

TORAY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HIGG MATERIALS SUSTAINABILITY INDEX

USE CASE








HIDENORI TERAJ

GENERAL MANAGER, FIBERS &
TEXTILES GR & LI BUSINESS
PLANNING DEPARTMENT



The Higg MSI Measures and Communicates five Environmental Impacts:

-  Global Warming CO₂ Emissions
-  Eutrophication (*excessive minerals in water, often due to fertilizer runoff and pollution*)
-  Water scarcity
-  Chemistry
-  Fossil fuel use and depletion

Before the Higg Materials Sustainability Index (Higg MSI), there was no tool that had common life-cycle assessment criteria, methodology, and procedure, which was specially created for the textile industry and developed through global industry-wide consensus. The Higg MSI is meaningful because it teaches people in the industry that materials can change the sustainability of textile products.

From the viewpoint of a manufacturer, Toray's products are the basis on which it does business with customers. Toray and its group companies produce yarns, fabrics, and finished products made of synthetic fibers such as polyester, nylon, and acrylic. Each product features so much variety, for example, shape of filament, fineness, color, and function, among other attributes.

Toray submitted its process data of partially plant based polyester filament fabric, one of its expanding lineup of low-environmental load materials to support the development of the Higg MSI. Toray was proud to register this innovative material in the Higg MSI. In the near future, when the Higg MSI can store environmental data of various products from each manufacturer, Toray would like to showcase its sustainable textiles. The Higg MSI can be a catalogue of materials showcasing environmental profiles. Toray hopes it contributes to enhancing the Higg MSI to continue improving data and developing material sharing and private processes functions.