

## A COMPARISON OF CRITICAL CRITERIA

### Purified (Bleached) Cotton

Vs

### Recycled Cotton Reclaimed From Apparel

- Why Purified Cotton is preferred when compared to Recycled and repurposed cotton reclaimed from apparel (t-shirts, socks, jeans, etc)
  - o Recycled Cotton does fit the model for Sustainability yet
    - **Purified Comber noils do as well without the costs of reopening the fiber**
    - **Purified Regin notes do as well as they are the fiber remaining after the ginning process of virgin cotton**
  - o Recycled Cotton from apparel (shoddy or thread fiber) has been refiberized resulting in high percent of short fibers and inconsistent fiber lengths creating problems in processability and high dust volume
    - **Virgin cotton has UQL's that exceed 1" in length with a very small percentage of short fiber content (less than 5% of the fiber is less than 1/4")**
  - o Recycled Cotton (Regenerated Cotton) can contain colored fibers or synthetic fibers resulting from the sorting process
    - **Virgin cotton is 100% cotton with no synthetics or colored fibers**
  - o Recycled Cotton (Regenerated Cotton) can contain optical brighteners or artificial fluorescents
    - **Purified Cotton is safely whitened with Hydrogen Peroxide**
  - o Recycled Cotton does not meet any USP or EP standards for purity
    - **Purified Cotton meets USP & EP standards**
    - **Purified Cotton meets the Oekotex 100 Class 1 Standard for Baby Contact**
  - o Recycled Cotton has poor absorbency
    - **Purified Cotton absorbs 25 x's own weight**

*Purified Cotton – A Standard of Excellence For Cellulosic Fiber Needs*