Maximum responsibility with minimal impact on environment - AMANN's Environmental Management

The AMANN Code of Sustainability.

Dealing with the environment and its resources responsibly and sustainably is an important aspect of the AMANN Group's corporate activity. We guarantee compliance with equally high environmental standards at all our production sites worldwide. From universal sewing threads to special high-tech threads, AMANN offers a wide range of threads for all sewing applications. Just as wide-spread is the range of custom-made products – and the corresponding production processes and raw materials used.

Raw materials for high-performance products

Natural, renewable raw materials are limited in their fields of application. Although cotton is still used in some products, synthetic fibres, namely polyester and polyamide, form the indispensable raw material basis whilst demonstrating acceptable features with regard to ecological balance. In a direct comparison, the eco-balances of synthetic fibres and their production processes are much more favorable than those of cotton products. , which are anything but positive in view of the demands on water consumption and land use, pesticides, cleaning and finishing.

Production and dyeing processes of synthetic fibres do have a better eco-balance than those of cotton products as the consumption of water and energy and the use of dyes, chemicals and pesticides is significantly reduced.

The synthetic fibres are sourced from leading producers who also fulfill the highest demands with respect to the environment.

Less is more – resource utilisation and production processes

Continuous optimisation of production processes

For years, we have set the focus on the ecological profile of our production. Through continual research and development activities, we are optimising the eco-balance of our production processes. The use of efficient systems and careful monitoring has enabled AMANN to reduce its overall consumption of primary energy to a minimum. One of our main investment focuses is our dyeing technology.

Dyeing technology

Through ongoing process optimisations in our dye-houses we have been able to reduce the use of fresh and waste water substantially. At the same time the use of dyes and dye carriers has been reduced to a minimum. All dye-houses have their own closed water circulation systems.

STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®

AMANN Group concentrates on physiologically harmless dyestuffs that are in accordance with STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® and the strict German regulations regarding consumer goods (“Bedarfsgegenständeverordnung”).
Nearly all AMANN products are tested in accordance with STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®. This important and internationally recognized testing and certification system ensures that the textile products bearing this label do not represent a health hazard with respect to toxic substances.

REACh

To protect health and environment the European Union issued “REACh” on 1st June 2007. REACh regulates the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemical substances. Therefore each chemical used in production is checked and documented for its toxicologic and eco-toxicologic characteristics.
AMANN supports REACh and therefore the environment and safety of our customers and their customers. We are aware of our responsibility in close cooperation with our suppliers. Hence all AMANN threads including finishing consist of non-hazardous substances with no risks for people and environment.

WR finish of AMANN threads

Recently, critical reports on PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) have been frequently published. This substance belongs to the fluoro-organic compounds and is watched because it's not degraded in the environment and, as far as toxicity is concerned, have not been thoroughly examined yet. AMANN in contrast hasn't used and won't use PFOA at all!
PFOA is NOT used for the WR finish of AMANN's threads. The finish used for the hydrophobizing of AMANN's sewing threads is based on fluorcarbons and does not contain any PFOA. All AMANN threads with WR finish are environmentally friendly and certified according to Oekotex Standard 100.

Re-cycling instead of Re-using

The available technologies and resources for the production of king-spools and cones and for labels and packaging material allow us to optimise our products under completely ecological criteria.

For **king-spools and cones** AMANN relies on the principle of Re-cycling instead of Re-using. The following criteria have been decisive:
Weight, and thus consumption of the raw material, can be minimised. Re-usable products would require much more material to guarantee stability and damage, which would exclude a second winding process, could still not be avoided. In addition, the transport and handling costs for return after use would be extremely high.
Therefore, AMANN uses easily recyclable raw materials, mainly polypropylene – for which well established recycling systems exist in practically all production countries. King-spools and cones are marked with the relevant raw material code and can therefore be sorted correctly.

Utilisation of **labels** is further minimised through optimised make-ups: plastic thread carriers are either printed directly, without label, or materials that present no problem in the re-cycling process are used.
Outer **packaging and transport packaging** are based exclusively on recyclable cardboard and corrugated cardboard – materials that are part of an established and controlled chain for the disposal of raw materials.

Certifications

AMANN's production site in Augsburg/Germany has been certified according to DIN ISO 14001 since 2000 which is the international environmental management standard that establishes and independently audits a continuous improvement process with regard to environmental parameters.
The use of energy is also an important factor in our sustainability program. The ISO 50001 certification states that the production site Augsburg has developed a sustainable energy management as well as a very high degree of energy efficiency and environmental compatibility.