

### **SOLVING FOR THE BIG PICTURE** THROUGH SUSTAINABLE THREAD SOLUTIONS AND SMART INNOVATION



### DOING OUR PART TO AFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE WITHIN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

### **THOUGHTS FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

We are dedicated to meeting the evolving needs of our customers through continuous innovation. At the core of our approach is a commitment to environmental and social responsibility in the communities where we operate. Our emphasis on developing new solutions not only addresses current demands but also ensures a positive impact on the environment and the well-being of future generations. By integrating sustainability into every aspect of our operations, we strive to create value for our customers while fostering a harmonious relationship with the planet and the communities we serve."

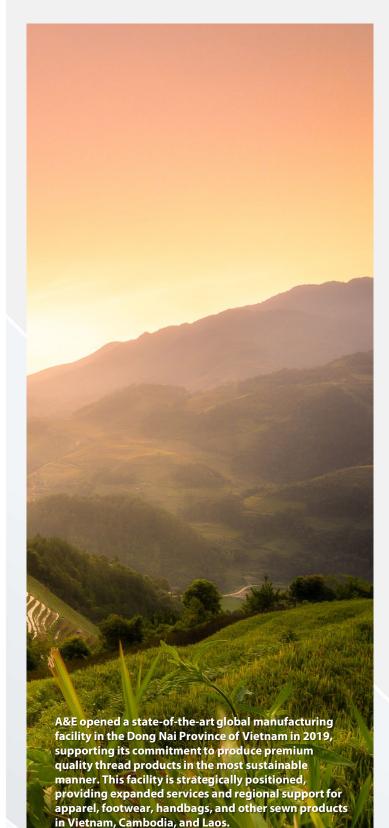
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**CHRIS ALT, PRESIDENT** 





# **QUALITY THREAD PRODUCTS SINCE 1891**



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### WHO WE ARE

A&E is one of the world's foremost manufacturers of industrial sewing thread, embroidery thread and technical textiles, with a global presence extending from Asia, across Europe, to the Americas.

We are a recognized industry leader in environmental sustainability and corporate social responsibility and operate our global facilities with the utmost regard for the safety and health of our 10,000+ employees worldwide. We are committed to being a trusted voice for positive change and greater sustainability within the textile industry.

# SMART INNOVATION AND CAPABILITIES

Globally, A&E operates four centers of product advancement, aligning product development and innovation with brand and retail-driven trends, that can be deployed throughout our global network.

We manufacture products in 22 countries, distribute in 50, and sell in over 100. Production redundancy plans across multiple regions, help to prevent supply chain disruptions, ensuring delivery of goods, wherever our customers do business.



## **CREATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SUSTAINABLE THREAD PRODUCTS, NOW**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

Through steadfast dedication and our involvement with leading, reputable organizations, we provide our customers with access to the latest in global, sustainable sewing thread and innovation advancements, created through ethical manufacturing.



# A&E THREAD PRODUCTS ARE PFAS-FREE

### WHAT ARE PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUSTANCES?

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are a group of manufactured compounds that have been widely used since the 1940s for their useful properties in consumer, commercial, and industry products. Within our industry, PFAS chemistry have been mainly used to provide important functions in water and oil repellent products.



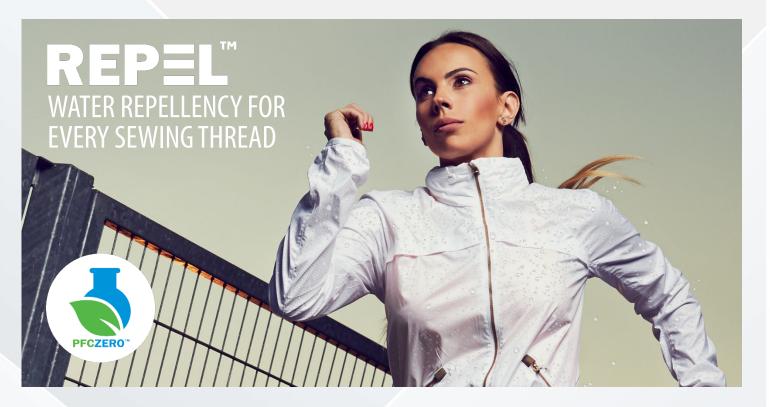
# **NO PFAS IN A&E THREAD**

### **WHY DID A&E PHASE OUT PFAS?**

Of the thousands of known PFAS compounds, scientific studies have indicated one common characteristic of concern is that many of these compounds break down very slowly and can build up over time in people, animals, and the environment. While education is ongoing, the risk was too great not to act. We took it as a challenge several years ago to develop non-PFAS alternative thread products that provide the same positive attributes PFAS provide without containing any PFAS.

This led to industry breakthroughs with the development of REPEL<sup>™</sup>, an A&E thread enhancement that can provide water repellency for every sewing and embroidery thread. Not only does REPEL<sup>™</sup> not contain PFAS compounds, REPEL<sup>™</sup> uses no perfluorocarbons. We created PFCZERO<sup>™</sup> to denote this important technology solution to support sustainable industry efforts.

Employing developed eco-friendly technologies, we are pleased to report all A&E products produced throughout our entire global supply chain are manufactured without the use of PFAS compounds. We are proud of this accomplishment and of our continued efforts to provide our customers with ethically-produced thread and yarn products available around the world.







# 100% RECYCLED THREADS

### AMEFIRD.COM/EXPECTMORE

A&E's long-standing commitment to providing sustainable thread products through ethical manufacturing continues to be a top priority at all A&E operations worldwide. Learn more about our complete line of Eco-Driven<sup>®</sup> sustainable products, including the 100% recycled, ECO100 thread line on our website. *Expect more*.

Contact us at customerservice@amefird.com and visit amefird.com/expectmore.



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# ECO100<sup>™</sup> RECYCLED THREAD PRODUCTS

### WHAT IS ECO100<sup>™</sup>?

ECO100<sup>™</sup> is A&E's sustainable thread line of 100% recycled polyester and nylon threads, created using high quality recycled fibers from waste that would otherwise be discarded in landfills.

### HIGHLIGHTED SUSTAINABLE THREAD OFFERINGS

### PERMA CORE® ECO100

100% RECYCLED, POLY WRAPPED, POLY CORE SPUN SEWING THREAD



# BEST STRETCH®

100% RECYCLED, TEXTURED NYLON SEWING THREAD

### SUPER BRITE POLYESTER® ECO100

100% RECYCLED, TRILOBAL POLYESTER EMBROIDERY THREAD

### ANESOFT® ECO100

100% RECYCLED, SOFT, TEXTURED POLYESTER SEWING THREAD



### PERMA SPUN® ECO100

100% RECYCLED POLYESTER, STAPLE SPUN SEWING THREAD



# ANEFIL POLY®

100% RECYCLED, TWISTED MULTIFILAMENT, POLYESTER SEWING THREAD

### SUPER MATTE™ ECO100

100% RECYCLED, MATTE FINISH, POLYESTER EMBROIDERY THREAD



### D-CORE® ECO

COTTON WRAPPED, 100% RECYCLED POLY CORE SPUN SEWING THREAD



### WILDCAT® ECO100

100% RECYCLED, TEXTURED POLYESTER SEWING THREAD



# ANEFIL NYLON® ECO100

100% RECYCLED, TWISTED MULTIFILAMENT, NYLON SEWING THREAD

### ANESTRONG® ECO100

100% RECYCLED, HIGH TENACITY, FINE DENIER, POLYESTER SEWING THREAD





# **TRANSFORMING WASTE TO RECYCLED THREAD**

### **HOW ARE ECO100<sup>™</sup> THREAD PRODUCTS MADE?**

A&E experts work with leading suppliers to develop unique recycled fiber types and sizes with the characteristics needed. We then use advanced manufacturing techniques and responsible practices to create our quality line of sustainable, ECO100<sup>™</sup> thread products.



WASTE MATERIALS

Polyester and nylon post-industrial and post-consumer plastics are collected.



FLAKE

The collected waste is sorted, washed, and chopped into flake.



**WASTE MATERIALS** 

Flakes are then melted and formed into chips.



WASTE MATERIALS

Chip is extruded through a specialized process and made into recycled fiber.



### **ECO100 THREAD**

The result is 100% recycled industrial and embroidery threads, sustainably made.



WINDING AND FINISHING

Continuing the journey from dyeing, these threads are wound and finished.



DYEING

Product is then dyed in thousands of color possibilities.



SPINNING

A&E's manufacturing process begins with spinning these quality fibers in GRS Scope Certified facilities.

# A&E OFFERS SUSTAINABLE THREAD PRODUCTS AWARDED WITH A GOLD LEVEL C2C CERTIFIED™ MATERIAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE



C2C CERTIFIED<sup>TM</sup>, CRADLE TO CRADLE CERTIFIED<sup>TM</sup>, AND C2C CERTIFIED MATERIAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE<sup>TM</sup> ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE CRADLE TO CRADLE PRODUCTS INNOVATION INSTITUTE.



# **A&E AND CRADLE TO CRADLE**



### WHAT IS CRADLE TO CRADLE?

The Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute certifies products designed for a circular economy and challenges us to rethink the way we make them.

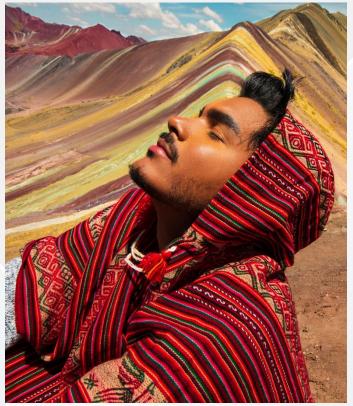
Products certified under C2C are rated based on their overall product safety, responsibility, and ability to be reused once their useful life has come to an end.

A&E offers sustainable thread products awarded with a Gold Level C2C Certified Material Health Certificate<sup>™</sup>.

### SUSTAINABLE THREAD SOLUTION

A C2C Certified Material Health Certificate<sup>™</sup> is awarded to products that meet the Material Health requirements of the multiattribute Cradle to Cradle Certified<sup>™</sup> Product Standard.

The Material Health Certificate offers a solution to growing industry and consumer interest in knowing more about the chemicals used in products across their supply chains and avoiding chemicals of concern, providing us a trusted way of assessing and verifying our work towards safer product chemistries.





# **A&E IS ECO-DRIVEN®**

### WHAT IS ECO-DRIVEN®?

Towards the beginning of our sustainable journey, we identified a need for public awareness of noteworthy sustainability issues and initiatives within the thread and yarn industry. This extended to the education and promotion of environmental sustainability within our A&E operations and overall supply chain.

We created Eco-Driven<sup>®</sup> to describe A&E's efforts to build and inspire a better future through sustainable innovation and the creation of responsible thread solutions. It's this drive towards progress that is at the center of our product development, programs, and processes. Eco-Driven<sup>®</sup> is a summation of our sustainability views and goals and a symbol of our investment in innovative technologies that help reduce our environmental footprint across A&E's global operations.

# Eco-Driven

A&E actively invests in sustainable energy projects. In 2022, rooftop solar panels were installed at our A&E Lanka operations lessening our dependence on traditional power sources.



# **HIGHLIGHTED SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES**

### **SCIENCE BASED TARGETS**

A&E is the first thread manufacturer to validate its Science Based Targets for the reduction of greenhouse gases with targets in line with 1.5°C Paris Climate Agreement.



We work closely with the UN Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action to identify and amplify best practices, strengthen existing efforts, identify and address gaps, and facilitate and strengthen collaboration, to go beyond previous industry-wide sustainability commitments.





### **CLIMATE ACTION GOALS**

- Source 100% of priority materials that are both preferred and low climate impact by 2030.
- Phase out coal as an energy source from supplier sites as soon as possible, and latest by 2030. A&E has not used new coal power since January 2023.
- Optimize internal global logistic plan, while working with transportation partners that provide transparent data and goals, to achieve zero emissions, and lessen overall greenhouse gas impact.



# A BOLD PURSUIT OF SUSTAINABILITY

### **HIGHLIGHTED GOALS AND EFFORTS**

We take pride in being a responsible producer of quality thread solutions and services throughout the world, seeking to balance economic needs, social responsibility, and environmental impact. Below is a list of current sustainability goals we share and are working to achieve with our parent company, Elevate Textiles.



### **BY 2025 — RESPONSIBLY SOURCED FIBERS**

All products to be produced using at least 80% sustainably sourced cotton and 50% recycled polyester content.



### BY 2025 — REDUCED WATER CONSUMPTION

Manufacturing operations to reduce absolute water use by 25% based against 2016 levels.



### BY 2030 — 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

We are investing in renewable energy with a goal to transition all facilities to 100%. This will include a mix of onsite solar projects, energy efficiency projects, and purchase of renewable energy credits.



### BY 2030 — REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES

On track for a 46.2% reduction in Scope 1, 2, and 3 GHG emissions, in-line with approved Science Based Targets. Scope 3 GHG emissions include reductions from purchased goods and services, the processing of sold products, and fuel and energy.



### BY 2050 — NET ZERO EMISSIONS

Using developed energy and conservation efforts, we aim to be 100% Net Zero.



# **OUR SUSTAINABLE FOCUS**



### **DEDICATING RESOURCES**

To reach our sustainable goals, we dedicate resources towards the achievement of projects and tasks. These include:

- Corporate driven support and guidance
- Monthly reporting of sustainability metrics from all A&E locations
- Decarbonization roadmap planning at the facility level

- Global commitment to sustainability
- Global sustainable product focus
- Release annual corporate sustainability report



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