

WEAVABEL

QUARTERLY



weavabel®

SUSTAINABILITY INSIGHTS FOR THE FASHION INDUSTRY.



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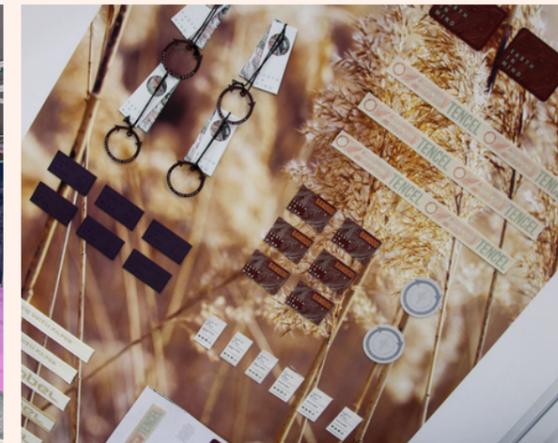
Interest in NFC products such as our recycled felt badge was high, particularly with brands looking to use the technology to achieve their traceability goals. Buzzwords such as the digital product passport were prevalent at PV. They can contain accurate and up-to-date information to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions. Eco-friendly prints and dyes on fabrics are becoming the norm as sustainability in fashion moves at a pace.

SEE YOU NEXT TIME, PREMIERE VISION PARIS!



WEAVABEL VISITS PREMIERE VISION PARIS

The Weavabel team had a fantastic time at the latest edition of Premiere Vision Paris. Our salespeople strengthened existing customer relationships and made several new ones. Our Marketing Manager, Jackie, visited the show for a whirlwind day. There, we met with our partners Retraced, who specialise in traceability and compliance for brands to enhance their sustainability. Weavabel also visited the UKFT stand, who support British brands; an organisation of which we are proud members.



SUSTAINABILITY & THE NEWS



UKFT Update on Glitter, Micro Plastics Ban

If you read our last edition of the newsletter, it is no surprise that the EU are working on the ban of selling glitter and/or micro plastics in products. Issues were raised by Euratex to the European Commission on the use of non-biodegradable glitter and insoluble plastics in textile articles and whether these would be in the scope of the restriction.

The Commission has now clarified that articles with glitter affixed on their surface are out of scope of the microplastics restriction - including some decorative glittered products which were initially considered in scope.

The new rules will prohibit the sale of microplastics as such, and of products to which microplastics have been added on purpose and that release those microplastics when used. Within the scope of this new restriction are fragrances, cosmetics, detergents, fabric softeners, glitter, toys, medicine and medical devices, fertilisers and granular infill material used on artificial sports surfaces, among others.

Banned Products:

- Products, including glitter, made of inorganic materials eg. glass, metal, natural, biodegradable or soluble in water (are out of scope because they are not regarded as microplastics)
- Beads and sequins and other decorations intended to be threaded or sewn
- Microplastics, including plastic glitter, that are contained by technical means (e.g. enclosed in a snow globe) or permanently incorporated in a solid matrix (e.g. trapped in glue, paints or inks, or inside solid objects such as a snow globe)

Plastic glitter on its own (loose plastic glitter) is considered as a mixture under REACH and is in the scope of the restriction.

Recycled Leather: What you need to know.

Leather in the fashion industry is controversial, but sometimes unavoidable. How can we ensure our use of it is as sustainable as possible? Our blog covers the pros and cons.

- Recycled leather helps to use existing resources again, through specialist production techniques.
- Several brands prefer to avoid genuine leather, using PU leather instead. However, is PU any better, since it is predominantly plastic-based?
- [Click here to read more.](#)

15+ Sustainable fashion facts you need to know:

This article covers a wide array of areas that the fashion industry affects, from waste, pollution and the industry's carbon footprint.

- Waste in the fashion industry
- Chemical pollution & the carbon footprint of your clothes
- How it can improve: through circular fashion and global initiatives.
- [Click here to read more.](#)



Visit Weavabel's Blog:



Weavabel Customer Case Studies

See how Weavabel has helped brands like yours with their branded trims and packaging, and how we can help you to become more sustainable.

[Sirplus: How Weavabel helped the sustainable menswear brand develop eco-conscious trims.](#)

Meet our Team:



Flora, Premium Account Manager

I have now been at Weavabel for 2 years (time flies!), having joined as part of the New Business team. I have now transitioned into account management, helping initially with brands managed by my colleague Alec, as we bid farewell to him as he retires. It has been wonderful learning from the most experienced member of the team, shadowing him and learning from a pro! I am now one of the newest PAMs on the team and being able to lean on the others for support and guidance has been invaluable.

As an Account Manager, we work with brands daily to monitor their current products and stock levels and develop new items to add to their catalogue. This is one of the best parts of the job, seeing something go from a mock-up to a tangible product and helping bring clothing collections to life is always an enjoyable process.



Another part of being a PAM is outside of the office. This includes day-to-day tasks such as visiting clients and showcasing at industry trade shows like Premiere Vision in Paris, which I have been fortunate to visit 3 times in a row. It's a whirlwind, from being involved in the pre-show prep to stand assembly and meeting all the visitors to the stand. Visiting clients is a great part of the job, it is always interesting to see the team on the other side of the partnership and their often very creative environments and HQs!



A rewarding part of the job is seeing items we have produced on the garments in-store or online as well as seeing brands we work with thrive, grow and be able to support their journey (a good excuse to top up my wardrobe)! As brands grow, it is great to be able to facilitate this by support in new regions of the globe or new product categories - this could be stock holding in an additional location of our warehousing for them, or expanding into retail or e-commerce packaging solutions as they expand to brick-and-mortar or add to their online offering.

As we round off Q1 of 2024, I am excited to see what the rest of the year has in store; I am keen to continue to work with our current brands as well as work with new brands and teams globally!



The end of an era.

Alec, a Premium Account Manager, is retiring after an incredible 28 years this March. Whilst we will always stay friends, everyone at Weavabel wishes him the best, as no one deserves a more peaceful and happy retirement. Alec has been instrumental in the growth of Weavabel and his close relationships with customers are renowned. Read on to learn a bit more about Alec.



By Alec Busby

When asked to reflect on the 28 years at Weavabel, I have to go back to the day I started. With staff having just left and others about to leave, I became very involved in a manually operated system, working from small premises with very little storage space. It was the manual system I had been brought up with in my first job in the mid-60s. As experienced at that time and moving forward, the business relied on good staff cooperation and teamwork, which obviously worked well, allowing the company to grow to a certain level with some good accounts and plenty of potential.

What do you count as your greatest achievement from your time here?

There have been many enjoyable social occasions over the years, and those who attended will know. I suppose the highlight of my time is achieving nearly 29 years of experience come June. Seeing brands grow in the belief you have helped in some way with this process has also been very rewarding.



Throughout your years of experience within this industry, what are some of the big changes you have noticed?

Upon reflection, you can see lots of social history in the trends and many products we have produced, from woven shirt labels for the infamous Robert Maxwell's personal use to various football club badges and numerous well-known brands, up to today's eco-friendly revolution.

Like any family, there have been many ups and downs, births, deaths, marriages, and staff changes. The company's strength stems from brand loyalty driven by service, communication, and development. In the pursuit of progress, many changes have been adopted; including moving to larger premises, initiating system changes, embracing the latest technology, and keeping innovation as the main focus.

I must admit that adopting all these changes did not always align well with my approach to managing my accounts, as I desired to control and personally process activities. This personal approach has served me well over the years, but with staff changes and new working methods, I am aware that the up-and-coming generations have different approaches towards brands and their requirements.

Which parts of the job will you miss?

I will miss the daily routine; this will be my new challenge. I will miss all the staff but I will keep the friendships made from the day I started, to those more recent. I will miss many of the customers who have remained faithful and become friends. A very big thank you to the fantastic group of nearly 100 customers who have sent good will messages.



Beautiful Bella: a close companion of Alec.

What sort of things are you looking forward to in your retirement?

Initially my garden - although small - will be my focus. The addition of my recent (currently rather soggy) allotment garden will occupy my time for the first six months.

I hope I have helped colleagues learn from my experience and some of my character will be taken forward into the business.

EXHIBITOR

AT



25 - 26 JUNE 2024 LONDON

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

WEAVABEL IS ATTENDING...



Fashion Legislation Updates For The EU & UK

Courtesy of UKFT

Our Partners at UKFT have provided an update on the EU General Product Safety Regulation guide, which will affect your brand if you sell in the EU. Click the link below to read more about it:



1. Technical file and product risk analysis: From 13 December 2024, all goods placed on or made available to the EU/NI market must be risk assessed and have an accompanying technical document with a general product description. The manufacturer or brand must have internal processes in place for product safety.
2. EU point of contact: From 13 December 2024, all goods placed on the EU/NI market must include EU contact details. The importer or distributor details should be used. CE-marked goods require the contact details of an EU Authorised Representative.
3. New labelling requirements: From 13 December 2024, all goods placed on or made available to the EU/NI market must include the name, address and an electronic address, (an email address or web address that provides an online point of contact) of the brand.

Note: Businesses of all sizes will have new obligations from 13th December. However, the European Commission is producing guidance specifically for SME and micro enterprises which should be available in Q2 of 2024.

**[CLICK HERE TO READ
THE ARTICLE.](#)**

Coming Soon:
Weavabel's
Polybag
Webinar

Everything you need to know
about the different qualities and
their sustainability benefits.



Credits

UKFT

The Weavabel Blog

Premiere Vision

Weavabel Case Studies

The Sustainable Angle

