

Workshop

Capacity building for chemical traceability in textile value chains

#DTdT25

Darmstädter
Tage
der
Transformation
25

March 26th, 2025 | 10:00 am till 2:30 pm
Schader-Forum, Goethestraße 2, 64285 Darmstadt

Sustainable Product Policies

The transformation towards a resource-conserving and non-toxic circular economy presents companies – especially SMEs – with new challenges. The EU Textile Strategy aims to tackle the high volume of waste with low recycling rates and negative environmental impacts of production. Sustainable Product Policies prioritize these product groups for new Ecodesign requirements (incl. Digital Product Passport). These measures require that stakeholders have access to detailed product information. Traceability of chemicals is an important prerequisite for CE-compliant products and business models. The workshop will address this politically highly topical and environmentally pressing issue through concrete recommendations for action and capacity building.

The ECHT project

Based on the insights and findings of the ongoing European research project on traceability of chemicals in global textile value chains (ECHT project) this workshop aims at building capacity to implement **traceability** in companies (incl. SMEs) along the overall textile value chain. This will be done from a more strategic and **conceptual** point of view, remaining technology neutral. While, technology is one key aspect for the successful implementation of traceability, the actual challenges lie in the proper structural implementation of technologies rather than in the technology itself. Collaboration along the value chain, the development of viable business models and an understanding of the regulatory framework are among other aspects key drivers – especially for SMEs – to benefit from traceability beyond mere regulatory compliance.

Workshop in Darmstadt

In this workshop, stakeholders from the textile value chains (e.g. producers of fabrics and dyes, brands, retailers, recyclers) will receive **input from academia, NGOs and industry**, illustrating conceptual knowledge and best practice examples (incl. from other sectors). In several co-creative working sessions, participants will generate further insights and knowledge on how to overcome barriers to traceability.

Participants will also be introduced to the „**ECHT Knowledge Platform**“, an online repository and educational tool for industry and policy actors. They will have access to materials and know-how that they can directly apply, implement and disseminate within their own organisations. Beyond this workshop, further follow-up workshops are planned to deepen the knowledge and revisit the elements that have been covered in this workshop.

For more information about the ECHT project visit:
<https://echt.nweurope.eu/> or get in contact with the project team: echt@h-da.de / jonas.rehn@h-da.de

Further information can be found on:
www.schader-stiftung.de/capacity-building-traceability

The conference is a cooperation between **Darmstadt University of Applied Science** and takes place as part of **the Darmstadt Days of Transformation 2025 (DTdT25)**.

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