



ReSKU 2.0

What you need to know

camira

Why have we launched ReSKU 2.0?

ReSKU 2.0 is an important product to mark our 50th anniversary celebrations as well as deepening our textile circularity story. The fabric is a recreation of our iconic recycled wool fabric ReSKU which launched in 1998 and was made from old army jumpers. The fabric has now been re-imagined, based on one of the original designs and including a greater percentage of recycled wool blended with flax. This creates a fabric which contains textile to textile recycled material as well as plant-based renewable content.

Why is textile circularity becoming more important?

The textile industry is responsible for a huge amount of waste – globally, an estimated 92 million tonnes is created each year (Source: UCL), while just 1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing (Source: Ellen MacArthur Foundation). Even though we are a zero to landfill company, inevitably we create textile waste from our own manufacturing, notably yarn remnants, fabric selvages and sometimes off-quality fabric. Our biggest source of internal waste is the wool-polyamide yarn remnants from our face to face transport manufacturing in Lithuania. It made sense for us to look to address this waste stream as a priority, which we did firstly with the Revolution fabric, introduced last year. This was a “proof of concept” development, using 31% recycled content, giving us the learning expertise to push the boundaries further to include more waste yarn and then blend it with flax fibre from harvested plants.

What is iinouiiio?

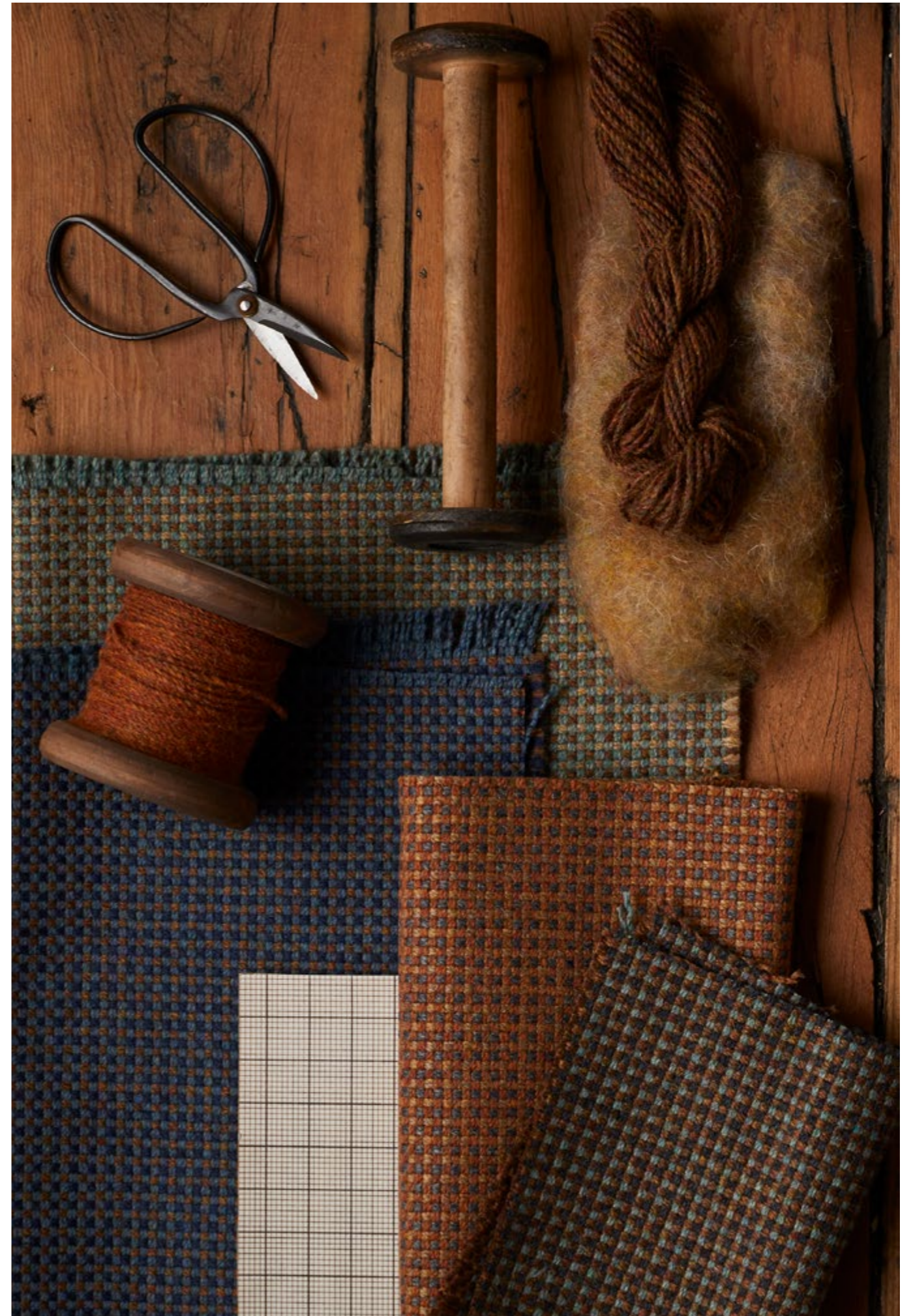
A textile recycling capability which specialises in wool and cashmere, iinouiiio became part of Camira Group in 2022 and is located in Camira Yarns in Huddersfield, England. iinouiiio is an acronym for ‘it is never over until it is over’, this textile reprocessing line converts high value raw materials - from textile manufacturing waste and preloved wool and cashmere products - back into fibre which can then be re-spun into new yarn to make new fabric. The machinery provides wool recycling opportunities for retailers and other textile manufacturers, as well enabling us to develop our own range of recycled wool fabrics.

What makes ReSKU 2.0 different to other recycled wool fabrics on the market?

While there are other fabrics that contain recycled wool, ReSKU 2.0 is unique in that it contains our own waste that is not just reused, it is waste that we change the fundamental state of. In this case we process yarn back into fibre - to give it an entirely new lease of life.

Other textile companies typically recycle waste from other sources, rather than their own (such as recycled wool from the clothing industry) or they reuse waste fibres that are generated during the manufacturing process simply putting them back into the beginning of the process (e.g. carded wool waste). ReSKU 2.0 contains an increased percentage of recycled wool polyamide yarn waste (79%) from our own manufacturing which is then combined with flax (21%) – this fibre blend ensures the fabric achieves inherent flammability performance to Crib 5 Medium Hazard without adding any additional chemistry.

Another key differentiator is that each shade in the ReSKU 2.0 colour palette has been developed with the original colouration of the recycled woollen fibres as its base. This innovative method of colour curation virtually eliminates the concept of dyeing, reducing the use of chemical dye stuffs, and celebrating the beauty of both recycled yarn and colour.







How much recycled content does ReSKU 2.0 contain?

ReSKU 2.0 contains 79% recycled content which is all derived from the yarn remnants left over from manufacturing our transport fabrics which are worsted wool with a small amount of polyamide. The actual composition is 66% recycled wool, 21% flax and 13% recycled polyamide.

Where is ReSKU 2.0 made?

ReSKU 2.0 is made in our Yorkshire manufacturing sites; the waste recycling and yarn spinning takes place at Camira Yarns, and the weaving and finishing is at our Meltham and Holmfirth facilities.

Will there be any appearance variations due to the recycled content in the fabric?

The 79% recycled content of ReSKU 2.0 means a broader view needs to be taken in terms of tolerance levels between batches and also natural visible characteristics – these features are part of the natural charm of this natural tweedy look fabric. A wider colour tolerance is also required between batches due to the base recycled fibre being derived from variable dye lots. It is not comparable to dyeing a standard yarn.

How is ReSKU 2.0 yarn made?

Each shade in the ReSKU 2.0 colour palette has been developed using the original colours of the recycled woollen fibres. The waste wool/nylon yarn is sorted and separated into colour groups.

The yarn is then cut into shorter pieces and is then pulled back into fibres by the iinouio machinery; this involves very fast, very sharp rotating spikes pulling the yarn apart and opening it up into fibres, so that they can be reprocessed. The flecks that are evident are the yarn fibres that haven't been fully opened up.

The recycled wool fibres are compressed into bales, ready to be blended with flax. Once blended, the fibres are carded (this means the individual fibres are combed and straightened to create a web or sliver). The carded fibres are then spun and twisted into yarn ready for weaving at Meltham.

What are the coloured flecks that I can see on ReSKU 2.0?

The waste wool yarn creates flecks of colour which float on and within the fabric, sometimes referred to as neps. The number and visibility of neps vary according to the colour of the base cloth. For example, the neps may be more evident on lighter base shades – but these must be seen as integral to the characteristics of the product rather than a quality concern. In darker base shades it is harder to identify the flecks.

Here's an image showing the characteristics on the finished fabric:



What is the environmental benefit of using recycled wool as opposed to virgin?

Like many of our wool products, ReSKU 2.0 is certified to the EU Ecolabel and Indoor Advantage™ Gold. However, we have also found in lifecycle assessments with Huddersfield University's School of Applied Sciences that using recycled wool content reduces all major LCA impact categories (Global Warming Potential, Abiotic Depletion (fossil fuels) and Water Depletion). Using the model developed by Huddersfield University, we can see that ReSKU 2.0 reduces these impacts by 82%, 58% and 28% respectively. This is based on 79% recycled wool and 21% flax, as compared to 100% virgin wool. We are not able to calculate the impact of the recycled polyamide, so have made the calculation based on recycled wool only.

Why is ReSKU 2.0 accredited to the EU Ecolabel and Revolution is not?

The Revolution fabric would not meet EU Ecolabel requirements, as it contained less than 70% recycled content, which meant the specific criteria for individual fibres would have to be met. This was not possible due to the British wool origin of the original yarn derived from waste from our Vigor transport fabric. British sheep farming uses pesticides which are not permitted under EU Ecolabel standards. ReSKU 2.0 overcomes this because it contains more than 70% recycled content (79%), meaning the individual fibre criteria no longer apply.

