

Our commitment to greater sustainability and social responsibility remains the firm anchor of our corporate philosophy, even in dynamic times. For CHAPS Merchandising GmbH, the year 2026 is characterized by profound further development. With this update, we would like to inform you about our latest strategic decisions and the continuous progress within our supply chain.

The current year marks a significant internal milestone for us: at the end of June, our long-standing co-founder and Managing Director, Martin Supper, will be leaving the company. This upcoming transition has already initiated far-reaching change processes within our organization. We see this transformative phase as a great opportunity to anchor the area of sustainability even more deeply in our corporate DNA and our day-to-day business operations.


A central example of this deeper integration is our ongoing digitalization. We have deliberately extended the planning phase for the conceptual design of our new Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) system, which began last year. The aim of this strategic expansion is to use the system not only for product data, but to develop it into a comprehensive platform for our supply chain management. In the future, the PLM system will provide a central, audit-proof repository for supplier assessments, social audits, and sustainability certificates, enabling us to manage risks even more precisely.


We are also taking decisive next steps in the area of social responsibility. The "Living Wage Lab 2.0" project of the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles (Bündnis für nachhaltige Textilien) was completed last year. We are now using the highly valuable insights gained there regarding the analysis of wage structures to independently launch further living wage initiatives with strategic suppliers and to work out gradual approaches to living wages.

Building on this, we have fundamentally optimized our systematic supplier evaluation. Social indicators, in particular the willingness to be transparent about wages and working conditions, are now incorporated into our procurement decisions as even more strongly weighted criteria.


Despite all these innovations, our proven, high product standards continue to form the foundation of our actions. We are proud to have once again successfully passed the strict re-audits for the **Global**



Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)  the **Green Button (Grüner Knopf)**  and the **Global**

Recycle Standard (GRS) . Together with our partners, we are working tirelessly to steadily increase the proportion of organically produced and recycled materials in our collections.

Our ecological footprint and the transparency of our supply chain remain a key focus. The listing of our production facilities in the **Open Supply Hub (OS Hub)**  is continuously maintained.

Alongside this, we are continuing our collaboration with **Code Gaia**  or detailed emissions analysis and continue to use the options of **DHL GoGreen Plus**  for more climate-friendly shipping of goods.

For us, responsibility for our products does not end at the point of sale. We are therefore reliably continuing our established memberships for professional disposal and strengthening the circular economy. This includes cooperation with **Der Grüne Punkt**  (packaging), the **GRS Batterien**

Foundation  and the **EAR Foundation (Stiftung ear)**  for waste electrical and electronic equipment.

Sustainability is not a goal to be ticked off, but a path that we are consistently pursuing. We look forward to the coming chapters of our company's history full of drive and are excited to shape this development together with our customers and partners.

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