2022 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT
WHO WE ARE

OUR CULTURE

At CovationBio, we turn to the ABCs as the guiding principles of our culture. CovationBio is authentic, business savvy, and caring. We are committed to being authentic, transparent, and honest in our communications, even when the topic is difficult.

Our business savvy is reflected through a clear understanding of how to drive value for both our business and our customers. We are fast, flexible, and bold enough to take on the biggest challenges facing our industry.

Most of all, our 200+ employees across nine locations sincerely care about making a positive impact in the workplace and the world at large.

From the well-being and career development of our team, to ensuring our products and services promote a more sustainable future, we’re dedicated to making a difference.

We proudly empower everyone on our team to make a difference and partner with global brands to provide high-performance biobased products on a global scale. Because at CovationBio, sustainability is more than a strategic initiative; it’s the driving force behind everything we do.

For additional information and sales and marketing support, please visit our website and complete our contact form.
A LETTER FROM OUR CEO, MIKE SALTZBERG

Welcome to the first CovationBio Sustainability Report. It represents a tremendous milestone on the journey our business has been on for more than 20 years to become a world leader in providing sustainable and high-performance biomaterials solutions. For many companies, sustainability is an add-on to their main business model. For those companies, sustainability reports can be an afterthought that explains the sustainability impact of the strategy that the business has chosen to pursue for other reasons.

At CovationBio, sustainability is at the absolute core of everything we do. This report carefully and transparently explains our sustainability commitments and our company’s and products’ status on those commitments.

From the outset of our business, all of our offerings were intentionally designed to provide substantial environmental benefits versus the products they replace, and all of them help our customers and consumers reduce the world’s reliance on fossil feedstocks. We have carried that commitment through to large-scale commercial production and worldwide sales of our products so that we can have a measurable, positive impact on the world.

Looking forward, with substantially increased investment from our new ownership, we will expand the use of Sorona® polymer, Susterra® PDO, and Zemea® PDO in a wide variety of applications and accelerate the pace of bringing new high-performance biomaterials to market. At every step, we will continue to carefully consider the environmental implications of everything we do at CovationBio — Research and Development, Operations, Sales and Marketing, and in our back offices. We will only introduce products that have substantial sustainability benefits versus incumbent solutions.

I am proud of what we have accomplished so far in becoming a world leader in high-performance biomaterials, but I am even more excited about what we will do together in the future. The strategy of CovationBio will always be to offer innovative products that help our customers and consumers make more sustainable choices. Providing transparent and detailed information on those offerings, as we do in this report, is critical to the success of our business and to the success of our customers.

— Mike
OUR VALUES

SUSTAINABILITY IS FUNDAMENTAL

Our materials are designed for performance but are judged on how they impact our planet. To us, performance and sustainability are one. As CovationBio, we live in a world without compromise, made possible by remarkable science.

Inspired by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in 2015 and aligned with their commitment to improve the planet and human life, we have selected four goals as the pillars of our sustainability program. This is our first sustainability report and will serve as a living document. We will continue to publish updates as we pursue our mission.

COVATIONBIO™ SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENTS NATURALLY ALIGN WITH FOUR OF THE UNITED NATIONS SDGs

- Treat people with respect
- Prioritize safety
- Promote transparency throughout our supply chain

- Remove “dead-end science” from the supply chain by decoupling the production of high-performance materials from fossil fuels and fossil feedstocks
- Use natural resources efficiently and responsibly
- Responsibly manage materials throughout their life cycles
- Increase recyclability and recycle rates for final products

- Dramatically reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs)
- Reduce and offset our Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions
- Support adoption of policies that will globally reduce and/or mitigate climate change

- Promote sustainable use of terrestrial resources
- Restore terrestrial ecosystems through the support of regenerative agriculture
- Advocate for the equitable use of genetic resources
## COMMITMENT TO DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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<tr>
<th>COMMITMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1  Respect for people</strong></td>
<td>In 2022, we launched our first employee engagement survey which provided a baseline of data for us to identify areas of improvement and where we are doing well. Globally, we will continue to look for ways to foster collaboration, teamwork, and a sense of community.</td>
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<td><strong>2  Safety</strong></td>
<td>In 2022, even with significant challenges as we launched our new company, we maintained our focus on safety and completed our first seven months as CovationBio with zero injuries requiring treatment beyond first aid(^1) to our contract partners and CovationBio personnel. In the Process Safety Management (PSM) arena, we had zero Tier I incidents. However, operations experienced Tier II events and environmental deviations. A cross-sectional group which includes our Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) team determines the contributing factors to such incidents to eliminate recurrence to achieve our goal of zero incidents.</td>
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<td><strong>3  Transparency throughout our supply chain</strong></td>
<td>We are championing transparency in our downstream supply chain through the Common Thread Fabric Certification program. This program traces the use of our Sorona(^<em>) polymer in fabrics and garments and provides apparel designers and brands with confidence that the fabrics they are sourcing contain Sorona(^</em>) polymer and have the expected performance benefits and biobased content.</td>
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\(^1\) CovationBio had zero Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recordables in 2022. OSHA defines a recordable injury or illness as: Any work-related fatality. Any work-related injury or illness that results in loss of consciousness, days away from work, restricted work, or transfer to another job. Any work-related injury or illness requiring medical treatment beyond first aid.
## OUR COMMITMENT TO A MORE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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<tr>
<td>1  Decouple production of high-performance materials from fossil fuels and fossil feedstocks</td>
<td>All our product lines contain biobased material derived from annually renewable plant resources. Susterra® PDO and Zemea® PDO products are 100% biobased. Soroña® polymer is 37% biobased. As of the end of 2022, all our sites source their electricity from the grid. The local electricity grid mixes include 8.8% renewable energy at our North Carolina site, 13.7% at the Primient Covation PDO plant site in Tennessee (a joint venture), and 6.5% at our Delaware offices. Our manufacturing locations rely on traditional fossil resources for process energy requirements.</td>
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<td>2  Use natural resources efficiently and responsibly</td>
<td>We are investigating the state of technology to create Soroña® polymer entirely from annually renewable resources and/or recycled resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3  Responsibly manage materials throughout their life cycles</td>
<td>The environmental impacts of all our commercial product lines have been characterized using third-party, verified cradle-to-gate life cycle assessment (LCA), a tool to quantify impacts like carbon footprint and water footprint. We are actively updating the LCA for Soroña® polymer, Susterra® PDO, and Zemea® PDO.</td>
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<td>4  Increase recyclability and recycle rates for final products</td>
<td>One-third of our product lines have been tested at the lab scale for recyclability. Internally generated data indicate that Soroña® PTT polymer can be mechanically recycled with PET. The other two-thirds of our products (Susterra® PDO and Zemea® PDO) are readily biodegradable.</td>
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1 Susterra® PDO and Zemea® PDO products are derived entirely from fermentation of corn sugars.
2 Soroña® polymer is 37% biobased by weight and has a 29% (+/-3%) biobased carbon content as measured by ASTM D6866 testing by Beta Analytic Laboratories, the lab used by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Biopreferred Program for biobased content validation.
4 CovationBio has completed proof of concept studies at the lab scale by making fibers from simulated post-consumer recycled (PCR) dyed and greige fabric to demonstrate thermo-mechanical recyclability of up to 30% PCR PTT blended with up to 70% PET. We are interested in partners to demonstrate recyclability at full scale and to identify value-adding applications for recycled PTT products.
5 Based on biodegradability test results for Zemea® and Susterra® 1,3-propanediol following Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guideline 301B.
6 “Ready Biodegradability: Modified Sturm Test (CO2 evolution).”
### COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE ACTION

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<tr>
<td>1 Dramatically reduce GHG emissions</td>
<td>In 2021, direct emissions from our CovationBio site in Kinston, North Carolina, and indirect emissions from purchased electricity were 61kMt CO₂ equivalents, as calculated using the Higg Facility Environmental Module (FEM) tool. At our Primient Covation PDO plant site in Tennessee (a joint venture), in 2020, the sum of direct emissions and indirect emissions from purchased electricity was 33kMt CO₂ equivalents, based on data reported to CDP.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Reduce and offset our Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions</td>
<td>We are creating a plan to reduce our direct emissions at our Kinston site and the footprint of purchased energy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Support adoption of policies that will globally reduce and/or mitigate climate change</td>
<td>We are committed to working through organizations like Renewable Carbon Initiative (RCI) in support of defossilization of the materials industry. Our employee education program equips our team with science-based sustainability knowledge. We are educating ourselves to do the hard work of maximizing our contribution to reducing climate change.</td>
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7 This metric includes 2021 Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions for our Kinston, North Carolina, site. Scope 3 emissions and emissions for offices and labs are excluded from this metric. 2022 GHG emissions data were unavailable as of the date of this report publication.

8 This metric includes 2020 Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions for our Primient Covation PDO plant site in Tennessee (a joint venture) where Susterra® PDO and Zemea® PDO are manufactured. Data for more recent years were unavailable as of report publication. Scope 3 emissions and emissions for offices and labs are excluded from this metric.
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<td>1 Promote sustainable use of terrestrial resources</td>
<td>Terrestrial, or land-based, resources are critically important, especially to the continuance of our business because our raw materials are derived from field crops. In 2022, we announced our partnership with Truterra™, a farmer-led program to improve stewardship of agricultural land in the United States, where our biobased feedstocks are sourced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Restore terrestrial ecosystems through the support of regenerative agriculture</td>
<td>Through our partnership with Truterra™, we are supporting the adoption of agricultural practices that can improve soil health, increase crop yields, and decrease fertilizer use.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Advocate for the equitable use of genetic resources</td>
<td>As a science-driven company, we support advancements in the production of biobased feedstocks that enhance quality and output while minimizing environmental impacts. Although our products are not genetically modified (non-GMO), we are committed to sourcing responsibly and supporting advancements in technology that minimize environmental impacts. We believe that genetic resources should be a shared resource used for the benefit of all.</td>
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9 Truterra™, LLC, is the sustainable agriculture business of Land O’Lakes Inc., and program delivery partner.

10 Finished product (Susterra® 1,3-propanediol) has been submitted to an independent third-party laboratory (Eurofins, New Orleans, Louisiana) for many years for qualitative polymerase chain reaction (PCR) analysis to detect presence of signatures from GMOs. We have never observed a positive result for the presence of GMO signature genes in finished product.
COMMITMENT TO DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

SPOTLIGHT ON TRANSPARENCY DRIVEN BY OUR COMMON THREAD PROGRAM

Based in Taiwan, Tuntex — a member of our Preferred Mill Network — is committed to advancing their SDGs and strives to deliver exceptional traceability and transparency to their customers. With the mission to be the global leader and total services provider in the textile and apparel business, they established SDGs focused on responsible consumption and production through the use of solar energy, water recycling, and circular economy in the production process.

Tuntex’s strategy of DIS+ (Digital, Innovation, Service, Sustainability) has detailed sustainability goals that are implemented through product developments, such as using a single material to recycle it earlier. They are also committed to switching over to 100% recycled yarn or biomaterials. By 2030, their goal is to reduce 5% of CO₂ emissions annually and achieve a reduction of 50% of CO₂ emissions in the production process.

Huang Yu Cheng, Innovation & Research Center Manager at Tuntex, notes that Sorona® polymer is one of the most popular biobased materials offered to customers.

“We are receiving requests from international brands to see the Sorona® polymer Common Thread Fabric Certification and hang tag to ensure the quality and transparency of the product throughout the value chain,” said Huang.

He added: “Our customers recognize the effort we are putting into implementing Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) targets. Working with Sorona® polymer and having our fabric certified through the Common Thread Fabric Certification program delivers additional value to the brands because it increases their ability to not only trace the Sorona® polymer content, but ensure its performance is up to their standards.”

Tuntex cites Sorona® polymer as a critical contributor to delivering on their promise to reaching specific sustainability achievements. Fiber made with Sorona® polymer is not only more sustainable but also provides superior quality. Fabric manufacturers such as Tuntex have the ability and technology to highlight the best attributes of Sorona® polymer, achieving a more sustainable product and improved process to contribute to advancing the textile value chain and industry.
“At Lilly Pulitzer, we’re making a commitment to sustainability with the support of our employees, our supply chain, and our customers. This commitment is made with one simple promise in mind: a brighter future for our community and our planet. We are excited to be able to deliver that, thanks in part to our participation in the Common Thread Fabric Certification program.”

— Michelle Kelly, Lilly Pulitzer CEO
OUR COMMITMENT TO A MORE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

BEGINNING OF LIFE
By making our products from annually renewable biobased ingredients, we aim to decouple production of high-performance materials from fossil feedstocks to help end industrial over-reliance on petroleum — in other words, defossilizing the materials industry.

Our Susterra® PDO and Zemea® PDO products are 100% biobased and our Sorona® polymer is 37% biobased. We are evaluating the state of technology for creating Sorona® polymer from entirely biobased and/or recycled sources.

USE
DURABILITY:
In use in final products such as apparel, our materials like Sorona® polymer can provide performance benefits that extend the wearable and enjoyable lifetime of garments.

ENHANCED EFFICACY:
Our products like Zemea® PDO used in cosmetic formulations can enhance the performance benefits of other ingredients like preservatives, improving the quality and shelf life of the product and reducing the total overall use of preservatives.

MANUFACTURING
Our Sorona® polymer manufacturing site in Kinston, North Carolina, currently practices post-industrial and post-consumer recycling.

PROCESS:
In the Sorona® polymer manufacturing operation, unused raw material is recovered, sent off for refining, and then recycled back into the process.

OFFICES:
We recycle electronics, bottles, and cans. The Kinston team has generated a list of 10 additional opportunities to evaluate to improve recycling and recovery at the site.

WASTE:
Universal waste (lamps, batteries, mercury) is recovered and recycled by Clean Earth (formerly AERC).

PACKAGING:
We recycle pallets, metal, and plastic drums.

END OF USE
Our CovationBio® R&D team has tested the recyclability of Sorona® polymer and dyed textiles made with Sorona® polymer. Our tests show that Sorona® polymer is mechanically recyclable with PET. Additional work is needed in collaboration with other industry partners to build recycling infrastructure, incentivize product take-back, and prove the scalability of recycling garments and other products containing Sorona® polymer.\(^\text{11}\)

\(^\text{11}\) CovationBio has completed proof of concept studies at the lab scale by making fibers from simulated PCR dyed and greige fabric to demonstrate thermo-mechanical recyclability of up to 36% PCR PTT blended with up to 70% PET. We are interested in partners to demonstrate recyclability at full scale and to identify value-adding applications for recycled PTT products.
The clothing industry contributes up to 10% of global carbon emissions, the pollution driving the climate crisis. The good news? As an industry, we can make a real difference by harnessing our leadership and creativity to measures that will protect the planet and give hope to populations most vulnerable to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

COVATIONBIO™ WILL TAKE ACTION BY:
1. Making progress toward dramatically reducing GHG emissions
2. Reducing and offsetting our Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions
3. Supporting adoption of policies that will globally reduce and/or mitigate climate change

HIGG FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL MODULE
The first step in reducing our emissions is generating a baseline. With that in mind, we completed the Higg FEM self-assessment in 2021 for operations at our Sorona® polymer manufacturing site in Kinston, North Carolina. The FEM is an assessment tool that measures and quantifies the sustainability impacts of a facility.

This was the site’s first time completing the assessment, demonstrating our commitment to transparency in our sustainability efforts. By sharing data on environmental impacts of our products and operations, we allow our customers, and ultimately consumers, to make informed decisions about their purchases.

The self-assessment results provided the site with 22 areas of opportunity for improvement. The site scored well on the Environmental Management and Wastewater sections based on industry benchmarking, and the Kinston team has discussed establishing baselines and developing implementation plans to improve energy use, GHG emissions, water consumption, and waste generation. We have launched workstreams investigating low to zero GHG options for electricity and steam at the site to significantly reduce site GHG emissions.
RENEWABLE PLANT-BASED CARBON AS A BUILDING BLOCK FOR PRODUCTS

At CovationBio, we tap into nature as a source of renewable carbon, transforming plants into the building blocks for the materials that impact our daily lives. We acknowledge that petroleum-based materials served us well in the 20th century, but if we as a society truly want to address the gravity of the climate crisis, our only choice is to use materials made using renewable carbon — carbon that can be grown, captured, or recycled.

Climate change is fueled by excess fossil-based CO$_2$ and other GHGs entering the atmosphere. The key to preventing further climate change is preventing more fossil-based CO$_2$ from entering the atmosphere and defossilizing the production of materials. We accomplish this by using renewably derived carbon, like carbon from plants grown and harvested annually which absorbed the carbon from atmospheric CO$_2$, as a building block for products.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR TRUTERRA” PARTNERSHIP

In sourcing renewable carbon from plants, our priority is preserving terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity. We are committed to preserving land-based ecosystems through the support of our regenerative agriculture in partnership with Truterra”, a farmer-driven sustainability company dedicated to advancing sustainable farming practices. The equivalent of 100% of the corn used to make Susterra’ PDO and Zemea’ PDO and the biobased feedstock for Sorona’ polymer is harvested from farms in the Truterra” sustainable agriculture program.

We have 49,904 acres enrolled in Truterra” across 65 counties and 3 states (Iowa, Minnesota, and Indiana). This area includes 249 fields managed by 168 growers.
### EHS METRICS

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12 Tier — Process safety related event rating based on API 754.
13 Environmental deviation — Any instance in which a deviation from a federal, state, or local environmental regulatory or permit requirement occurred.
GLOSSARY

**Annually renewable plant resources**
Biobased feedstocks that are grown and harvested approximately once per year or more; in contrast to biobased feedstocks, such as forests, which can take years to reach maturity for harvest.

**Biobased**
Derived from living resources. When CovationBio uses the term biobased, we are referring specifically to plant, fungal, and/or algal resources, not animal resources.

**Biodegradable**
A material or product that measurably decomposes into constituent substances. When CovationBio uses the term biodegradable to describe our products, we mean that the materials have been tested according to OECD. Biodegradability claims on constituent substances such as our products cannot be conferred to final products. In order for a final product to be advertised as biodegradable, it must undergo biodegradability testing and demonstrate passing results.

**Defossilization**
Decoupling production of materials and goods from the use of fossil fuels and fossil feedstocks like oil and natural gas, and instead using renewably derived feedstocks and energy sources. Products cannot be made without carbon. The key to reducing and mitigating climate change is by reducing the use and emission of fossil carbon, in other words, defossilization.

**ESG**
Environmental, social, and governance factors that stakeholders consider when evaluating risk and potential returns from investing in companies or funds.

**Recyclable**
A material or product that has reached the end of its useful life and can be mechanically or chemically transformed into a new product. Note that to claim a final product is recyclable, the material must technically be able to be mechanically or chemically transformed, and the waste collection and recycling infrastructure must be present. When CovationBio uses the term recyclable to describe our products, we mean that the materials are technically able to be transformed for reuse, and we are not claiming the final products which contain our materials are recyclable. Much work is needed by companies, governments, and other entities to improve collection, take-back, and recycling infrastructure globally.

**Regenerative agriculture**
Farming practices and systems that replenish and restore soil quality, ecosystem health, and biodiversity, and help to mitigate impacts of climate change.

**Renewable energy**
Energy (for example, electricity or steam) derived from solar, wind, or hydropower, which are replenishable resources, in contrast to energy derived from finite resources such as coal and natural gas. In this report, nuclear power generation is not considered a renewable energy source.

**Scope 1**
GHG emissions directly from our operations; for example, burning of natural gas in an on-site boiler to produce steam consumed on-site would result in Scope 1 direct GHG emissions.

**Scope 2**
GHG emissions from purchased electricity used at our manufacturing sites, labs, or offices. GHGs are emitted when our energy providers, the local utilities, burn fossil fuels to produce electricity. These GHG emissions are considered Scope 2 indirect emissions for our locations.

**Scope 3**
GHG emissions that result from other aspects of our business; for example, employee travel and commuting; purchased raw materials; use, care, and disposal of end products made using our products.
Our mission is to make sustainable high-performance biomaterials accessible to all while reducing the materials industry’s over-reliance on fossil feedstocks. In our first seven months as an independent company, we made huge strides to define our role in advancing sustainability and responsible business in the materials industry. Although CovationBio is a new name in the world, our team—our people, our products—have been in the business of more sustainable materials for almost 20 years. In fact, our products were designed to be biobased, sustainable, and scalable years ahead of many others in the biomaterials industry. This means we at CovationBio are not new; we’re reinvigorated. As we grow our business, because we want to continue to improve our own sustainability position and that of the entire materials industry, we have thoughtfully integrated our sustainability program with our business strategy.

The journey to create our sustainability commitments exemplifies what sets us apart: our culture, our global scale, and our data-driven approach to sustainability.

A group of passionate people representing all regions and segments of CovationBio, from each business, Research and Development, Marketing and Sales, and Tech Service, co-created the Sustainability Principles that authentically represent our mindset:

• We provide renewably based solutions that are high performance and at scale.
• We advance global sustainability and the circular economy by giving our customers biomaterials that meet and exceed their needs for sustainable solutions.
• We educate and advocate for biobased materials using our science-driven knowledge base.
• We use feedstocks responsibly.
• We continuously look for more sustainable practices and technologies to bring to our markets.

The same group confirmed our key sustainability commitments, closely aligned with four of the United Nations SDGs, as detailed in this report.

We recently launched a new CovationBio Sustainability Council to drive execution on the key programs that support our business growth and sustainability commitments.

Considering the momentum we gathered in a few short months, we are excited about what we will accomplish in 2023. This is a living document, so please check back as we update our progress.

—Lauren
We hope our unwavering commitment to achieving sustainability at scale inspires pride amongst our co-workers and business partners, and empowers consumers to make choices that manifest the life they want for themselves and future generations. The work is necessary and ongoing. Join us.

WE ARE A FORCE OF NATURE.