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Textile industry expert Linda Greer joins IPE as a senior strategic advisor, new PRTR form and website streamline the submission process, IPE designs China's first national dynamic air quality map (and video!) & more



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After celebrating the New Year of the Pig earlier in February, we've started to get serious about this year's resolutions to strengthen our green supply chain outreach and analysis. With this in mind, we wanted to applaud several outstanding brands that have clearly resolved to accelerate their environmental action this 2019.

From the IT sector, **Dell** has already pushed 23 suppliers to take corrective action regarding their pollution records, accounting for a whopping 25% of all the IT sector suppliers contacted since January 1, 2019. From textiles, Primark has used their brand leverage to motivate a remarkable 36 suppliers to respond to existing records, including 10 suppliers that will complete third-party audits to verify full compliance. We also saw notable efforts from Toshiba, BASF and Landsea in the diversified, industrial chemical and real estate industries, respectively, who are blazing a trail for other brands in these high impact sectors. Congratulations and much appreciation to these stellar brands!

Follow day to day brand action and cheer on other hardworking brands on our webpage Communication Updates, not to mention our Green Choice Brands of the Month listed below. We look forward another year of continuous efforts and improvement with all of you.

In this month's newsletter:

- Textile industry expert Linda Greer joins IPE as a senior strategic advisor
- New PRTR form and website streamline the submission process
- IPE designs China's first national dynamic air quality map (and video!)

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During the past month, these 32 brands actively pushed one or more of their suppliers to improve their environmental performance. These brands' efforts deserve recognition, especially from other brands,



## Textile industry expert Linda Greer joins IPE as a senior strategic advisor

We are excited to announce that supply chain pollution expert Linda Greer will be joining IPE this year as our senior strategic advisor. As a senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, Linda embarked on international work with the founding of Clean by Design, a program designed to address the environmental impacts of the textile industry in China.

Linda has collaborated closely with IPE in the past, through her work with IPE Director Ma Jun to motivate Apple's green supply chain management back in 2011 as well as in the development of the Corporate Information Transparency Index to motivate and direct corporations to develop advanced green procurement programs. In the coming months, Linda will be spearheading our international outreach and overseeing brand expansion.

Welcome, Linda! We're ecstatic to have you on board.



"The opportunity to assist IPE work from abroad this year is one that can't be beat. Truly the organization is one-of-a-kind in its use of information transparency to leverage change and in the impact it has had on thousands of facilities in China. So many other NGOs in other countries could learn and be inspired by what IPE has accomplished.

LINDA GREER

My work to raise the visibility of the organization around the world and recruit more companies into its system is designed to boost the organization to even higher levels of impact than ever. I will focus in areas that matter the most - to target hot spots of impact that need to be higher priority the private sector. It should be a great 2019!"

#### New PRTR form and website streamline the submission process

IPE's Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) system creates a platform for factories to voluntarily disclose their annual emissions and resource usage data, including those for hazardous chemicals. As more factories disclose, they collectively provide a more accurate assessment of the manufacturing industry's overall environmental impact for more efficient management.

To support the expansion of this program, IPE recently updated the PRTR reporting form and website for greater clarity and accessibility. The form itself has been simplified and upgraded to include automatic calculations, while the website offers more straightforward instructions, summarizes the significance of a PRTR system in China, and showcases brands that are leading the way.



### IPE designs China's first national dynamic air quality map (and video!)

Using real-time monitoring data from over 4,000 sources in the **Blue Map Database**, IPE developed the first national dynamic air quality map and summarized its 2018 data in a short, poignant video circulated on Weibo and WeChat. The map illustrates hourly changes in air quality across the country from official environmental monitoring centers at all levels of government.



In just five minutes, viewers can see how air quality starts low during the winter heating season and spikes in response to New Year fireworks in early February; how sand and dust are blown from Northern China to the South in the spring; and how pollution falls in Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei in the late summer and early fall. IPE believes that by visualizing the local concentration of PM2.5, researchers and the public can develop a deeper understanding of the greater trends in air pollution as linked to the weather, changing seasons and social activity.

View the air quality map video on Weibo here and check out a shorter version for January 2019 here. We look forward to sharing more visual analysis and innovative applications of technology for environmental awareness in the coming months. Stay tuned for spring updates!

### **POLICY UPDATES & RESOURCES**

## **Policy Updates**

- <u>Directory of National Hazardous Wastes</u> (Chinese) Draft seeking public comments through March 22, 2019.
- <u>Directory of Toxic and Harmful Air Pollutants</u> (2018) (Chinese) Published by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment & the National Health Commission of the P.R.C. on January 23, 2019.

## **Policy Resources**

- Environmental Protection Tax Law of the P.R.C. (English)
- <u>Soil Pollution Action Plan ("Soil Ten")</u> (Unofficial English translation)
- <u>Amendments to China's Air Law (passed in August 2015)</u> (English translation)
- <u>"Water 10" Action Plan (issued in April 2015)</u> (English translation)
- Made in China 2025 (policy summary)
- EU-China Environmental Governance Project Policy Resource Center (Bilingual)
- <u>China Hazardous Chemicals Management Resource Center</u> (Bilingual)
- <u>China Law Translate</u> (crowd-sourced English translations of Chinese laws)

# **RELATED NEWS AND REPORTS**

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#### China's coal

consumption on the rise

- China Dialogue, January 3, 2019

Industry calls for clarity on China's draft chemical regulation - Chemical Watch, February 28, 2019

IPE's Blue Map 4.0 now available in English! Download by scanning the QR code below:



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