and socially responsible manner possible. We're excited that this will positively impact our brands like Martex, Vellux, Nostalgia and Luxor."

<u>STeP certification</u> is issued after a production facility has successfully completed a detailed online assessment and passed the on-site audit. The third-party certification provides a condensed but comprehensive picture of sustainability performance for manufacturers, brands and retailers down the supply chain.

STeP certification establishes environmentally friendly production processes, improves work safety and promotes socially responsible working conditions in production facilities throughout the supply chain. It is a modular system focusing on compliance and continuous improvement of six areas:

- Chemical management
- Environmental performance
- Environmental management
- Social responsibility
- Quality management
- Occupational health and safety

Products from WestPoint Home's Chipley Plant have been <u>STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®</u> certified since 2014. [Certificate# 14.HUS.41321 Hohenstein HTTI] With the addition of STeP certification, WestPoint Home's products now fulfill a critical requirement of the MADE IN GREEN by OEKO-TEX® traceable label for products that have been tested for harmful substances and produced responsibly.

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WestPoint Home's Chipley Plant is STeP by OEKO-TEX® certified through Hohenstein HTTI, certificate number 19000257.

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STeP by OEKO-TEX® is an independent certification system that lets companies clearly demonstrate their commitment to sustainable production through a neutral partner.

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About Hohenstein

With global headquarters in Bönnigheim, Germany and 1000 employees in offices and labs around the world, Hohenstein offers accredited and independent textile testing, certification, research and development as well as training for more than 70 years. Product labels such as the Hohenstein quality label or the UV Standard 801 support manufacturers and retailers in their marketing activities. As a founding member, Hohenstein is also one of the most important laboratories for testing within the OEKO-TEX® portfolio. Hohenstein.US

About OEKO-TEX®

With 27 years of experience, OEKO-TEX® leads the world in empowering and enabling consumers and companies to protect our planet by making responsible decisions. OEKO-TEX® provides standardized solutions which optimize customers' manufacturing processes and help deliver high quality, more sustainable products. All products within the OEKO-TEX® portfolio are used to strengthen customers' systems, processes or products and help create more sustainable companies. More than 10,000 manufacturers, brands, and retailers in nearly 100 countries are working with OEKO-TEX® to ensure their products are tested for potentially harmful substances. Millions of consumers around the world look for OEKO-TEX® labels before making buying decisions. OEKO-TEX® certified products and suppliers can be located in the OEKO-TEX® Online Buying Guide at oeko-tex.com/en/buying-guide. Connect with OEKO-TEX® on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter.