<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higg Brand Tool</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🧧 Higg Brand &amp; Retail Module</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higg Product Tools</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🛋️ Higg Materials Sustainability Index</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🧽 Higg Product Module</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higg Facility Tools</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🛠️ Higg Facility Environmental Module</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🧑‍🔧 Higg Facility Social &amp; Labor Module</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verification</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transparency</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Developed by the Sustainable Apparel Coalition, the Higg Index is a suite of tools that enables brands, retailers, and facilities of all sizes — at every stage in their sustainability journey — to accurately measure and score a company or product’s sustainability performance.

The Higg Index tools measure social and environmental performance across the value chain, delivering a holistic overview that empowers businesses to make meaningful improvements that protect the well-being of factory workers, local communities, and the environment.

By using standardized tools, companies can identify hotspots, improve sustainability performance, save time and money, and engage with value chain partners to scale systemic change across the industry. By joining forces in a Coalition, we can address the industry’s urgent, systemic challenges that are impossible to change alone.

The Higg Index can also help companies achieve the environmental and social transparency consumers are demanding. At the SAC, we’re working towards consumer-facing transparency through the Higg Index, so brands, retailers, and manufacturers can better communicate their credible, data-based sustainability performance.

Our business partner Higg Co develops the innovative technology that powers the Higg Index. As a technology company, Higg Co focuses on building the tools that drive sustainability measurement to rapidly meet the evolving needs of the industry.
Higg Brand Tool

Higg Brand & Retail Module (Higg BRM)
Brands and retailers play a key role in driving sustainable practices in the apparel, footwear, and textile industry.

The Sustainable Apparel Coalition (SAC) has released an updated version of the Higg Brand & Retail Module (Higg BRM), which helps brands and retailers comprehensively assess their sustainability risks and impacts and drive continuous improvements. From product design to logistics and retail operations, the Higg BRM measures a business’ overall sustainability performance.

**Higg Brand & Retail Module**

**Higg BRM Benefits**

- A comprehensive sustainability assessment for brands and retailers.
- Understand and organize your company’s sustainability priorities.
- Align your organization’s sustainability strategy.
- Ideal for businesses of any size, at any point in their sustainability journey.
- Save time and money.
- Benchmark performance against other similar brands and retailers.
- Prepare to bring consumers on your sustainability journey.
- Use the Higg BRM to inform your reporting on industry initiatives like Science Based Targets, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the G7 Fashion Pact.

**How the Higg BRM Works**

1. Register at [Higg.org](http://Higg.org)

2. Assess Your Company’s Sustainability Risks

3. Set Measurable Improvement Goals

“*The Higg BRM establishes a global standard for fashion brands and retailers to measure and talk about sustainability performance. For the first time we will have comparable data, for us and the brands to identify improvement areas. As an independent and globally structured organization, the Sustainable Apparel Coalition is positioned to drive this necessary change in the fashion industry.*”

**Kate Heiny**
Director of Corporate Responsibility
ZALANDO
Brands and retailers complete the Higg BRM assessment online, at Higg.org. Through a series of questions, they assess their social and environmental risk areas, based on the complexity of their value chain — from a product’s design to its end of use.

The assessment presents questions applicable to a business’ risk areas. Depending on the complexity of a company’s value chain, the assessment can be up to 250 top level questions that can expand into 2,000 questions or data points.

Environmental impacts include water use, greenhouse gas emissions, and chemicals management. Social impacts include fair wages, human rights, and working hours.

The Higg BRM offers detailed environmental and social scores, indicating where brands and retailers can make sustainability improvements.
Higg Product Tools

- Higg Materials Sustainability Index (Higg MSI)
- Higg Product Module (Higg PM)
The Higg Materials Sustainability Index (Higg MSI) is the apparel industry’s most trusted tool to measure and score the environmental impacts of materials. Apparel, footwear, and textile industry designers and product developers can use the Higg MSI to assess and compare the impacts of different materials, such as cotton, polyester, and leather, to produce more sustainable products.

The Higg MSI uses data submitted from the industry and life cycle assessment databases to calculate environmental impacts and translate them into comparable Higg MSI scores. Using these insights, companies can design products that will attract and retain key consumers, who increasingly demand knowledge of greater transparency in how their clothes and shoes are made.

The Higg MSI features more than 80 example materials. These include:

- Aluminum
- Gold
- Nylon
- Polyester
- Silk
- Copper
- Cork
- Cotton
- Duck Down Insulation
- Polyurethane
- Synthetic
- Leather

These examples represent materials commonly used in the industry. The Higg MSI can calculate the impact of millions of possible material manufacturing variations.

The Higg MSI Measures

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF MATERIAL PRODUCTION

- Global Warming Potential
- Nutrient Pollution in Water (Eutrophication)
- Water Scarcity
- Fossil Fuel Depletion
- Chemistry

Use the Higg MSI to:

- Assess how the five environmental impacts change based on different production processes.
- Identify how to make your materials more sustainable.
- Communicate the environmental impacts of your materials.

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.HIGG.ORG
“The Higg MSI was developed specially for the textile industry through global industry-wide consensus. Before the Higg MSI, no tool in the apparel industry offered common criteria for life-cycle assessments, methodology, and procedures. We use the Higg MSI to showcase our sustainable materials.”

HIDENORI TERAI
General Manager, Fibers & Textiles Green Innovation & Life Innovation Business Planning Dept.
TORAY INDUSTRIES, INC.

“The Higg MSI can be used in several decision-making contexts. It can demonstrate the relation between environmental impacts and the processing steps that take place in different markets with various production systems. When we are making a new investment or innovating a new product, we can use the Higg MSI to see what the best choices are for the environment and the company’s differentiation in the future.”

KRISHNA MANDA
Senior Manager Sustainability Integration
LENZING GROUP

“We use the Higg MSI to understand and measure the environmental impact of Salomon’s materials – we have already scored more than 800 materials so far. Our objective is to score our footwear products and give environmental visibility to our end consumer and B2B clients. With the Higg MSI, we can communicate about sustainability transparently with our suppliers and collaborate globally to make more sustainable products.”

CÉLINE MAZARS
Material Manager of Footwear
SALOMON

Manufacturers can enter data in the Higg MSI to score materials in two ways:

01 Submit production data via the Higg MSI Contributor to add new material and production options to the tool.

02 Customize materials using the raw materials and processes already listed in the Higg MSI and share them with your customers.

Adding materials in the Higg MSI is a good way to market materials to sustainable brands.

☐ Share results with clients and value chain partners
☐ Promote transparency
☐ Improve industry sustainability

The SAC is constantly improving and expanding the Higg MSI.

Contribute data to the Higg MSI to continue expanding the tool’s growing library of materials and drive transformational change across the industry.
Higg Product Module

What’s the global warming potential of your favorite t-shirt? How much water did it take to make your jeans? The Higg Product Module (Higg PM) can tell you.

The Higg PM measures the environmental impacts of a product from cradle-to-gate*, including material production. This can include how much water or fossil fuel energy may be needed to make a product, or even how it affects the overall global climate.

By assessing various environmental production impacts, brands, retailers, and manufacturers can make improvements to produce apparel, footwear, and textiles more responsibly.

HOW THE HIGG PM WORKS

01 Assess the environmental impacts of your final products

02 Identify hotspots in your value chain where you can make improvements

03 Make more sustainable products

*The Higg PM will assess full life cycle cradle-to-grave impacts in 2021, including product care, end of use, and duration of service.

The Higg PM Measures

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF A PRODUCT’S LIFECYCLE

- Global Warming Potential
- Nutrient Pollution in Water (Eutrophication)
- Water Scarcity
- Fossil Fuel Depletion
- Chemistry

Use the Higg PM to:

- Determine which production stages and processes contribute the largest environmental impact to your products.
- Compare the impacts of different products.
- Communicate the environmental impacts of your products.

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.HIGG.ORG
Higg PM users identify the bill of materials and finished goods processes to calculate a product’s environmental impacts.

“The Higg PM provides granular life cycle assessment data founded in climate science we know we can trust. At ALDO Group, we will use this data to introduce more sustainable materials with a low carbon footprint in our products. We will also use the Higg PM in collaboration with our value chain partners to decarbonize our company’s supply chain.”

KARINE KICAK
Senior Sustainability Manager
ALDO GROUP

“The Higg PM brings to light a much needed conversation on the impacts of material selection, the power of public commitments on the supply chain, transparency, energy efficiency improvements at manufacturing facilities, and most importantly the capabilities required to implement actions at the scale that matters.”

SID AMALEAN
Head of Sustainable Business
MASS HOLDINGS

“For Brooks Running, it’s critical that we protect our planet. Our product teams will use the Higg PM to better understand the environmental impacts of our products, and its science-based insight will better position us to strategically create more sustainable options for our customers. This tool will also help the industry compare the sustainability performance of different products, which is a game changer.”

DAVID KEMP
Senior Manager, Corporate Responsibility
BROOKS RUNNING

Higg PM Benefits:

- Uses science-based assumptions and a standardized methodology to calculate comparable product impacts.
- Offers transparent methodology, data sources, and production processes.
- Analyzes granular product and value chain data.
- Provides actionable, cutting-edge LCA metrics in a user-friendly format.
- Gives product developers clear information on how to reduce impacts.

The SAC is continuously improving and expanding the Higg PM with new data and emerging impacts.

Add your innovative production process to the Higg PM with the Higg MSI Contributor for other users to select when they create a product.
Higg Facility Tools

- Higg Facility Environmental Module (Higg FEM)
- Higg Facility Social & Labor Module (Higg FSLM)
Apparel, footwear, and textile production takes place at hundreds of thousands of facilities around the world. Each plays a key role in the overall sustainability of the industry.

The Higg Facility Environmental Module (Higg FEM) informs manufacturers, brands, and retailers about the environmental performance of their individual facilities, empowering them to scale sustainability improvements. The Higg FEM question structure and benchmarking feature provide facilities a clear roadmap of their environmental impacts. The Higg Index helps facilities identify and prioritize opportunities for performance improvements.

GLOBAL FACILITIES USE THE HIGG FEM TO:

01 Standardize the evaluation of environmental performance

02 Improve communication across the value chain

03 Reduce environmental impacts

Higg FEM Benefits:

- A comprehensive environmental sustainability assessment for facilities.
- Ideal for facilities of any size and tier at any point in their sustainability journey.
- Benchmark performance against other global facilities.
- Save time and money.
- Identify practices to optimize resources and reduce waste and costs.
- On-site Higg Index verification continuously expanding globally.
- Bring business partners on your sustainability journey.
“By using the Higg Facility Environmental Module, in the first three years alone, our suppliers implemented 250 energy savings programs that have saved them over $3.5 million in energy costs. This is a win-win for our suppliers and our business. We are proud of the work of our suppliers to achieve these efficiencies while improving their Higg performance and reducing the environmental impact of our supply chain.”

JEANNETTE FERRAN ASTORGA  
Vice President of Corporate Responsibility  
ASCENA RETAIL GROUP PARENT COMPANY OF ANN TAYLOR & LOFT BRANDS

“The Higg Index has helped us in defining, monitoring and achieving our environmental goals. Over the last seven years, through different versions of the tool, the Higg Index has helped us to avoid multiple audits and has a set common language for understanding factories’ impacts globally. The benchmarking feature has enabled us to compare our performance and find further improvement areas.”

ABHISHEK BANSAL  
Head of Sustainability  
ARVIND LIMITED

“The Higg Facility Environmental Module provides an easy to use self-assessment framework to benchmark our progress towards achieving our aspirational goals. Using the Higg Index as our guiding roadmap has allowed us to meet environmental management requirements of our customers and other industry certifications.”

DELMAN LEE  
President & Chief Technology Officer  
TAL GROUP

The Higg FEM Assesses

- Environmental Management Systems
- Energy Use
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Water Use
- Wastewater
- Emissions to Air (If Applicable)
- Waste Management
- Chemical Management

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.HIGG.ORG
Everyone deserves to work in a safe and healthy environment.

Manufacturers, brands, and retailers of all sizes can use the Higg FSLM to assess social and labor conditions for the workers who produce billions of garments, textiles, and footwear each year. Together, we can create and support safe and fair working conditions for all.

GLOBAL FACILITIES USE THE HIGG FSLM TO:

- Understand their social and labor impacts
- Assess performance and proactively improve
- Collaborate with value chain partners

Higg FSLM Benefits

- A comprehensive social and labor assessment for facilities.
- Save time and money.
- Share modules with supply chain partners.
- Benchmark performance against other similar facilities.
- On-site Higg Index verification continuously expanding globally.
- Ideal for facilities of any size, any tier, and at any point in their sustainability journey.
- Bring business partners on your sustainability journey.
"The collaboration the Higg FSLM promotes is transformative for the apparel industry. The Higg FSLM supports the facilities and communities that manufacture apparel globally and enables brands and retailers to better support them, so we can all work on sustainability together. The tool assesses social and labor performance and encourages businesses to better communicate with one another to drive lasting sustainability change."

SIMONE COLOMBO
Head of Sustainability
OVS SPA

"The verified Higg FSLM fully integrates the SLCP Converged Assessment Framework, helping shift the industry towards convergence, away from proprietary assessments. By using this tool, companies contribute to an industry-wide effort to reduce audit duplication that will allow for greater focus on meaningful improvements to social and labor conditions in global supply chains."

JANET MENsink
Executive Director

Register to use the Higg Facility Social & Labor Module and join other leading organizations measuring social impacts.

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.HIGG.ORG
To build consistency, credibility, and comparability of Higg Index scores, the SAC is creating verification programs for each tool.

Verification ensures Higg Index data communicated is accurate and credible. Completing the verification process also provides companies with the trusted information they seek, reducing the need for multiple, proprietary audits.

- The Higg FEM verification program is available at scale.
- Through the Social & Labor Convergence Program, Higg FSLM verification is offered in 30 countries worldwide.
- The SAC is currently piloting a verification program for the Higg BRM.
- Primary Higg Product Tools (Higg MSI and Higg PM) data is vetted by our third party gatekeeper and secondary data is independently peer reviewed. Additional Higg MSI and Higg PM verification will be available in 2022.
The Higg Index enables and encourages brands, retailers, and manufacturers to become transparent by communicating clear, trustworthy, and meaningful sustainability information publicly.

Transparency allows companies to form stronger value chain partnerships, helps designers and developers to make more sustainable products, and it empowers consumers to make more informed purchasing decisions in line with their own values.

To support members as they become more transparent, the SAC provides communication toolkits that offer transparency guidelines and support. Higg Index transparency will ensure accountability and enable the apparel industry to thrive responsibly.