

# INSQIN

Taking PU Waterborne:  
How to address the  
sustainability challenges  
of a key material in our  
industry



Bayer MaterialScience

is  
now....

.



covestro



- Leading manufacturer of high-tech polymer materials with focus on innovating for products used in daily life



- High performance polyurethanes for coating of fabric
- Expertise in application
- Integrative approach to industry to maximize their innovative potential in functionality and sustainability

# PU plays an important role in many different ways in the apparel industry



In outdoorwear materials...



**400**million  
outdoor jackets

...in garment printing and finishing



**300**million  
pairs of jeans

**2**billion  
t-shirts

In synthetics, PU is the most important kind of polymer with softness and durability



In fashion and sportswear



**7** billion  
pairs of fashion  
shoes



**2** billion  
bags



**1** billion  
fashion  
garments

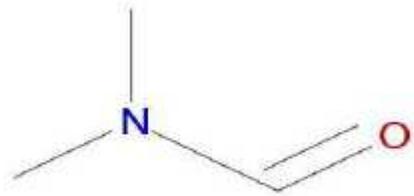
**1** billion  
pairs of sports  
shoes

99% of all PU synthetics factories use DMF as the process solvent





# DMF is a Substance of Very High Concern



N, N – dimethylformamide, or DMFA

- Organic solvent used in wet processing “coagulation” of PU
- For manufacture of PU synthetic materials and for outdoor fabrics
- DMF classified as SVHC due to its classification as CMR – Toxic to Reproduction (Repr. 1B)

DMF is a substance of high concern due to risk assessment and in many countries national chemical legislations – recognized as problematic

# DMF is in the focus of Greenpeace and now coming into national press



GREENPEACE

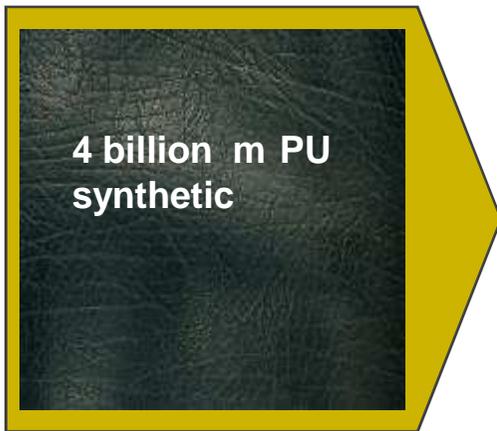
“Red Card” report of May 2014

“Dirty Discounters” report of October 2014



“Poison in Boot” Die Zeit, October 2014

But the real problem is to be found in the use of DMF *per se*



**4.4** billion litres DMF creating exposure & airborne pollution risk

**12.3** billion litres DMF-contaminated wastewater creating water pollution risk

**30** thousand tonnes solid waste

**The objective should be to secure safe production processes and working conditions along the value chain**

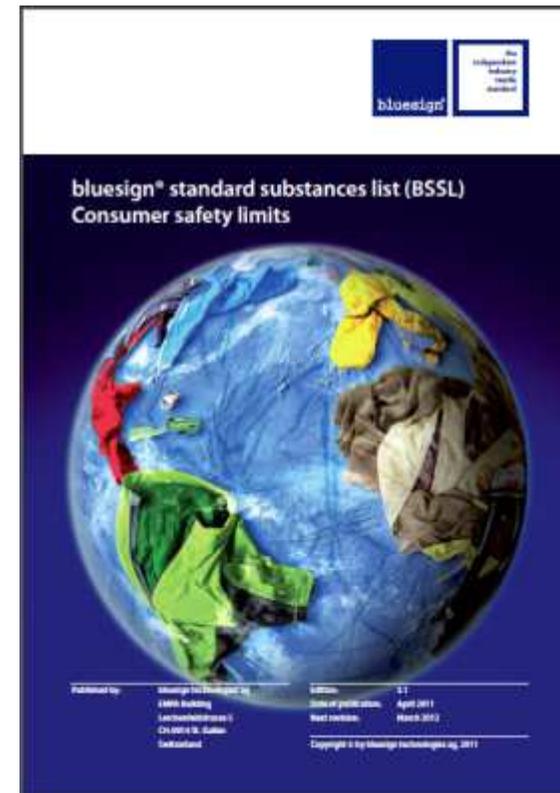
# Coalitions and systems that consider the holistic view will be the real driver of change



*Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL) of ZDHC*



*Research List (June 2014) includes DMF*



*bluesign® standard substances list*

# Waterborne PU Chemistry

How Industry can Build the New Generation of Sustainable PU



# Chemical industry is investing in R&D to create products to meet industry requirements



Covestro Developments with  **insqin**   
Inspiration in every square inch



WB PU for sports footwear material with **high peeling strength** >3.5 kg/cm

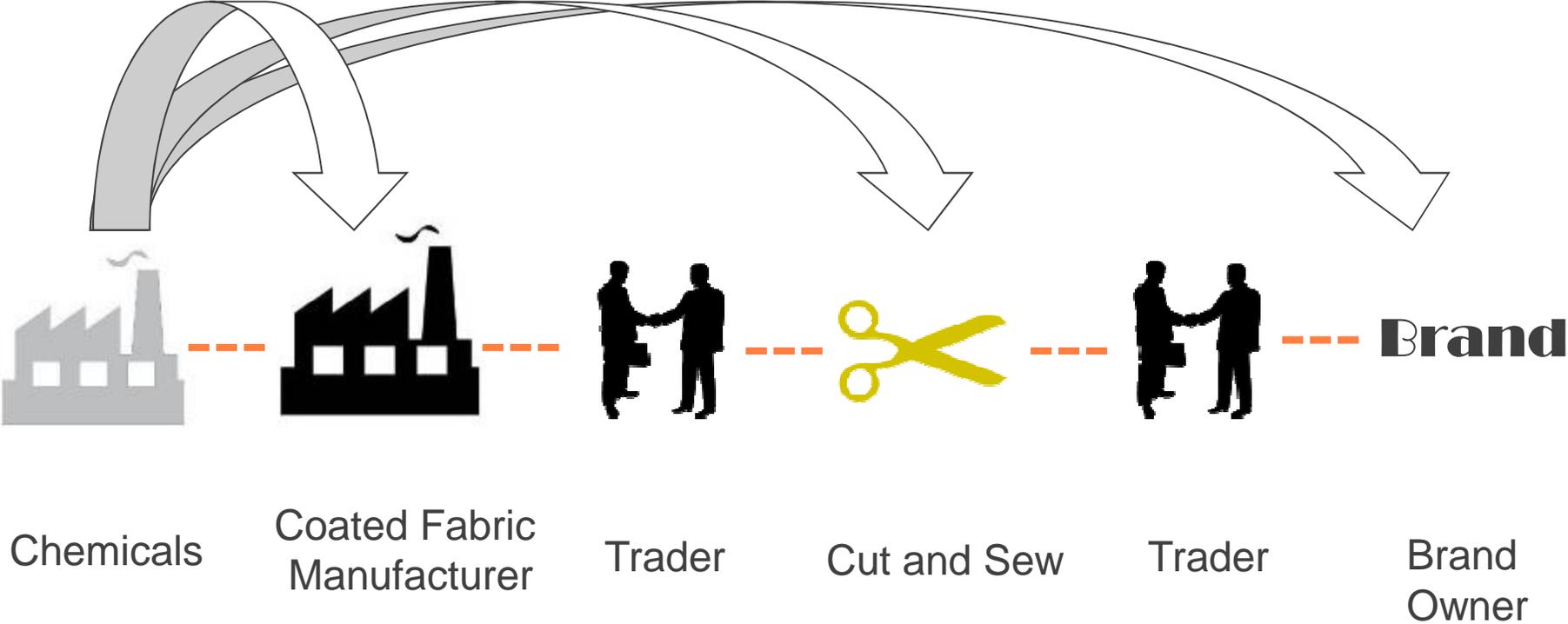


WB PU for garment material that retains **soft handle** at all temperatures



WB PU for bag material that is **embossable**

# New way of collaboration to develop & scale new materials faster



▶ Enabling disruptive innovation and speed

# INSQIN<sup>®</sup> Partner Manufacturer Program to break down supply chain barriers and foster best practice collaboration



- Helping brand owners find reputable manufacturers of sustainable materials
- INSQIN Partner facilities and production audited by third party testing house



► **Providing supply chain transparency**

Players along the value chain must take the input stream approach pioneered by bluesign



**Covestro is a bluesign system partner since 2014**

(BLUESIGN and the BLUESIGN logo are registered trademarks of Bluesign Technologies AG)

# Manufacturing industry only now starts to invest in capacity – but can move fast



- 90% of production ex China
- ca. 500 producers, 1500 lines
- Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangsu & Guangdong main provinces
- Installed capacity 6 billion m, production 4 billion m
- Waterborne capacity **currently 10-20 mio m**
- More investments happening in 2015

**Investment will be much faster with increasing interest**



## 2 additional drivers to change – from the supply side

### 1 Chinese Government

- Environmental protection law amended in beginning of 2015.
- Measures to improve pollution and worker safety
- Stricter rules and standards, far stronger penalties for non-compliance.
- Some city governments have already announced their own programs.

### 2 Energy

- Energy costs expected to increase as poor quality coal is phased out and replaced by gas.

# future prospects

Next generation of polymeres



# Enabling tomorrow's needs and wants

## Polyurethanes based on renewable resources



Consumer

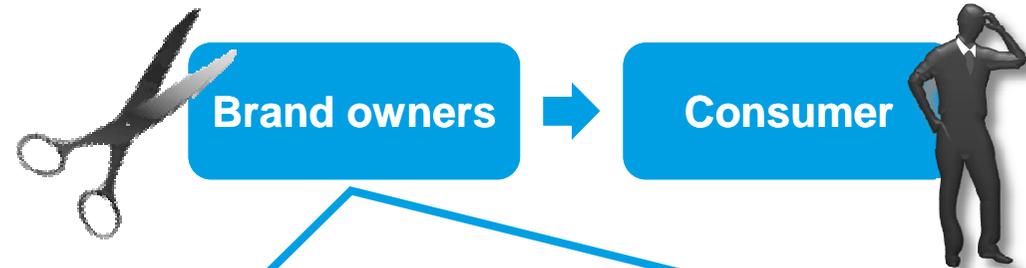


- **Sustainability** is a megatrend and consumers are gaining awareness on the impact of their purchase decisions on the environment.
- There is an increasing interest on buying **green** and many labels have appeared in the market in order to help consumers to take responsible decisions.
- Governmental programs are running or being developed in different regions.



# Enabling tomorrow's needs and wants

## Polyurethanes based on renewable resources



- Textile brands are aware of their corporate responsibility to fulfill this market need and are **looking for more sustainable materials** in order to decrease their impact on the planet.



**RØADMAP TO  
ZERO  
DISCHARGE OF  
HAZARDOUS  
CHEMICALS**

# Enabling tomorrow's needs and wants

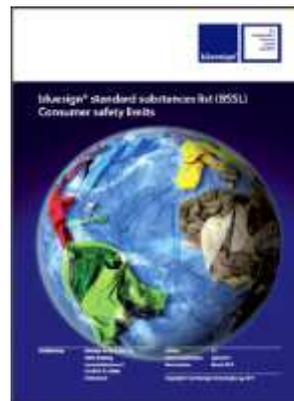
## Polyurethanes based on renewable resources



- Manufacturers are already improving sustainability by **switching from solventborne systems to waterborne PU** to meet brand owner requirements and to comply with tightening laws and regulations.



Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL) of ZDHC



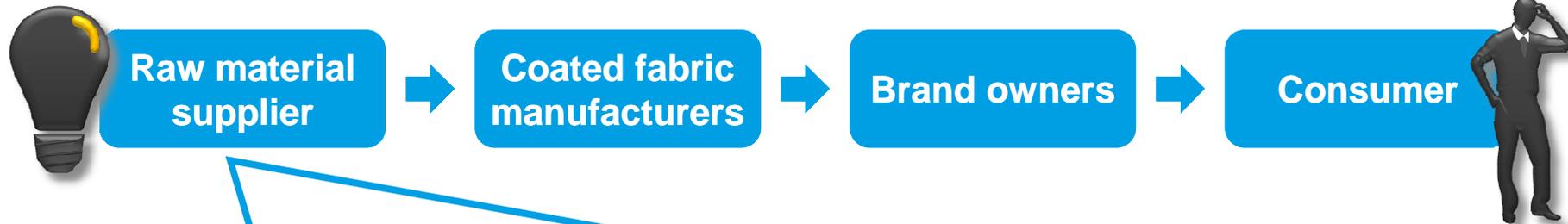
bluesign® standard substances List (BSSL)



Oeko-Tex

# Enabling tomorrow's needs and wants

## Polyurethanes based on renewable resources



- What if you could combine the essence of a natural product with the benefits of a synthetic high performance material?

## High performance enabled by nature

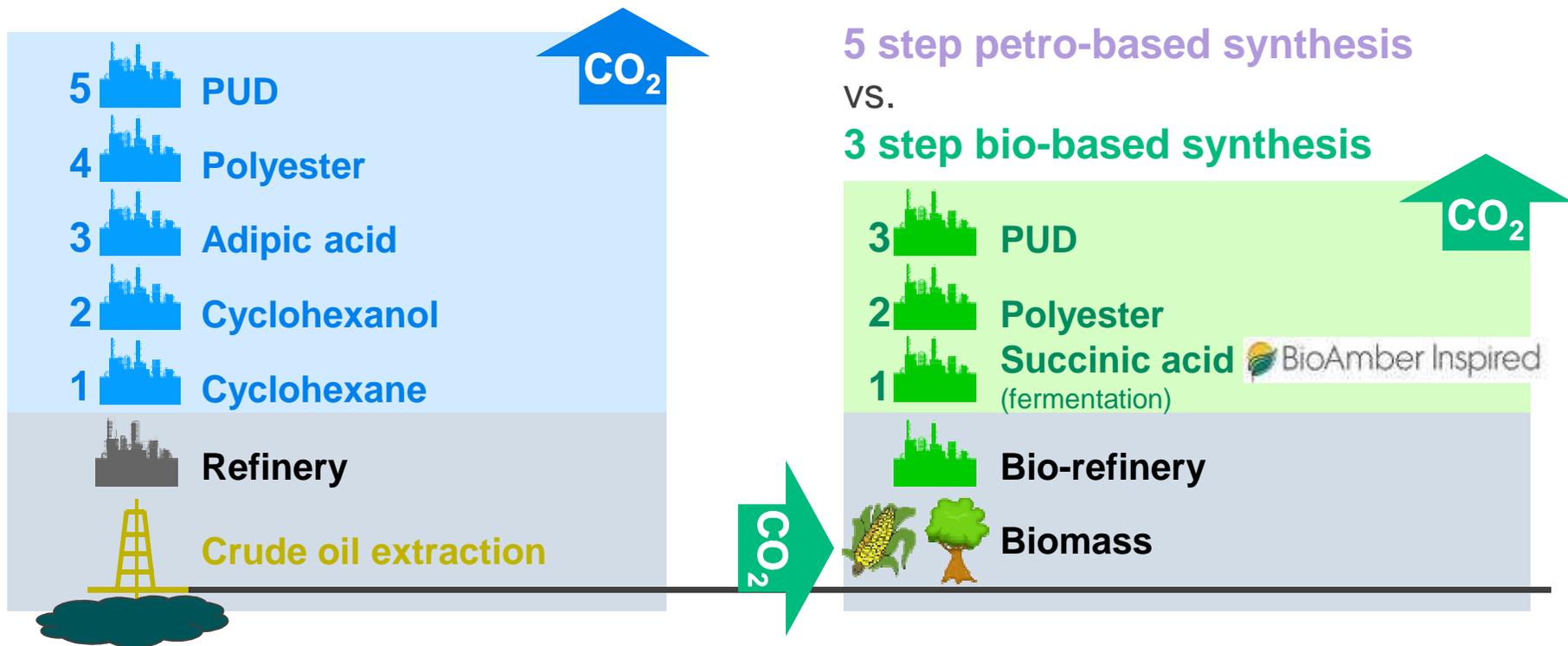
- **IMPRANIL<sup>®</sup> eco**, a series of bio-based polyurethane dispersions (new products from INSQIN<sup>®</sup> technology) with **up to 65% renewable content** and maintaining the **high performance**. These products bring the benefits of waterborne PU into the next sustainability level, contributing to a further reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



# Impranil<sup>®</sup> eco

Significantly improved carbon footprint

- **Bio-based** and significantly **improved carbon footprint** cradle-to-gate in comparison to standard products (internal assessment done, external certification in process)
- **Example substitution adipic acid by bio-succinic acid** (similar advantage for other selected bio-based raw materials)

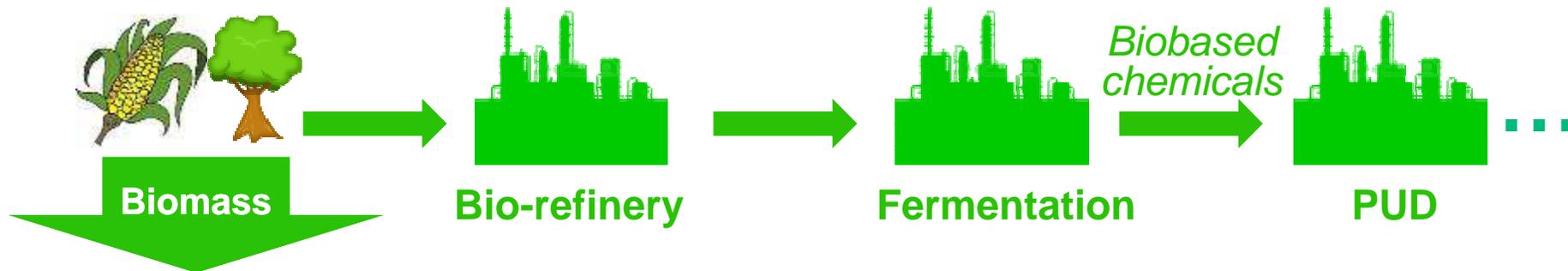


# Impranil<sup>®</sup> eco

What is the source?



Impranil<sup>®</sup> eco range is not in direct competition with the food chain



## TODAY: 1<sup>st</sup> generation biomass

- State of the art processing
- Bio-based diols and diacids come currently from **field corn** starch (**non-edible variety**, used for feed and industrial applications)



## FUTURE: 2<sup>nd</sup> generation biomass

- From cellulosic & waste biomass
- Diol and diacid suppliers already developing this technology
- Process will take a few more years to be delivered in sufficient commercial volumes
- This process is starting to be available in significant plant sizes for bioethanol

# Recommendations for the industry to achieve phase-out



1. Chemical industry must stay the course with product innovation.
2. Brand owners make your aspirations public!
3. Don't focus on RSL limits – it might be the opposite of sustainable.
4. Embrace multi-stakeholder developments and treat them as developments
5. Start small with commercialization – but start!





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# Thank you for your attention

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