

ECI Elastic Unveils Eco-Friendly Mechanical Stretch Tape: A New Alternative to Spandex-Containing Trims

ECI Elastic launches elastane-free stretch tapes—GRS-certified, recyclable, and designed for circular apparel systems.

CHANGHUA, TAIWAN, June 23, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [ECI Elastic](#), a global leader in [narrow fabric elastic solutions](#), has announced the launch of its new mechanical stretch tape, ECI#3B46N, developed as a sustainable alternative to spandex-added elastic trims in apparel. This innovation marks a step forward in ECI's ongoing efforts to offer responsible material options that meet the evolving needs of sourcing and sustainability teams across the textile and fashion industry.



The infographic features a teal background with a roll of green elastic tape on the left. At the top, the E.C.I. logo is next to the title 'ELASTANE-FREE ELASTIC TAPE'. Below the tape, a box states 'Eco-friendly alternative to spandex-containing trims'. To the right, three boxes highlight key features: 'Made from recycled polyester yarns' with a recycling symbol, 'Elastane-free mechanical stretch', and 'Slight Elastic Performance' with a plant icon and the note 'Suitable for light-duty applications'. A 'Circular-Ready' box at the bottom right mentions 'Certified to the Global Recycled Standard'.

ECI's Elastane Free Narrow Fabrics for Light Stretch Applications

While elastane (spandex) remains a valuable material for achieving high levels of stretch in performance apparel, it also presents recycling and end-of-life challenges. Even small amounts of elastane can limit the recyclability of garments, especially when blended with other fibers. As brands seek more circular solutions and reduce complexity in material compositions, innovations like ECI#3B46N offer practical alternatives in areas where only moderate elasticity is needed.

“

With our latest elastane-free product, we're offering a solution that supports circular design principles while still being competitively priced and commercially scalable.”

Paul Shen, Senior Marketing Manager

Certified and Circular-Ready

Made from Global Recycled Standard (GRS)-certified recycled polyester yarns, ECI#3B46N provides slight elastic performance without any elastane content. Ideal for use in

back neck tapes, decorative and binding tapes, fold-over elastic applications, and light-duty trims, the new tape maintains functional performance and is fully polyester-based—making it a

better match for mono-material garments designed with recyclability in mind.

“Designers and sourcing teams today are asking for trims that align with their brand's [sustainability goals](#),” said Paul Shen, Senior Marketing Manager from ECI Elastic. “With our latest elastane-free product, we’re offering a solution that supports circular design principles while still being competitively priced and commercially scalable.”

Meeting Market Demands with Practical Innovation

Internal testing has confirmed that ECI#3B46N delivers a comparable feel and stretch recovery to conventional light elastics, at a cost point suitable for mass-market applications. Unlike traditional elastic tapes that blend elastane with nylon or polyester, this tape simplifies material profiles—an increasingly important factor for brands working to meet recycling standards and circularity commitments.

ECI Elastic plans to scale up production of this new tape by Q4 2025 to support broader adoption by apparel and footwear brands integrating sustainable components across their lines.

Part of a Broader Sustainability Commitment

This development builds on ECI Elastic’s broader sustainability roadmap, which includes using recycled content across a growing range of trims and incorporating low-impact manufacturing practices. The company’s portfolio now includes recycled jacquard elastics as well as waste-yarn-based fancy trims.

“At ECI, we believe sustainable innovation shouldn’t compromise design or performance.

ECI#3B46N represents just one part of how we’re partnering with brands to meet the demands of today’s conscious consumers,” Paul Shen added.

To explore samples or partnership opportunities with ECI#3B46N and other sustainable trim solutions, visit www.ecigroup-global.com.

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