

Esquel and Fast Retailing (Uniqlo) publish supplier lists for the first time, C&A and Esquel disclose supplier names in Chinese, Target pushes suppliers to respond to real-time monitoring data & more

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Next week, IPE will co-host an event in Beijing looking back on the **progress made since IPE and 26 other organizations launched the "green choice" initiative in March 2007** and exploring the future outlook and opportunities for green supply chain management. Apple will reflect on its transformation toward supply chain transparency, and other leading brands -- including Panasonic, Esquel, Walmart, Huawei and Coca-Cola -- will also share their "green choice" stories.

The session looks to delve into such questions as whether the market is a friend or an enemy to environmental governance and how the supply chain environmental management of multinationals compares to that of Chinese companies. **It will also mark the official publication of the "white list" of steel and cement suppliers to be prioritized by property developers** participating in the [China Real Estate Green Supply Chain Initiative](#), further raising the bar for Chinese companies' supply chain management.

In this month's newsletter:

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- [Target pushes suppliers to respond to real-time data compliance issues](#)
- [IPE releases version 4.0 of Blue Map app, English version coming soon](#)

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Esquel and Fast Retailing (Uniqlo) publish supplier lists for the first time, C&A and Esquel disclose Chinese names of suppliers

The number of apparel and textile brands willing to go transparent about their supplier lists keeps growing: most recently, [Esquel](#) and [Fast Retailing](#) -- parent company of well-known brand Uniqlo -- published lists of their suppliers for the first time. Further innovation was seen this past month in the decision by Esquel and [C&A](#), who first disclosed its list last year, to publish supplier names in Chinese, making this information accessible to the substantial share of consumers that make up the Chinese market.

In another example of progress, Esquel -- a Hong Kong-based textile and apparel manufacturer -- interacted with IPE and other environmental NGOs on Weibo to respond about its decision to go public with its supplier list. As Esquel is a [supplier to a number of well-known brands](#) that also work directly with IPE, including Nike, Gap Inc., Bestseller and Marks & Spencer, Esquel's move to publish its list radically extends transparency of the environmentally-intensive portion of textile supply chains. We hope that some of Esquel's other customers, such as Anta, Polo Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger, can also follow suit by directly engaging with environmental NGOs to improve their supply chain environmental management. The CITI scores for [C&A](#), [Esquel](#) and [Uniqlo](#) all reflect these brands' progress in supplier list transparency.



Target pushes suppliers to respond to real-time data compliance issues

Since the beginning of 2014, over 9,000 key state-monitored factories and enterprises in China have been required by law to publicly disclose their real-time data for air emissions and/or wastewater discharge. This data is collated into [IPE's Blue Map](#), offering supply chain managers a glimpse into the real-time performance of their most environmentally intensive suppliers. New regulations that entered into force in 2015 also require factories monitored for air emissions at local levels, such as the provincial or city level, to disclose their real-time data to the public via online government platforms.

Brands can use this data to serve as a "red flag" toward potential environmental compliance issues at their suppliers. Notably, [US retailer Target](#) has begun pushing suppliers with over-emissions issues as reflected in real-time monitoring data to publicly respond to their transgressions. Target recently prompted one of its suppliers to respond to issues with the real-time readings for pH level of its wastewater discharge continually exceeding the legal limit for several days in a row. The factory's response is [published on IPE's database](#) and explains the actions the factory has taken to rectify the issue and prevent it from re-occurring, showing that it is actively addressing the issue. Real-time data has the potential to save brands money and resources by alerting them to potential issues as soon as they occur.



IPE releases Blue Map app version 4.0, English edition coming soon

IPE released the latest iteration of the [Blue Map app](#), version 4.0, earlier this month for both [iOS](#) and [Android](#) platforms. The newest edition features a handful of upgrades. The most prominent of these is a dynamic visualization of 3-day air quality trends for all of mainland China, allowing users to better understand the geographic distribution of smog. IPE is currently developing an English-language function to provide Blue Map app access to those who don't read Chinese, allowing an even wider base of users to track real-time data for sources of air emissions and wastewater discharge and [follow updates about brands' green supply chain management in China](#).



POLICY UPDATES & RESOURCES

Policy Updates

- [Environmental Protection Tax Law of the P.R.C.](#) (English) Passed on December 25, 2017; goes into effect January 1, 2018. A system of pollution taxes will replace the pollution fee system instituted in 1982.
- [Water Pollution Prevention and Control Law \(Draft\)](#) (Chinese) Approved by State Council for submission to NPC for first review, read English analysis [here](#). June draft for feedback can be viewed [here](#) (Chinese).

Policy Resources

- [Soil Pollution Action Plan \("Soil Ten"\)](#) (Unofficial English translation)
- [Amendments to China's Air Law \(passed in August 2015\)](#) (English translation)
- [Water 10" Action Plan \(issued in April 2015\)](#) (English translation)
- [Made in China 2025](#) (policy summary)
- [EU-China Hazardous Waste Management Project Policy Resource Center](#) (Bilingual)
- [China Hazardous Chemicals Management Resource Center](#) (Bilingual)
- [China Law Translate](#) (crowd-sourced English translations of Chinese laws)

RELATED NEWS AND REPORTS

[Chinese firms dominate top 200 clean energy moneymakers](#) -- GreenBiz, February 21, 2017

[Missing link: Harnessing the power of purchasing for a sustainable future](#) -- Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)

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