

## **CIRFS POSITION PAPER** **CELLULOSE GENERIC NAME**

### **ISSUE:**

- The new EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles has prompted the EU Commission to propose changes to the EU Textile Labelling Regulation that also affects manmade fibres.
- As a component of this initiative, the nomenclature of manmade cellulosic fibres (refer to ISO 2076:2021) might become a significant subject. Historically, manmade cellulose, the oldest category of manmade fibres, have been the only fibres generically defined by their processes (such as Viscose, Cupro, Lyocell) or properties (like Modal). In contrast, all other (synthetic) generics are defined by their polymer, such as Polyester and Polyamide.
- Furthermore, identifying and differentiating current cellulose-based generics in the final product is challenging due to their common polymer base: cellulose. The emergence of new cellulose fibre producers employing novel technologies has complicated the traditional process-oriented categorization. These newcomers seek individual generic definitions that risk fragmenting the cellulose fibre segment further.
- Nevertheless, this presents an opportunity to strengthen the position of biobased cellulosic fibres by adopting a common generic name.

### **CIRFS'S PROPOSAL: CELLULOSE**

CIRFS advocates for the recognition of **“Cellulose”** as a broad generic descriptor for all related manmade fibres, akin to the usage of "Rayon" in the United States. At the same time a transition period of using the current generics should be considered.

### **CIRFS'S STANCE ON RAW MATERIAL BASE AND CIRCULARITY: NOT INCLUDED IN THE GENERIC TOPIC.**

CIRFS maintains that the origin of the polymer cellulose and the concept of circularity should not be incorporated into discussions concerning the generic name. Given that the issue of circularity applies to non-cellulosic generics as well, it is advisable to implement a distinct labelling system. This system would separately denote the origin of the polymer and indicate the nature of the circular process.

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