

The background of the top half of the page is a photograph of three Erlenmeyer flasks in a laboratory setting. The flasks are partially filled with a red liquid. An orange diagonal overlay covers the right side of the image, extending from the top right corner towards the center. The text 'PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP' is printed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters over the orange area.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

TenCate Protective Fabrics US
Georgia Manufacturing Facilities
Published 2026

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP AT TENCATE PROTECTIVE FABRICS

At TenCate Protective Fabrics, we define Product Stewardship as management of product design, manufacturing, and disposal of industrial waste materials to minimize the health, safety, and environmental impact of our products. This global framework ensures consistency across our operations, while allowing for region-specific implementation in line with local regulations.

Through robust chemical management systems, we use registered and approved substances in all our manufacturing facilities. We actively work to reduce the use of hazardous chemicals through ongoing product and process innovation, ensuring alignment with regulatory frameworks and industry best practices.



1. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

As a global organization, TenCate Protective Fabrics operates within a unified framework to ensure compliance with applicable regulations across the regions in which we operate. This approach enables us to maintain consistent standards for product safety and chemical management, while adapting to region-specific legal requirements. We comply with relevant regulatory frameworks in the regions where we operate, including regulations in the European Union and the United States. Each of our facilities adheres to applicable local laws and regulatory requirements, ensuring compliance at both a global and regional level.

Our US manufacturing facilities adhere to key regulatory and certification requirements, ensuring the safe and responsible use of chemicals in our processes.

Chemical Management and Risk (CMR) Policy

Guided by our global Product Stewardship framework, TenCate Protective Fabrics has implemented Chemical Management and Risk (CMR) policies to minimize the presence of hazardous substances within our operations. While our approach is globally aligned, implementation reflects applicable regional regulations and occupational health requirements, ensuring both consistency and local compliance.

Governance & Responsibility

The Quality and Compliance department plays a crucial role in responsible chemical management, ensuring compliance with all regulatory requirements. Chemical management and risk mitigation are fully embedded within the organization, reinforcing oversight and responsibility in chemical safety practices.

2. CERTIFICATION & TESTING

Certification and testing requirements vary across the regions and markets we serve, reflecting different regulatory frameworks and market expectations. We align with these regional requirements to ensure compliance in all markets where we operate.

Our production facilities are committed to meeting OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 compliance for finished fabrics with the exception of some products manufactured in the US for our military market segment.

This approach allows us to maintain a strong, globally consistent standard while meeting region-specific certification and testing requirements. To achieve and maintain certification, we submit Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for relevant substances, which are independently assessed as part of the certification process.

OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100



STANDARD
100

OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 is a label for textiles tested for harmful substances. It sets the benchmark for textile safety, from yarn to finished product. Every item bearing the STANDARD 100 label is certified as having passed safety tests for the presence of harmful substances, as identified by OEKO-TEX®.

3. RESPONSIBLE CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

Chemical screening, approval, and monitoring are essential to ensuring compliance and responsible chemical use across our global operations. This approach ensures that we source the appropriate chemicals and manage them responsibly throughout their lifecycle, from how they are used and stored to how they are handled and disposed of, maintaining both global consistency and local compliance.

Chemical Assessment, Approval, Use, and Monitoring

Our global approach is driven by continuous innovation, with Research & Development (R&D) and engineering teams advancing product and process improvements that enhance sustainability without compromising fabric performance. To support this, we apply a rigorous multi-stage chemical screening and approval process across our operations:

This structured process ensures that all approved

substances meet our global standards while remaining aligned with regional regulatory requirements.

4. IDENTIFIED CHEMICALS TARGETED FOR REDUCTION AND ELIMINATION

As part of our commitment to responsible chemical management, TenCate Protective Fabrics has identified several substances targeted for reduction or phase-out within our US manufacturing facilities.

We follow content limits as outlined by TSCA and OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 certifications. All substances are continuously monitored to ensure product safety and compliance. In addition, the content of N,N-Dimethylacetamide (DMAC) and formaldehyde is restricted in accordance with OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 guidelines.

FreeFAS® Durable Water-Repellent Finish

In response to market demands, we have developed a patented technology called FreeFAS® finish, an NFPA-compliant, Durable Water Repellent (DWR) finish designed without the use of fluorine-containing compounds.

5. OUR COMMITMENT TO BEING RESPONSIBLE

At TenCate Protective Fabrics, responsible product stewardship is a core component of our sustainability and safety strategies. We continuously seek to reduce hazardous substances, comply with regulations, and implement best practices to ensure the highest standards in protective fabric manufacturing. Our commitment to innovation and compliance reinforces our role in advancing safe and sustainable protective fabric solutions, providing high-performance protective fabrics while helping safeguard both people and planet.



Pre-Screening

Before introduction into our facility, chemicals undergo an initial review based on their Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and Voluntary Product Environmental Profile (VPEP).



Laboratory Testing

Selected chemicals undergo controlled lab trials to evaluate performance, safety, and environmental impact.



Production Scale-Up

After successful laboratory validation, chemicals are introduced into controlled production-scale testing to confirm compliance with performance and environmental standards.



On-Going Use

Once approved, chemicals are managed responsibly throughout their lifecycle within our facilities. This management includes how substances are used in production, stored on-site, and ultimately handled and disposed of, ensuring compliant operations at every stage.

