

# FIBRE RECLAIMING: THE BENEFITS

HENRY DAY & SONS LTD produce blends using a very high proportion of recycled fibres. Since the recycled component has already undergone many of the most energy intensive and polluting processes involved in textile manufacture, significant energy and other savings are realised. Apart from the energy savings which arise from the use of recycled fibre, the other environmental benefits are very significant. These include the reduction of landfill and savings of chemical, water and pollution.

At first only wool fibres were reclaimed. Now cotton, manmade and luxury fibres such as cashmere are also reclaimed to create blends suitable for their particular end use.

The impact on the environment is wholly beneficial when compared with textile manufacture using 100% new fibre. Many of the most polluting and resource-greedy processes such as polymer manufacture, natural fibre production (with its associated use of fertilisers, pesticides, etc) raw wool scouring and dyeing are avoided by the use of recycled fibre, which has already undergone these processes. In addition, textile waste, which would otherwise go to landfill (and decompose producing methane in the case of wool, or not decompose in the case of synthetics) or to be incinerated (producing harmful pollutants), is instead re-used.

Wastes are sorted into fibre and colour groups before shredding. We have separated the royal, scarlet, white etc so consequently there is no need to dye. We are actually using, recovering, recycling colour as well as fibre.

After sorting, textile waste materials are passed through our recycling plant. Two rollers hold the raw material very firmly whilst a large drum with teeth spins and shreds the material back to fibre for re-carding and spinning, to start another life.

## THE BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Good quality
- Competitive prices
- Creates a revenue for charities
- Reduces landfill and so landfill tax
- Reduces demand for chemicals and the problems caused in their manufacture
- Reduces demand for new fibre production, a lot coming from abroad
- Reduces demand for water
- Reduces demand on treatment plants and management of residues
- Reduces demand on energy
- Reduces pollution both water and airborne
- Reduces transport and journey times
- Reduces the need for packaging, as there is less processing
- Creates jobs, sorting is quite labour intensive

## THE ONLY VERTICAL FIBRE RECLAIMERS IN THE UK