

Facing the textile future together

## Standardised guidelines for sustainable recycling of waste textiles

**Objectives of the Future of Textiles Association (Gemeinschaft für textile Zukunft (GftZ)) is to achieve the best value during the sorting of waste textiles. Guidelines of the GftZ offer a professional basis for all parties involved.**

As an interest group of waste textiles sorting companies, the GftZ pursues the aim of transferring the greatest possible amount of waste textiles into reuse and recycling. The GftZ represents about one third of the sorting capacity in Germany and is independent of organisations.

According to the Waste Directive, sorting waste textiles is a preparation for reuse and therefore makes a huge contribution to saving resources. If a waste textile is suitable for a subsequent reuse can only be determined by a professional assessment of each textile item. Following the prioritisation according to the waste hierarchy, this means in detail:

- Waste textiles and shoes are reused and sold as second-hand clothing afterwards.
- Non-wearable waste textiles are recycled.
- Unrecyclable waste textiles are processed with energy recovery.
- Residues and foreign matters are disposed properly.

Since there are currently no particular requirements regarding a high-quality and value adding sorting and recycling, the GftZ has taken on the task of developing guidelines that serve as a professional basis for decision-makers and market participants.

The implementation of the legally required 5-stage waste hierarchy should be strengthened by, inter alia, specification and standardisation of tendering procedures and the guarantee of transparency of mass flow.

The content-related development of the guidelines is already at an advanced stage. That means that the guidelines can be presented in public by the end of the year.

### Press Release

13.10.2015

### Contact

Reinhardtstraße 34  
10117 Berlin

T +49 30 26 93 18 89

F +49 30 26 94 97 47

M [gemeinschaft@textile-zukunft.de](mailto:gemeinschaft@textile-zukunft.de)



#### About Gemeinschaft für textile Zukunft (GftZ – Future of Textiles Association)

A sustainable use of textiles and a high-quality collection, sorting and recycling of waste textiles are the goals pursued by the GftZ. The focus of the association is the development and establishment of guidelines for the sustainable use and high-quality recycling of waste textiles. Partners of the GftZ, which was founded in 2014 and has its headquarters in Berlin, are companies with daily business in collection, sorting, recycling and marketing of waste textiles. GftZ is open to start a dialogue with interested stakeholders covering all questions regarding the future of textiles.

#### **Press Release**

13.10.2015

#### **Contact**

Reinhardtstraße 34  
10117 Berlin

T +49 30 26 93 18 89

F +49 30 26 94 97 47

M [gemeinschaft@textile-zukunft.de](mailto:gemeinschaft@textile-zukunft.de)