

# National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program Public Disclosure Summary



An Australian Government Initiative

## Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd

### 1. Organisation and Product Information

Table 1: Organisation and Product Information

Organisation Name	Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd	
Name of the subject(s) of certification	Furnishing Fabrics for the Commercial Interiors Market	
Type of certification (tick all applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Part of organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Product/service <input type="checkbox"/> Event
Reporting year period	From 1/07/2012	To 30/06/2013
Emissions in this reporting year	1,423.7 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e	
Base year period	From 1/07/2011	To 30/06/2012
Emissions in the base year	1,985 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e	



## 2. Description of Organisation Activities

**Sustainable Living Fabrics (SLF)** is a wholesaler of fabrics for the commercial interiors market. Fabrics are used for upholstery and screening in commercial applications. SLF sells to other businesses and not to the end-user/consumer.

Since 2005, by reviewing its supply chain, working with suppliers and actively implementing environmental strategies to minimise its environmental footprint, SLF has significantly reduced the carbon emissions, water usage, use of toxic chemicals and toxic emissions attributed to production of its eco fabrics and its management and distribution activities.

In September 2010 Low Carbon Australia Limited certified Sustainable Living Fabrics and all products sold as carbon neutral under the Carbon Neutral Program which is underpinned by the Australian Government National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS). Sustainable Living Fabrics was one of the first companies to achieve this certification and it is assurance that all the fabrics Sustainable Living Fabrics sells are genuinely carbon neutral.

SLF's head office and warehouse is located in Oakleigh in Victoria. All fabrics are sourced from Geelong Textiles Australia. Fabrics are cut to length at the warehouse and are sent by road freight or courier to customers across Australia. SLF also operates a small sales office in Camperdown (Sydney) and a small storage room in Perth on a customer site.

The current owners of SLF took control of the business in February 2012 and moved to a SLF owned facility in Oakleigh, Victoria in December 2012. SLF is a small business with 8 full time employees.

## 3. Organisational & Geographic Boundary/ Scope & system Boundary

The SLF **Green Living® Collection consists of** over 400 eco fabrics that are used for commercial eco upholstery and screening fabrics. These environmental fabrics carry the GECA Ecolabel for Textile Products and are the first commercial textiles to have been independently assessed and audited by Good Environmental Choice Australia and licensed to carry the GECA Ecolabel for Textile Products.

SLF GECA certified eco fabrics are the only eco fabrics manufactured from low pesticide leanwool®, a rapidly renewable resource certified as environmentally preferable with strict chain of custody from the farm to fabric. GECA certification warrants the polyester used in these fabrics is either certified recycled PET or low antimony ecopolyester™

The Green Living Collection is rated heavy duty commercial or commercial screen and is warranted for up to 12 years or the life of the furniture whichever is the lesser.

SLF eco fabrics are available in a large range of colours to meet customer requirements.

SLF sells a large range of fabrics with Ecowool content varying from 100% to 40%. Wool blends may contain up to 10% Nylon and 50% Ecopolyester. Fabrics may also contain 100% recycled PET or Ecopolyester. It was not practical or cost effective carry out separate LCA's on such a diverse product range.

For the purposes of this analysis it was assumed at all product contained 100% Ecowool. This is a reasonable assumption because Ecowool content of all product sales by weight in 2012 – 2013 was 79%. The emission factor used to calculate emissions from ecowool is higher than that for plastic products like ecopolymer and nylon. The approach taken to assume 100% ecowool content is expected to overestimate emissions attributed to fabric purchase.

SLF aims to offset all purchased fabrics because any off cuts not sold to customers are used to produce sample swatches for customers and promotional purposes.

The SLF inventory also includes a full Scope 1,2 & 3 footprint of the corporate emissions.

#### 4. Diagram of the Boundary of the Subject of Certification

The system boundary of this analysis is from *Cradle to Grave* and includes all activities involved in wool growing, production of synthetic fibres, fibre processing, dyeing, fibre processing, warehousing, cutting fabric to length and distribution of fabric to customers for manufacture of products for the commercial furnishing market. The boundary includes production activities at customer facilities and downstream distribution and installation of commercial furnishings as well as end-of-life disposal and recycling of commercial furnishings. Refer to figure 1.

Note that although that emissions from downstream processing of fabrics by manufacturers and emissions from recycling or disposal in landfill at end of life (shown in red in Figure 1) were considered, they were not included in the total footprint. In practice it proved too difficult to obtain sufficient data on these activities. Emissions from use of fabrics in final products is expected to be negligible and as a natural biodegradable product woollen fabric will not create harmful residues in landfill.

The total footprint includes both fabric emissions as well as "corporate" emissions arising from running the business. A hybrid LCA methodology is used. This uses a combination of direct LCA data (material consumption data) and data from an input-output analysis (based on \$ value of expenditure). Input-output analysis provides a complete assessment of all inputs to the procurement of fabrics delivery of fabrics to customers and all emission embodied in SLF's supply chain. SLF therefore offsets emission from both fabrics and emissions from running its business.

## Cradle to Grave LCA

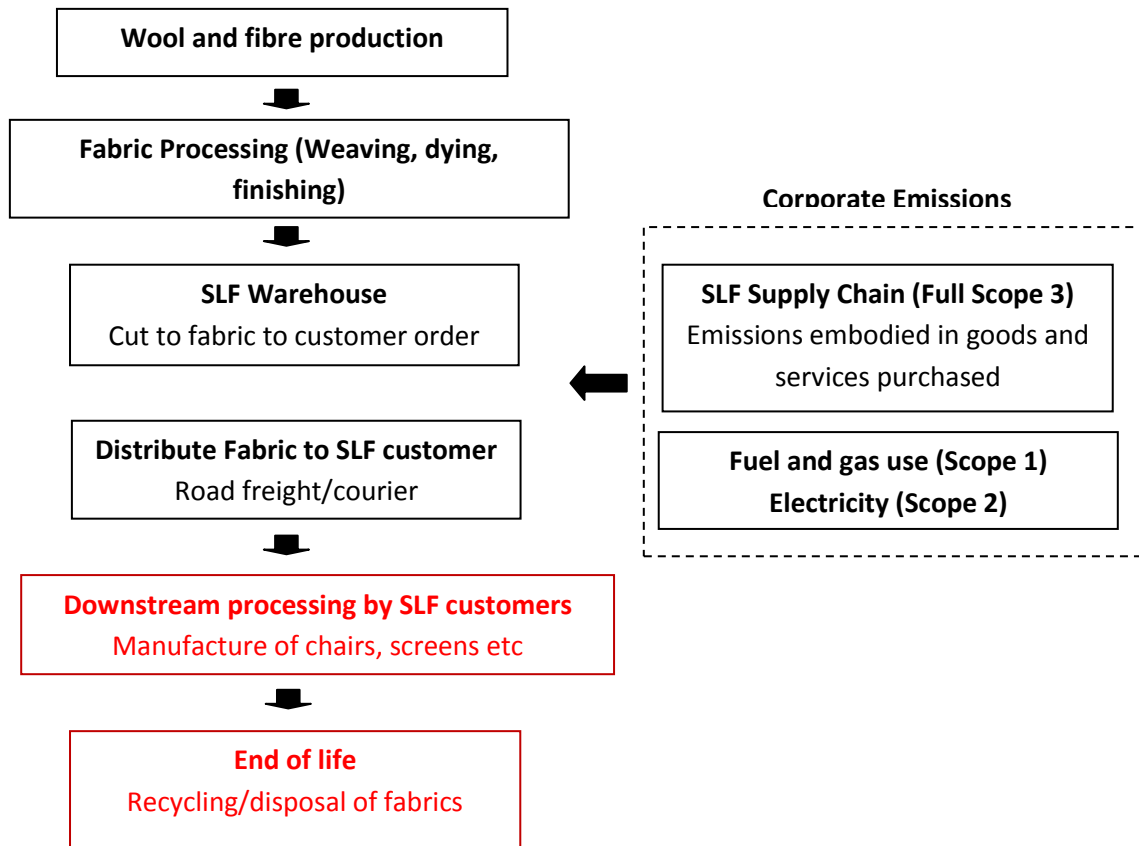


Figure 1. Cradle to Grave LCA. (Note that stages shown in red were not included in the LCA)

## 5. Total Carbon Footprint

### Summary of GHG emissions by source for SLF

Activity Sector	Activity/Service	Scope	Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e/yr)	Percentage
<b>Utilities</b>	Electricity	2 & 3	31.9	2.24%
	Natural Gas	1 & 3	3.1	0.22%
	Telecommunications	3	3.9	0.27%
<b>Equipment</b>	Fabric Purchases	3	1,172.3	82.34%
	Computer Equipment	3	0.8	0.05%
	Paper products	3	29.7	2.09%
	Plastic Packaging	3	1.3	0.09%
	Food	3	1.8	0.12%
<b>Employees</b>	Employee Commute	3	18.0	1.26%
<b>Flights</b>	Business Flights	3	11.6	0.81%
<b>Transport Fuels</b>	Post 2004 Gasoline	1 & 3	4.0	0.28%
	Privately owned/controlled	3	75.6	5.31%
<b>Third Party Services</b>	Website	3	1.0	0.07%
	Repairs and Maintenance	3	0.6	0.04%
	Insurance	3	0.8	0.05%
	Parking and Tolls	3	0.8	0.05%
	Legal and Filing Services	3	0.1	0.00%
	Cleaning Services	3	0.5	0.03%
	Advertising and Promotion	3	4.6	0.32%
	Entertainment	3	0.4	0.02%
	Banking	3	0.6	0.04%
	Rates and Taxes	3	0.4	0.03%
	Training	3	0.0	0.00%
	Vehicle R&M	3	0.2	0.01%
	Security	3	0.4	0.02%
	Postal Services	3	0.5	0.03%
	Accounting Services	3	0.1	0.01%
	Accommodation (local travel)	3	5.7	0.40%
	Subscriptions and periodicals	3	3.6	0.25%
	Printing and stationery	3	1.9	0.13%
	Real Estate Services	3	9.5	0.67%
	Environmental Accreditation and Subscriptions	3	6.4	0.45%
<b>Waste</b>	Freight	3	28.5	2.00%
	Waste - landfill	3	3.6	0.25%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,423.7</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* 7.3% of total GHG emissions calculated using Input-Output methodology

## 6. Carbon Offset Purchases and Retirement for this Reporting Period

SLF's strategy is to purchase offsets at the end of the reporting period. Verified Carbon Standard Offsets will be purchased from the Carbon Trade Exchange in Sydney. Offsets for the reporting period will be cancelled immediately after purchase.

### Offset Cancellations

Offset type	Registry	Serial number	Quantity (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
VCU	Carbon Trade Exchange Ltd (CTX) Level 6, 50 King Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 T: 02 8090 3434	CTX Membership Number: CTX030610001150 Date/Time:7/5/2014 2:33 AM Product: APX VCS Registry Voluntary Carbon Units (VCUs) Serial Numbers: 673-30955966-30957465-VCU-002-APX-KP-13-307-01112006-31122006-0 Project Type: Waste handling and disposal Project Country: KR Originating project: Daegu Bangcheon-Ri Landfill gas CDM Project  APX VCS Registry; <a href="http://vcsregistry.apx.com">http://vcsregistry.apx.com</a>	1.500
Total			1,500

Note: There is a surplus of 76 offsets. These will be banked and used to offset part of the emissions in the next reporting period

## 7. Emission Reduction Measures

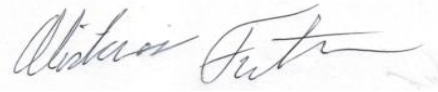
8. Table 2: Emission Reduction Measures

Emission source	Reduction Measure	Scope	Status	Reduction t CO <sub>2</sub> -e
Electricity consumption	Energy efficient ducted air conditioning system Behavioural change – switching off lights when offices not in use Low energy lighting in the warehouse	2	Planned for future reporting period	2.8
Fuel consumption	Offer an incentive for reps to purchase hybrid cars when time comes to replace vehicles	1	Implemented this reporting period	0.3
Material consumption	Recycling binders, clips, chip cards and range cards	3	Implemented this reporting period	3.5
Total emission reductions implemented in this reporting period				3.8
Total expected emission reductions in future reporting periods				2.8

## 11. Declaration

To the best of my knowledge and having implemented the quality controls and standards required under the NCOS Carbon Neutral Program and made all appropriate inquiries, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Summary is true and correct.

Alistair Fulton



Name of Signatory

Signature

Sales and Marketing Director

Position / Title of Signatory

11/07/2014

Date