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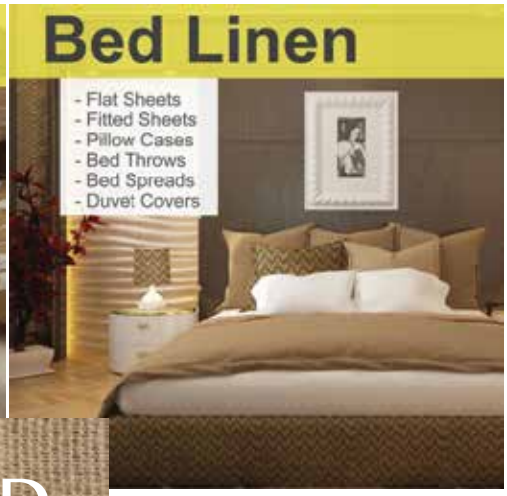

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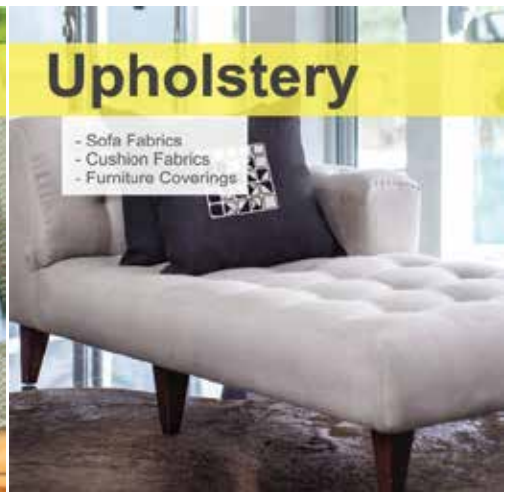

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CONTENTS

Supporting Associations

CONTENTS

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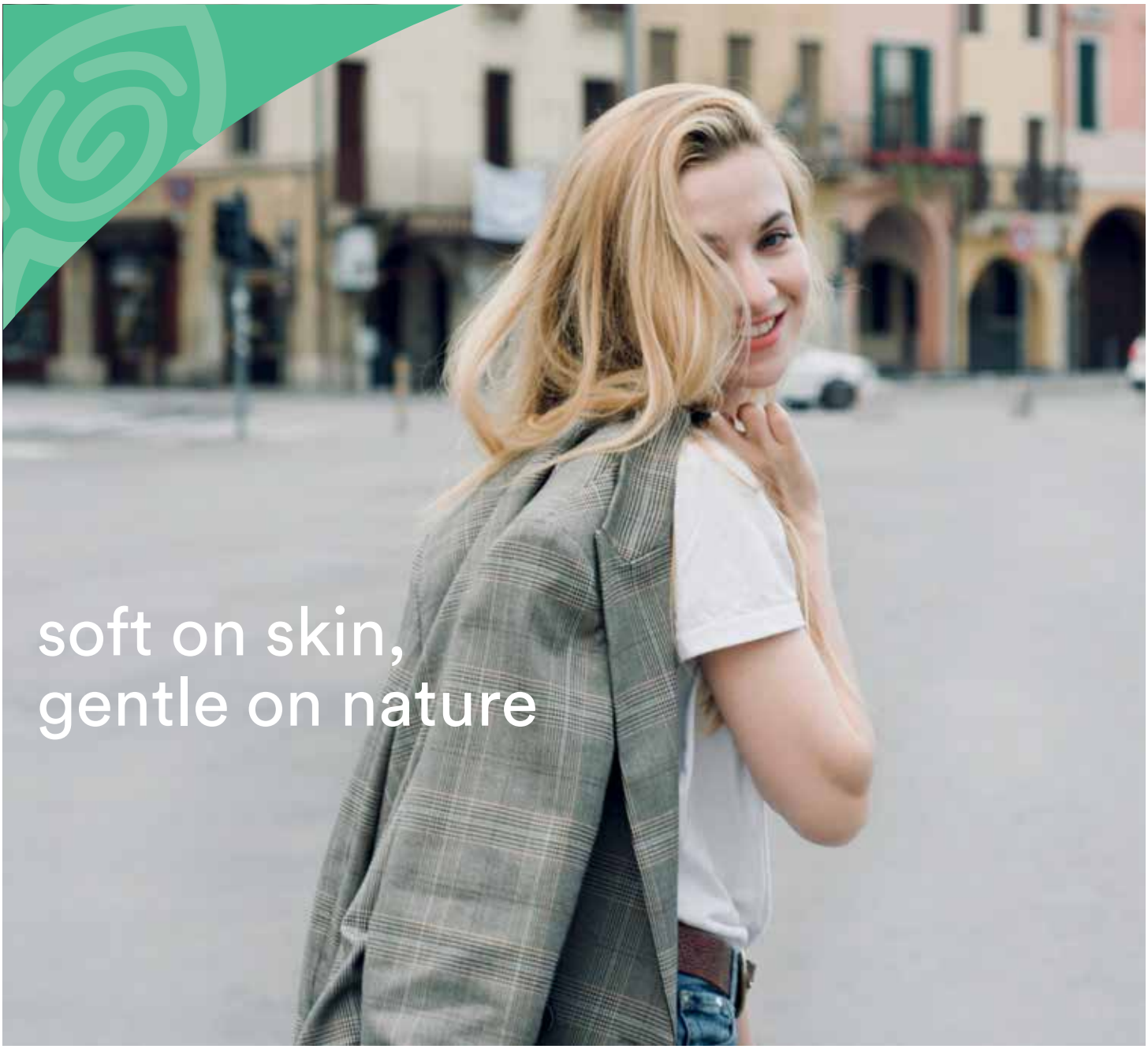

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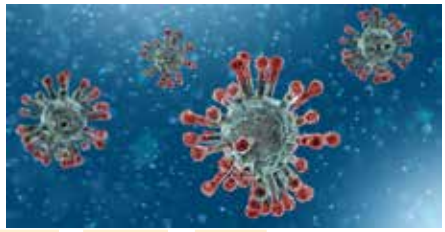

editorial

Dear Readers,

Corona Virus is Spreading with full swing all over the world resulting in the Closure of all the Textile Industry productions, imports and exports.

Some textile exporters may have to lay off employees mainly daily-wage workers after most of the orders were delayed for an indefinite period due to lockdown in various European countries. More than 50 per cent of our ready-to-shipment export orders have been delayed by importers in several countries especially in Europe, where most of the cities are facing lockdowns due to Covid-19 outbreak," the Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) Secretary General Aziz Ullah Goheer said while talking to Dawn Cognisant of the trouble, authorities moved on to create a package of support polices to help mitigate the danger faced by the industry. A team from textile exporter community spent the day in Islamabad in hectic consultations with government following which PM Imran Khan announced that a package will be unveiled, while the central bank announced relaxations of some schemes for exporters.

In Karachi, Sohail Tabba of Lucky Textiles also said that close to half of his company's customers had already asked for indefinite postponement of delivery, and they were expecting more in the days to come. When asked how the company's operation has been impacted by this development, he said the denim unit was down to four days a week and other lines were also cutting output. "More decisions will be made next week," he said without elaborating. Bashir Ali Mohammad of Gul Ahmad Textiles also painted a bleak picture. "In a way, a postponement of delivery means the order is cancelled" he said. "In fashion, things change after three months."

One bright spot, according to him, was the measures being announced by the government, including those by the State Bank of Pakistan which he said will help mitigate the impact. On the other hand, Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers Association (PHMA) urged government to announce an instant relief package to help retain millions of workers. "As the industry is considering laying off workers following the cancellation of export orders, we ask the government to announce a relief package with immediate effect for the workers," said PHMA Vice Chairman Shafiq Butt.

The impact of the global slowdown has also started showing on Pakistan's exports as a large majority of exporters of apparel and home textiles last week received emails from their European and American buyers to "stop all shipments and further production for them forthwith." Some western importers have asked their Pakistani suppliers to suspend shipments for three weeks and others for even a longer period. The impact of disruption in export shipments has not only affected apparel and home textile exporters but is now rippling through the entire domestic textile supply chain, putting at risk the livelihood of thousands of factory workers.

"Many companies were already under pressure because of budgetary measures like the withdrawal of the zero-rated regime for exporters that the government had introduced from July and the delay in issuance of their sales tax and other refunds. But now we are being told by our foreign buyers to put their shipments on hold for a period that may range from a few weeks to an indefinite period," MI Khurram, the chief executive of Comfort Knitwear, one of the leading exporters from Lahore, said.

The situation has led some firms like Interloop, Style and Shahkam to take extreme measures like temporarily shutting down their production partially or completely for the next two to four weeks to prevent inventory build-up as no exporter has enough storage capacity. In Faisalabad, the apparel and home textile manufacturers have cut their output by a fifth. Smaller manufacturers have gone as far as terminating most of their temporary workers and furloughing other staff.

"The small- and medium-sized exporters already operating on very thin margins are unable to pay workers or utility bills as they wait for new orders," Azizullah Gohir, the secretary-general of the Pakistan Textile Exporters Association, said by telephone. "The impact of trade disruptions on the coronavirus spread is slowly but steadily overtaking the domestic textile supply chain. The production cuts in the downstream industry are already causing inventory build-up in the upstream industry."

The exporters are warning that the export disruptions could result in massive job cuts unless the government supports them. "Our foreign buyers are trying to save their sales and businesses. For us it, it is a matter of protecting jobs," Ijaz Khokhar, the country's largest exporter of martial arts uniforms from Sialkot, argued. "The widespread lockdown in Europe and elsewhere has affected the entire small- to medium-sized exporting industries — including sports goods and surgical instruments manufacturers — from Sialkot. However, the garment producers are affected the most".

Nabeel Hashmi, the chairman of the Punjab Industrial Estates, a government-owned company which develops and manages industrial and business parks in Punjab, says it has now become crystal clear the Covid-19 spread is going to take a huge toll on companies, especially on the small and medium enterprises (SME), because of both export disruptions as well as the decline in domestic demand.

"The pandemic has brought with it an extraordinary challenge for the economic policy planners and the central bank. This challenge requires an extraordinary response to mitigate its impact on the country's struggling economy and people. The government should give comprehensive support of at least Rs100 billion to subsidies utility bills of tax-compliant SMEs with an annual turnover of up to Rs2bn and enable them to retain their employees and pay their salaries for at least next 120 days. The State Bank of Pakistan should waive all interest payments on industrial loans as long as the crisis lasts to protect the industry and jobs in these unprecedented times," he underlined. "Without government support most SMEs will neither be able to pay salaries nor utility bills. If you save the industry now, it will be easier for the economy to rebound more quickly when the crisis is over."

WASEEM J. KHAN
Editor-in-Chief

Global Textile & Clothing News

Aurora Specialty Textiles awarded for operational excellence

Arora Specialty Textiles Group has won yet another award for outstanding business practices. This one is for Operational Excellence and is from the Valley Industrial Association (VIA), which represents the manufacturing industry in the Fox Valley region of Illinois, a large industrial area near Chicago and one of the larger manufacturing regions in the US Midwest.

The VIA's Excellence in Operations Award recognizes leadership in operational strategic planning and implementation.

The announcement that Aurora won this award was made March 11 at the annual VIA Spark Award Benchmarking for Excellence dinner. Awards were given out for Culture, Innovation, Operational Excellence, Safety, Social Responsibility and Workforce Development.

Aurora was a finalist for two of the Spark Award categories – Social

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Responsibility and Operational Excellence. The awards process included a detailed submission and a lengthy interview that emphasized Aurora's continuous operational improvements. This includes utilization of Kaizen Events and Green Belt projects, two of the key performance indicators used to measure operations effectiveness, as well as cross-training, on-board training for operators and benchmarking with other plants.

"It was an honour to be nominated as a finalist in two categories from the VIA Spark Award committee, which recognized us for Social Responsibility and Operational Excellence," said Marcia Ayala, president of Aurora. "And to have won for Operational Excellence means so much.

"In 2015, we moved our operations from a 132-year-old plant in Aurora, Illinois, to our new facility in Yorkville and it was a challenge," she added. "Many improvements and adjustments had to be made in all aspects of our operations and moving took extensive cooperation, patience and know-how from our employees and management to make it successful.

I'm always proud to give a tour of our new plant in Yorkville and show the facility to customers and partners. I'm equally proud to have our team and organization recognized for Operational Excellence." In 2019 Aurora was recognized by the Sign Graphics Industry Association (SGIA) with their Sustainable Business Recognition award for excellence in implementing sustainability practices throughout their Yorkville plant. In 2019,

Aurora was also recognized for its sustainability programs by the Yorkville Chamber of Commerce, which designated Aurora as a Green Connect business. In February of this year (2020), Aurora was the recipient of the Yorkville Chamber of Commerce annual Green Business of the Year award. The recent award from the VIA is the third for Aurora in less than a year.

Kathy Gilmore, president of the VIA, explained why Aurora was selected for the Spark Award for Operational Excellence.

"This year the interviewers were looking for companies that have a systems approach to the best practices in the categories of the Spark Awards," said Gilmore. "The thinking is that having the right operation systems and disciplines in place is what helps take a company from good to great.

And even though Aurora Specialty Textiles isn't a large company with resources to easily implement these systems, they have made it a priority and invested the time and resources into this. They are an impressive group."

Textile Policy 2020-25: Pakistan to increase textile exports to $25.3 bn by 2025

ISLAMABAD: The draft of Pakistan Textile Policy for 2020-25 with four tier strategy and 21 recommendations is all set to be pitched any time before the ECC (Economic Coordination Committee) for approval. It will try to increase the country's textile exports target by 2025 to $25.3 billion and $50 billion by 2030. It was $13.33 billion in 2018.

The Pakistan Textile Policy draft, available with Textile Times, also narrates a clear roadmap to achieve the textile export targets along with vision to fully utilize the potential of home-grown cotton augmented by Manmade Fibre/Filament to boost value added exports and become a major player in the global textiles supply chain.

The draft of Textile Policy also spells out its the objectives which include 1) Restoring profitability of cotton farmers by increasing cotton yield, improving quality of cotton and decreasing cost of production for the farmers; 2) Strengthening manmade fiber/ filament sector to make this chain internationally competitive and export oriented; 3) Regionally competitive energy pricing fixed for five years; 4) Prompt Sales Tax Refund System; 5) Abolition of Zero- Rating has created serious liquidity crisis for exporting

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sectors as the current refund system is soaking up market liquidity and is not working; 6) Long Term Financing Facility for the entire textile value chain; 7) Revival of impaired textile capacity and introduction of bankruptcy law. 8) Establishment of Textile clusters and Export Processing Zones with plug and play facilities.

It says that the global textile trade that stands at $837 billion had an average growth rate of 0.1% over the last decade. When it comes to the global market for textile sector exports, it is dominated by China, which accounts for over 32pc of textile sector exports, valued at $266 billion. Presently, Pakistan's share is 1.6pc in the world textile trade, which will be increased to 3 percent by 2025. The world textile export that stands at $837 billion will reach $843.35.

The textile export growth comparison of Pakistan and regional peer countries shows that our regional competitors have surpassed Pakistan manifold.

Pakistan was once a leading player in textile trade but over the last decade, our textile sector growth has remained dismal owing to several policy limitations and lack of enabling environment necessary for industries to flourish.

Two decades back, Pakistan's textile exports were ahead of its regional peers like Bangladesh, Vietnam and Cambodia. In 2003, when Pakistan's textile exports were $8.3 billion, Vietnam's textile exports were $3.87 billion, Bangladesh's were at $5.5 billion. Now Vietnam is $36.68 billion and Bangladesh is at $40.96 billion.

The textile policy draft argues saying that the essence is that if these countries were able to achieve record growths in this short time period, the goal of reaching $50 billion of textile exports in next 10 years for Pakistan is attainable, subject to strict implementation of Long-term Textile Policy.

Mentioning about the roadmap to export growth, it mentions that the ultimate goal of export-led growth is poverty reduction and enhanced welfare of Pakistan's citizens.

Rapidly growing exports and millions of new jobs created, along with skill upgrading, will increase productivity and wages, which over the long term is the only sustainable way to improve living standards.

Furthermore, an ambitious strategy has been formulated to move from low value added semi-processed textile exports to high value-added garments and fashion articles.

A growth rate target has been set starting from 10pc in the first year of FY20 and gradually adding up to 13pc in fifth year would achieve almost $25 billion exports in the first phase of five years and for the second phase of six years 2025-30, growth rate of 15pc to 16pc on compounding basis be taken to achieve the target of $50 billion exports.

The graphs and tables mentioned in the Textile Policy show that growth in textile exports in FY20 will be at $14.66 billion, in FY21 $16.13 billion, in FY22 $17.90 billion, in FY23 $20.05 billion, in FY24 $22.46 billion and FY25 the textile exports will be at $25.38 billion. And summarily in the next five years, from 2025 onward to 2030, the textile exports will be at $50.15 billion.

It also highlighted the investment required to achieve the export growth target, saying that Pakistan's investment-to-Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio has been hovering around 15pc while countries like China, India and South Korea have maintained the ratio above 30pc to put their respective economies on a sustainable path. And to improve job creation, productivity and exports, investment-to-GDP ratio, the Pakistan Textile Policy draft says, should be raised to at around 20pc.

To achieve the targeted exports, business friendly policies should be ensured for the industry to grow and further achieve the increased targets. "Our industry cannot achieve any ambitious target within a short period of time since there are various complicated issues, including development

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of infrastructure which hamper growth," it says.

The draft also comes up with 21 recommendations to achieve the textile export of $25.3 billion by 2025 and $50 billion by 2030. It asks for the continuation of the provision of RLNG at $6.5 per MMBTU and electricity at 7.5 cents per unit, which is at par with energy cost of exporters of regional competitors such as Bangladesh, Vietnam and India for growth in exports.

The provision of energy at the said cost would ensure Pakistan's products in international market at competitive rates. It advocates for the regionally competitive pricing for the whole textile chain with removal of implementation hurdles.

On the front of better cotton availability, it also urges the government to ensure acquisition of high-yielding seed technology from international sources with restructuring of R&D on modern lines. It also recommends the removal of non-tariff barrier and duties stressing facilitation of land routes. And to avoid the contaminated cotton, it also suggests to the government to place ban on use of Polyethylene film cotton picking bags.

"Bags made of cotton should be provided to cotton pickers and specialized targeted outreach programs should be designed to educate women cotton pickers."

To encourage the value added sector, it also asks for favorable rebate rates. The Textile Policy draft also recommends reduction of corporate tax rate for exporters with upper cap to be fixed at 25pc and subsequently reduced to 15pc; it also asks for reduction in turnover tax to 1pc. It also advocates for reduction in sales tax rate, simplification of refunds system and asks for a specially-designated FBR cell to deal with complaints.

It recommends no sales tax on machinery imports and demanded that 90pc claim should be paid on "A" classification of companies' past performance on submission of sales tax return and 80pc of "B", 50pc on "C" and nil on "D".

Indonesia's largest viscose rayon facility begins production

Asia Pacific Rayon to produce 240,000 tons annually

The President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo (center), pictured during a tour of the new Asia Pacific Rayon facility with Anderson Tanoto, Director, RGE (left), RGE Founder and Chairman Sukanto Tanoto (center/left), and the Minister of Industry, Agus Gumiwang Kartasasmita (right).

– Indonesian President Joko Widodo inaugurated Indonesia's largest integrated viscose rayon production facility this week – celebrating an additional to the country's textile sector and the Indonesian government's industrial 4.0 development strategy.

The new Asia Pacific Rayon (APR) facility is located in the same production complex as APRIL Group in Pangkalan Kerinci, Riau province, Sumatra. The co-location allows integrated operations where renewable plantation pulp supply from APRIL feeds directly to APR for viscose rayon production. The new operation represents a total investment of approximately Rp.15 trillion (USD $1.1 billion).

The APR facility has an annual production capacity of 240,000 tons. The inauguration ceremony included the symbolic sealing by President Widodo of an export container with 10,190 tons of viscose rayon fiber for shipment to Turkey, one of APR's key export markets.

APR's products are exported to 14 other countries, including key textile centers in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Brazil as well as various parts of Europe. The products also support an expanding Indonesia fashion industry.

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Coats publishes 2019 Sustainability Report

Coats, the leading industrial thread company, has published its 2019 Sustainability Report covering key sustainability performance data for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019.

The report, 'Pioneering a sustainable future: making it happen', gives an update on progress against the targets for 2022 published in the 2018 Sustainability Report. In order to accelerate the company's progress towards a more sustainable future five, priority areas were identified: water, energy, effluent and emissions, social and living sustainably.

"Setting this bold new strategy last year was the first step," the company said in its statement. "Since then, Coats has gone further and confirmed participation in, and commitment to, the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). Coats is fully committed to the UNGC Principles on Human Rights, Labour, the Environment and Anti-Corruption, and continues to progress the implementation of these Principles in operations and across its supply chain. It also identified the most relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to its business operations and will continue to ensure that its activities are contributing towards the achievement of these goals."

Rajiv Sharma, Group Chief Executive, Coats, said: "For many years, Coats has had a robust approach to sustainability and 2019 saw progress made in the first year of our new strategy. We have set ambitious goals to deliver by 2022 as we continue pioneering towards a more sustainable future. The commitment and enthusiasm of our employees, management teams and partners gives me confidence that the progress we have made in 2019, will set us on a glide path to achieve our sustainability targets. Sustainability is a source of differentiation and value to multiple stakeholders."

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The 2019 report combines a broad overview of Coats' sustainability activities with the first formal Communication on Progress (COP) as UNGC participants. As a COP, the report describes Coats' actions and performance in relation to the Principles and the progress Coats is making towards the sustainability targets set and the relationship that these bear to the SDGs.

EU Industrial Strategy: Getting from principles to practice

EURATEX says it welcomes the proposed new EU industrial strategy but wonders how the proposed principles will be put into practice. "Reality checks and close monitoring of the implementation of the strategy will be essential to make a positive and sustainable impact," EURATEX said in a statement to the press earlier today.

"The European textiles and apparel industry, worth nearly €180 billion and including 171,000 companies, is an essential pillar of the European industry. It is a very globalised industry with extensive value chains across different continents. Over the last 10 years, real changes have been made to innovate and increase sustainability of its products, starting from traditional clothing to smart and medical textiles, industrial applications in the automotive and aerospace industry, to protective wear and high-end fashion," the voice of the European textile and clothing industry said.

"Against this background, EURATEX welcomes the launch of a new comprehensive EU industrial strategy. It is high time for Europe to embrace its industry again, as a source of welfare, innovation and employment. The proposed strategy is rightfully putting emphasis on economic sovereignty, without falling into the trap of protectionism."

According to EURATEX, the strategy should include some

important elements, essential for its success:

- Any proposed measure must be assessed in a global context, i.e. European companies cannot be subject to new rules, standards or regulations unless all players do play with the same rules. Measures to ensure a level playing field must be realistic and effective.
- Innovation into a more sustainable industry has an important cost, and the end consumer is not always willing to pick up that cost. This may jeopardize the financial sustainability of our industry, especially for smaller companies. Accompanying measures should be taken to alleviate the burden of green investments, especially for SMEs.
- Labour force shortage is an important barrier to the development of our industry. In 2018, 34% of the Textile and Clothing workforce was over the age of 50 (a steep increase from the 22% just 10 years ago). It is therefore urgent to make a common effort to both upskill and reskill the current workforce and to attract young talent.

While the principles mentioned in the strategy are sound, EURATEX says, effective implementation of such principles into practical measures will be critical. "Too often in the past, the EU has presented ambitious plans, but failed to deliver on their implementation, either by lack of resources or political will from member states. EURATEX therefore calls for a strict 'governance' of this new strategy, introducing measurable targets, which can be monitored by relevant stakeholders."

"We should be vigilant that proposed measures are realistic and effective, and actually support industrial competitiveness, rather than adding a regulatory or financial burden," commented Director General Dirk Vantyghem on the proposed strategy.

EURATEX says it stands ready to contribute to a positive and effective implementation of the strategy, making sure the European economy can regain its competitiveness, create jobs and welfare.

ITM and HIGHTEX exhibitions postponed until July

The ITM20 and HIGHTEX20 exhibitions, which were due to take place from 2-6 June, have been postponed. Both shows will now take place from 14-18 July 2020.

The organisers issued the following statement just minutes ago: "ITM 2020 International Textile Machinery Exhibition and HIGHTEX 2020 International Technical Textile & Nonwoven Trade Fair, organized with the partnership of Tüyap Tüm Fuarcılık Yapım A.Ş and Teknik Fuarcılık A.Ş to be held in Istanbul Tüyap Convention and Congress Center this year between June 2-6, have been postponed to 14-18 July 2020, as a result of decisions taken by World Health Organization (WHO) and Turkey – Ministry of Health."

"Recently, ITM and HIGHTEX Project Group made teleconference with both of the exhibition participants; the countries where such intense participation to both of exhibitions from Italy, Germany, Switzerland, China and Turkey. As a result of these discussions, organizational commitee was decided to postpone that exhibitions in line with requests from ITM and HIGHTEX 2020 participants." "The ITM and HIGHTEX Project Groups, see their primary responsibility as to protect the health, rights and investments of esteemed participants, visitors and collaborators. Therefore, within the scope of decisions taken by World Health Organization (WHO) and Turkey – Ministry of Health, ITM and HIGHTEX exhibitions have been postponed from 2-6 June 2020 to 14-18 July 2020."

Gartex Texprocess India's Mumbai launch postponed due to escalating Covid-19 concerns

The magnitude of public health and safety issues posed by the rapidly escalating COVID-19 outbreaks

have led to the postponement of Gartex Texprocess India, which was slated to make its debut in Mumbai next week. The cooperation partner of Gartex Texprcoess India, Denim Manufacturers Association, and its exhibitors strongly support this move. The Delhi edition continues to be on schedule from 21 – 23 August 2020.

With the World Health Organization (WHO) officially terming COVID-19 disease a pandemic, it called for a reassessment of the situation in accordance with advisories issued by the public health authorities. As per the travel advisory issued by the Union Health Ministry, the Indian Government has temporarily suspended visas and tightened entry conditions for foreign nationals. Moreover, as per a statement issued by Maharashtra Health Minister Shri Rajesh Tope, no permission will be granted for public gatherings in the state of Maharashtra.

Keeping in line with the advisories issued by the Indian Government, the organisers - Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd and MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, have had to act swiftly to postpone the launch of Gartex Texprocess India 2020 which was scheduled to open its doors in Mumbai, next week.

The decision comes after intensive consultations with exhibitors to gain a sense of whether the organisers should proceed with running the show as originally scheduled from 19 – 21 March 2020. The response was both swift and definitive, with an overwhelming majority opting to postpone. The decision is also supported by the Denim Manufacturers Association (DMA).

"After intensive consultations with exhibitors, we have had to take the difficult decision to postpone Gartex Texprocess India's launch in Mumbai. The health of our exhibitors, visitors, employees and all the stakeholders is our first priority.

The current situation represents a major challenge for the MICE industry over the world and we have to work in line with the local government's effort to take precautionary measures to control its further spread," says Mr Raj Manek, Executive Director and Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd. "We are glad to have the support of the industry and our exhibitors who's interests are at the center of this decision. We're working on next steps to make the process easy and ensure business continuity for the industry going forward," added Mr Gaurav Juneja, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd

The organisers intend to announce the new Mumbai launch dates in the coming weeks, after consultations with industry stakeholders. The Delhi edition continues to be on schedule from 21 – 23 August 2020.

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

Messe Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organiser with its own exhibition grounds. With more than 2,600* employees at 30 locations, the company generates annual sales of around €733* million. We have close ties with our industry sectors and serve our customers' business interests efficiently within the framework of our Fairs & Events, Locations and Services business fields. One of the Group's key USPs is its closely knit global sales network, which extends throughout the world. Our comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organising and running their events. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. Headquartered in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent).

Intertextile Shenzhen 2020 rebrands and expands with new venue plus concurrent fairs

The newly rebranded Intertextile Shenzhen Apparel Fabrics (formerly Intertextile Pavilion Shenzhen) will take place from

15 – 17 July 2020, at a brand new venue – the Shenzhen World Exhibition and Convention Center. An estimated 2,000+ exhibitors are expected to join a space of 60,000 sqm (2019: 1,065 exhibitors). Held concurrently with the first Shenzhen edition of Yarn Expo, as well as CHIC and PH Value, the fair offers a comprehensive, convenient platform for sourcing between seasons in South China.

Shenzhen World Exhibition and Convention Center is the world's largest exhibition venue

Ms Wendy Wen, Senior General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd, said, "Intertextile Shenzhen has long offered an access point to key garment manufacturers, from South China to Southeast Asia and beyond.

The move to a new venue means the fair has room to grow even more, in a convenient location. And following the successful model of Intertextile Shanghai with three concurrent fairs, the July date makes this the ideal fair for trade buyers who need a one-stop shop for apparel sourcing between seasons."

The world's garment production centre

Shenzhen is a key city in China's Greater Bay Area, a central government scheme to develop an integrated economic hub by linking nine major cities of South China's Guangdong Province, Hong Kong and Macau. The Greater Bay Area includes major garment manufacturing hubs for all kinds of garment clusters, including ladieswear, menswear, kids wear, denim, wool and underwear.

The new venue is located near the Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport, while the area is also well connected via high speed trains and the world's third largest ferry port, ensuring convenience for local manufacturers as well as international buying offices from Hong Kong. The fair is also an ideal location for garment producers from countries in the ASEAN region, such as Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia and Cambodia.

A world-class fashion destination

The venue is close to Dalang Fashion Town in Shenzhen, an ongoing development subsidised by the government that aims to use the momentum of the Greater Bay Area to build an international fashion centre. The development builds on top of Shenzhen's strong foundations in fashion, with the city already being a well-known ladieswear hub, home to around 30,000 fashion designers and over 2,000 fashion retailers.

With aims to specialise in technology, design and sustainability, Dalang Fashion Town is part of China's efforts to continue to expand its textile industry from not only manufacturing, but also to design and trendsetting. The area is home to around 500 domestic fashion enterprises.

Meeting year-round demand in the fashion industry

Fast fashion and sustainability rarely meet in the middle, however, both concepts are key drivers towards smaller batch sizes and on-demand replenishment. Market needs now constantly adapt to fast fashion trends outside of traditional Spring and Autumn collections, while at the other end of the spectrum, demand for sustainability is predicted to continue to grow in the 2020s, as public awareness of overproduction issues in the fashion industry rises.

Intertextile Shenzhen's mid-summer date makes it an ideal event for trade buyers to replenish stocks between seasons, while many exhibitors also offer product-in-stock services for faster processing. Smaller batch orders are also welcomed by many exhibitors at the fair, encouraging the industry to reduce waste through over-production.

Intertextile Shenzhen Apparel Fabrics will be held from 15 – 17 July 2020. This fair is organised by Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd; the Sub-Council of Textile Industry (CCPIT) and the China Textile Information Centre. For more details, please visit: https://intertextile-shenzhen.

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The Gateway to the World EVTEKS

The home textile industry with exports worth 90 billion dollars is one of the highest exporting industries in Turkey. Regarding design and production power, Turkey is the fourth largest home textile manufacturer in the world following China, India, and Pakistan. As the world's fourth largest exporter country, Turkey has a 3.6 percent share in the world market.

EVTEKS, which is the biggest supplier of Europe and also exports to 120 countries, is the most important gathering of the Turkish home textile industry. The exhibition is organized to increase the commercial capacity of the industry and its share in the world home textile exports.

Organized by İstanbul Trade Fairs, a CNR Holding company, EVTEKS has the distinction of being the world's second largest exhibition in its field, and it will open its doors at CNR EXPO/ İstanbul Expo Center on April 21-25, 2020.

EVTEKS is the address for branding in home textiles

The exhibition welcomed 81 thousand domestic and international buyers. EVTEKS International Istanbul Home Textiles Exhibition presenting trendy and fashionable home textile products to the liking of visitors received great interest from sector professionals. The exhibition held for the 25th time at CNR Expo, İstanbul, welcomed 81 thousand 746 sector professionals of which 24 thousand 451 were international. EVTEKS, organized by CNR Holding company ITF İstanbul Trade Fairs in collaboration with the Turkish Home Textile Industrialists and Businessmen Association (TETSIAD), welcomed visitors from 120 countries including the United States, Germany, Iran, Russia, Ukraine, UK, Canada, Saudi Arabia, China, India, Italy, Spain, Greece.

"Home textiles industry is now branding in the world."

Stating that EVTEKS had been significantly contributing to the exports of home textile sector and had helped Denizli companies in branding, the President of Denizli Exporters Association (DENİB) Hüseyin Memişoğlu said: "This year, 95 companies from Denizli participated in the exhibition. EVTEKS is of great importance in terms of branding as well as being the export door for our home textile sector. Companies regularly participating in the exhibition become well-recognized brands in the world as in the case of İssimo which now has a store in Croatia."

A great contribution to EVTEKS from Bursa

Pınar Taşdelen Engin, Chairwoman of Uludağ Textile Exporters' Association (UTİB), stated that 224 companies in Bursa had participated in the fair and added: "In other words, one-

third of EVTEKS participants were from Bursa. This exhibition where prominent buyers of the world come was an excellent opportunity to increase the exports of the industry. We invited media representatives from our target markets, the United States, France, Mexico, Iran, the Netherlands, Lebanon, Russia, and told them about our industry. Our companies, which increase their exports every year, are among the most competitive companies in the global market with their product quality.

February 2020 ITME AFRICA 2020 Exhibition – "Prosperity through Technology" Opens to a great response in Addis Ababa ITME AFRICA 2020 ,

the first of its kind business and technology Exhibition opened on 14 th February 2020 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia receiving 1791 unique visitors and 2100 + footfalls in 2 days from 35 countries across the globe. Exhibitors from 15 countries showcased modern Textile technology and Engineering sectors from Waste Water Recycling, Dyestuffs And Chemical Products, Pumps and Valves, Logistic Equipment and more.

Apart from 85 companies from India under the Umbrella of EEPC and FICCI, Italy had a showed prowess of 22 companies, Swiss pavilion with 12 companies and China with 19 companies. This unique exhibition was inaugurated by H. E. Mr. Teka Gebreyesus , Honorable State Minister, FDRE Ministry of Trade Industry, Ethiopia, H.E. Ms. Dorothy Tembo , Executive Director, International Trade Centre, UN, Geneva, H. E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava , Ambassador of India to The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and amongest the other esteemed dignitaries who graced the program with their prese nce H.E. Dr. Tizita Mulugeta, Ambassador of Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to India, H.E. Mr. Demeke Atnafu Ambulo, The Consulate General Of The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in Mumbai , Mrs. Munteha Jemal Seid, Director General of Business Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ato Silesh Lemma , Director General ETIDI, H.E Ambassador Dewano Kedir , Permanent Secretary of Economic Affairs, FDRE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and official representatives from other countries as well.

H.E. Mr. Demeke Atnafu Ambulo, The Consulate General Of The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in Mumbai, Mr. Yesuf Ademnur, Secretary-General, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectors Association, Mr. S. Hari Shankar , Chairman, India ITME Society, H.E Ambassador Dewano Kedir , Permanent Secretary of Economic Affairs, FDRE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H. E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava , Ambassador of India to The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Ms. Seema Srivastava , Executive Director, India ITME Society, H.E. Dr. Tizita Mulugeta Ambassador of Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to India, H. E. Ms. Dorothy Tembo, Executive Director, International Trade Centre, UN, Geneva, Mrs. Munteha Jemal Seid, Director General of Business Diplomacy,

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H. E. Mr. Teka Gebreyesus, Honorable State Minister, FDRE Ministry of Trade Industry, Ethiopia, ATO Sileshi Lemma, Director General, ETIDI, Mr. Melaku Ezezew , President, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations, H. E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava , Ambassador of India to The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia The highlights of the day included donation of a " Laxmi CM-R Shuttleless Flexible Rapier Loom" from the Laxmi Shuttleless Looms Private Limited, to the Ethiopian Textile and Fashion Technology (EiTEX), Bahir Dar University. EiTEX is Ethiopia's premier textile educational institution the powerloom will contribute to teaching of EiTEX's cadre of over 3000 students and expose enterprises in the Bahir Dar area to the newest weaving technologies available.

This donation was supported and facilitated by the International Trade Centre's SITA Project. ITC also launched their Report on Africa. India ITME Society and Kenya Association of Manufacturers signed MOU for further co-operation between India and Kenys in Textile Engineering Sector.

Mr. S. Hari Shankar, Chairman, India ITME and Ms. Phyllis Wakiaga , Executive Director Kenya Association of Manufacturers Signing the MOU Mr. Ketan Sanghvi and Mr. Hemang Sanghvi Directors Laxmi Shuttle Looms and Dr. Abera Kechi, EiTEX, Bahir Dar University and Ms. Hanna Bucher , ITC The other concurrent programs during the day were the Investment Seminar organized by ITC and moderated by Mr. Govind Venuprasad, Coordinator – SITA, ITC saw an excellent response and was well received by the audience.

The panelist for the sessions were Ms. Phyllis Wakiaga, Executive Director, Kenya Association of Manufacturers, Mr. Navdeep Sodhi, Partner, Gherzi Textil Organization, Switzerland, Mr. Sudatta Mandal, Chief General Manager, Lines of Credit Group, Exim Bank of India, Ms. Antje Steiner, DEG Invest, Regional Office East Africa, Mr. Sanjeeva Ileperuma, Director/CEO, Strathmore Apparel Manufacturing PLC, Eth., Mr. Pankaj Bedi, Chairman, United Aryan (EPZ) Ltd, Kenya, Dr. Philip Osafo-Kwaako, Chairman, Akosombo Industrial Co Ltd, Ghana and The B2F Meetings with Bank of Ethiopia, AWASH and Dashen and B2G meeting with Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania.

H. E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava, Ambassador of India to The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia said, "India is a front runner for investment in Ethiopia for textile and garment industry. There is a tremendous untapped potential for export of ready made garments from Ethiopia to the West.

Therefore the Textile industry, which is the largest Industry of India should explore Investment possibilities in Ethiopia and take advantage of the duty free facilities." H. E. Ms. Dorothy Tembo, Executive Director, International Trade Centre, UN, Geneva said, "ITMEAFRICA2020 is a tribute to the African continent and the trade relation between India and Ethiopia over the past 2 decades have increased more than 8 folds. While African Companies are interested in upgrading their machineries but the major challenges they face are the financial support. Quiet a few of the companies are already looking forward to participate in the next ITME AFRICA event," she said.

Mr. S. Hari Shankar , Chairman, India ITME Society shared that More than 180 textile and technology companies from 15 countries have to Addis Ababa to showcase their latest technology, machinery relevant to Ethiopian textile and apparel sector. Buyer delegations from Ethiopia, Botswana, Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania showed keen interest in doing business with the Indian participating companies.

"ITME AFRICA 2020 scheduled from 14 - 16 February 2020 is a pioneer event poised to be a catalyst not only for the textile industry but also for the technology

and engineering sector across the continent of Africa.

ITME AFRICA 2020 is set to be instrumental in establishing Africa's textile footprints prominent globally and to further develop bilateral trade and connect to new markets in Africa," as expressed by Ms. Seema Srivastava, Executive Director, India ITME Society. Italian Trade Commissioner said, "It was a great inauguration ceremony, we have arranged for 22 companies in the Italian pavilion 2 nd biggest after India pavilion in ITME AFRICA 2020. We have different specialization of textile machinery in the pavilion. The fair is well organized. Day 2 and day 3 shall see more visitors. As Ethiopia is the hub and an important market we expect more participants.

Have a great expectation from this fair. The organization was good." Mr. Ernesto Maurer , President Swiss Textile Machinery said, "Happy with the first day attendee and presence of many of these companies shows the diversity of the exhibition.

Many interested parties were here and from fiber to shirt. Ethiopia can take more steps to bridge the gap but should start soon, it might take time but it will get there."

Mr. Richard Salvatore , Co-ordinator, TEMSAD, Turkey said, "The response to this maiden event by India ITME Society was exceptional with a good quality of visitors flowing in. We could meet and interact with many people from Industry Associations and officials, whom we could otherwise never meet and connect with in any other exhibition outside Africa."

Day 2 of the event has many more add value concurrent programs with ETIDI conducting seminar on "Potential Africa" which shall be attraction for all business men and the Technical Seminar on Cotton Development and Agro-copter from IIT Madras which has seen unprecedent registration from Technical Community / Academics / Students.

The B2B Meetings with Business Delegates from Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania looking at sourcing from India & Overseas opened up many possible opportunities for Trade & Investment and engaging and turning them into potential customers. Mr. S. Hari Shankar Chairman, India ITME Society, Mr. Sanjeev Lathia, Past Chairman, India ITME Society with ITC Team, IIT Madras Team and India ITME Society Team. ITME AFRICA 2020 has opened a new era towards self-reliance, socio-economic advancement, empowerment and co-operation for the continent of Africa. Seema Srivastava Executive Director India ITME Society

Première Vision Paris : 44 414 international visitors for a distinctly particular february edition

The world's leading trade show for the upstream creative fashion industry succeeded in mobilising industry professionals from 124 countries around more than 1,700 exhibitors for a distinctly particular edition due to the coronavirus-related health crisis.

With nearly 45,000 visitors, Première Vision welcomed more than 80% of its usual audience to Paris this past 11-13 February to imagine, design and produce the spring-summer 2021 collections.

This quite particular edition, dedicated to materials for the spring-summer 2021 season, presented a selective and creative offer from 1,710 international exhibitors in yarns and fibres, fabrics, leathers, surface designs, accessories and fashion manufacturing - with 48 countries represented.

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This was a solid showing, despite the loss of 45 Chinese companies initially registered that were neither able to attend the show nor be represented by their European teams.

In this disrupted environment, Première Vision Paris fulfilled its role as catalyst for the global creative fashion industry by welcoming more than 80% of its customary visitors.

In all, 44,414 visitors and international buyers came to meet their creative and industrial partners. Attendees voiced their approval for an event rich in inspirations, experiences and expert and strategic talks on the sector's key issues, including eco-responsibility, technologies, societal changes, unique know-hows and more.

An edition driven by eco-responsibility and a top-notch program

The February 2020 edition of Première Vision Paris put the spotlight on responsible creation, engaging visitors with a Smart Creation area that welcomed 58 exhibitors presenting their latest eco-responsible innovations and fashion tech, in addition to hosting a full range of conferences in the Innovation Talks Area to explore the fashion of tomorrow, all of which were particularly well attended.

The fashion information prepared by the Première Vision fashion team for spring-summer 2021 was also highly acclaimed, with forums and seminars filled to capacity, notably that dedicated to the dynamic Sport & Tech sector.

The experience offered to visitors at the show was also impressive, with the «Mutations» exhibition exploring the link between technology and nature, the private evening organised at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs for the «Marche et démarche» exhibit, and an exhibition dedicated to lace at Maison d'Exceptions.

About The Première Vision Group

Première Vision is the global leader in upstream creative-fashion trade shows. From 15 Lyons weavers in the early 1970s to the more than 2,000 exhibitors at Première Vision Paris today, the Première Vision group's strategy has remained the same: to support the development of the international fashion industry and major market evolutions through its services and 14 events per year, to which has now been added a unique online tool: the Première Vision Marketplace, managed by the company's subsidiary, Première Vision Digital.

Premier Vision Paris 2020

Premier Vision Paris 2020

Premier Vision Paris 2020

Premier Vision Paris 2020

Premier Vision Paris 2020

Premier Vision Paris 2020

Tex World Paris 2020

Tex World Paris 2020

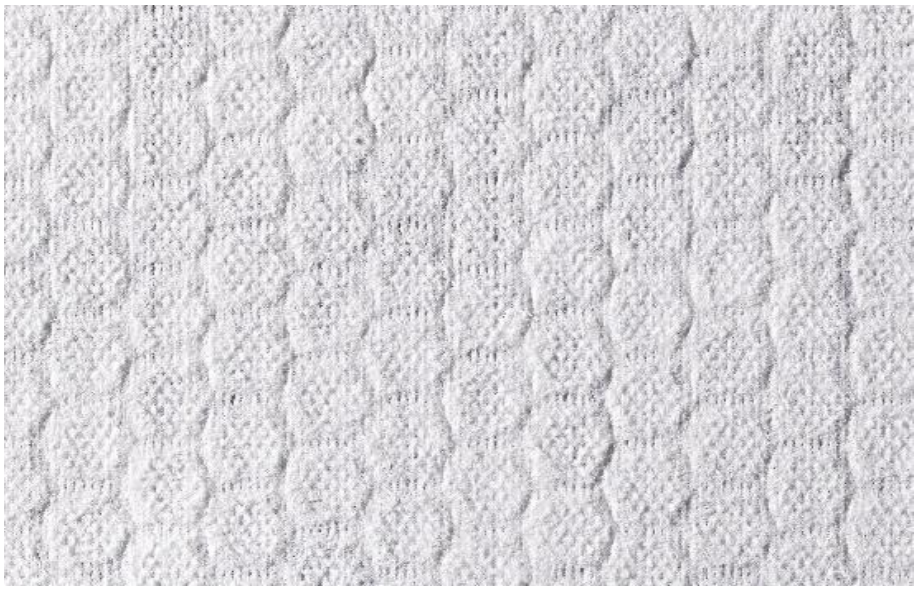
Tex World Paris 2020

Tex World Paris 2020

Tex World Paris 2020

New ideas for sustainable and affordable wipes

At INDEX booth 2327 Truetzschler Nonwovens and Truetzschler Card Clothing introduces new line concepts and wires for efficiently making sustainable nonwovens for wipes or hygiene textiles.



Consumers love textiles made from cotton fibers. They highly appreciate the soft and natural touch not only in garments but also in other products coming in contact with the skin.

Fiber fineness – most fibers range between 3-5.5 Mic or 1.0-2.8 dtex – strength and absorbent capacity make cotton fibers an ideal material for single-use dry and wet wipes. There are just two reasons for the limited usage of cotton fibers in single-use nonwovens. Firstly, cotton is higher priced than less expensive viscose/ polyester blends most times. And secondly, cotton fibers are natural products whose qualities vary both regionally and from year to year. At INDEX booth 2327 Truetzschler Nonwovens addresses these challenges by introducing new line concepts for efficiently making cotton nonwovens for wipes or hygiene textiles. We discuss proven technologies which reliably turn even comber noils, short or unbleached cotton fibers into high-value products. Another focus is on Truetzschler and Voith's WLS (Wet-laying/Spunlacing) technology. We will discuss opportunities of WLS-lines and WLS in combination with other technologies for providing consumers with eco-friendly, sustainable and affordable single-use nonwoven products. Truetzschler Card Clothing, our in-house competence center with respect to clothings and comprehensive service, presents its latest development: the SUPERTIP wire generation which brings card clothings to a new level of quality and profitability.

About Truetzschler:

With about 3000 employees, Trützschler is one of the world's leading textile machinery manufacturer. Trützschler specialises in machines, installations and accessories for spinning preparation, the nonwovens and man-made fiber industry. The headquarters of the more than 130 year old company is located in Mönchengladbach, Germany. The subsidiaries Trützschler Nonwovens and Man-Made Fiber GmbH with two production sites, and Trützschler Card Clothing GmbH, are also located in Germany. Sites in India, China, Brazil, USA and Switzerland, as well as a number of service centres, provide customer proximity in the important textile processing areas.

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A First in the ITM 2020: Denim Technologies Special Section

The ITM (International Textile Machinery) Exhibition, which is organized every two years, offers economic advantages to the textile industry as well as providing great benefits to its participating companies and visitors in terms of innovative ideas and new collaborations. The ITM Exhibition, which globally demonstrated its success, took a step forward and led the way by opening the Denim Technologies Special Section this year.

Denim, with its comfort and practicality, is one of the indispensable products of wardrobes and receives demands from all segments including youngsters and older people with the uprising trend of sportswear in recent years.

Denim that is considered as one of the timeless products of the fashion world, effectuates a considerable economy from manufacturing to retail on this day. The success of the textile companies in Turkey in production and marketing and their proximity to European countries is considered as a geographical advantage.

The fact that the ITM exhibitions are organized in Istanbul connecting the east and the west backs up this advantage.

Because of reaching the occupancy limit in all halls of the ITM 2020 Exhibition, the "Denim Technologies Special Section", which was established for the first time as an additional hall, is making itself ready to welcome denim, fabric and ready-made garment manufacturers. It offers a great occasion for the visitors that the manufacturers will be exhibiting the latest technological innovations in denim production in this specialized hall from the machinery related to the sector to the dyes used in the production.

Turkey undertakes an important role in the world denim market

Turkey, being fourth in the world in denim exports, is among the major players in the global denim market. In Turkey, approximately 350 million meters of denim is produced in a year. Along with denim manufacturing, the export network of our country is also growing significantly. Expanding with value-added products, both producers and retailers are preparing for investment in this sector.

Turkey has become a country that creates its own brands and shapes the world's denim fashion with its designs and technological products.

In terms of both denim fabric and denim clothing exports in 2018, our country was among the most successful countries in the world. Turkey placed in as the fourth most exporting country in the world in both categories, achieving 7 percent share with the export amounting to 338 million dollars in world denim fabric exports, which attains to a total of 4 billion 910 million dollars and accomplishing 4.5 percent share with the export amounting to 2.1 billion dollars in ready-to-wear clothing.

Turkey exported the most amounts of denim fabric particularly to Tunisia, Egypt, Italy, Morocco, and Bangladesh.

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Strong exhibitor registration shaping up for Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition

Exhibitor registration for the Autumn Edition of Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles has been strong since applications opened in December last year. Renowned global players such as D Décor Home Fabrics (India), G.M. Syntex Pvt (India), Naturtex (Hungary) and SIC Global Textiles (Poland) are amongst those to have already confirmed their participation. Held from 24 – 26 August 2020, the fair is the largest trade platform in China for international buyers to meet potential supply partners in the second half of the year. The fair's early bird discount will be extended until 30 March. Interested companies can register online to enjoy a 10% discount.

"We are planning for all our trade fairs in the second half of the year to go ahead as scheduled following the disruptions from the COVID-19 virus to our events earlier in the year," Ms Wendy

Wen, Senior General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd said.

"Although the virus outbreak will no doubt have an effect on the Chinese economy, there were strong economic figures in the Chinese home textiles industry last year, so we expect the economy and this sector to rebound strongly once the virus is brought under control. We look forward to the upcoming Autumn Edition and our teams will leave no stone unturned to ensure a successful trade fair for domestic and international exhibitors and visitors alike." Ms Wen further explained.

Discover abundant new products and design trends

As the leading business platform for the home and contract textile industry in the Asia Pacific region, participants of Intertextile can always discover the latest innovations and trends of the textile and interior design industry. This year, the fair continues to cover the entire spectrum of home and contract textile products including:

- Decorative Fabrics (Upholstery & Curtains)
- Bedding, Bath, Kitchen & Table
- Carpets & Rugs
- Sun-Protection
- Wallcoverings
- Textile Editors
- Whole Home Products
- Digital Print & Technics
- Fibres, Yarns & Chemicals
- Textile Designs

In addition, Intertextile is pleased to cooperate with the renowned international forecasting agency NellyRodi™ from France again in presenting the hottest international home furnishing trends. A trend committee led by NellyRodi and formed by top forecasters including Carlotta Montaldo, Juliette Lamarca, Shen Lei and Studio NOCC will be responsible for determining the major design trends which will be demonstrated in the three-day fair via a series of events and displays. More details about the trends will be announced soon.

Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition is organised by Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd; the Sub-Council of Textile Industry, CCPIT; and the China Home Textile Association (CHTA).

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

Messe Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organiser with its own exhibition grounds. With more than 2,600* employees at 30 locations, the company generates annual sales of around €733* million. We have close ties with our industry sectors and serve our customers' business interests efficiently within the framework of our Fairs & Events, Locations and Services business fields.

One of the Group's key USPs is its closely knit global sales network, which extends throughout the world. Our comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organising and running their events. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. Headquartered in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent).

www.textiletimes.com

88% recycled Ghost Shadow Hoody wins outdoor award

Mountain Hardwear's sustainable Ghost Shadow Hoody has won gold in the clothing category at this year's UK OIA Awards, announced at the Outdoor Industry Association's conference in Cheshire this week.

Ghost Shadow Hoody was up against some tough competition, with both top outdoor industry judges and the public recognising its strong sustainable benefits, while still maintaining high-performance.

Between its 100% post-industrial recycled shell fabric and semi-recycled trims, lining, and insulation, the Ghost Shadow Hoody has 88% total recycled content. It raises the standard of utility, while reducing carbon and water impact to bring the heat to where it's supposed to - the wearer, not the atmosphere.

Steve Adams, Product Line Manager of Outerwear at Mountain Hardwear, commented: "Our experience-driven design team has worked tirelessly to bring this innovative, sustainable and synthetic equivalent to our best-selling Ghost Whisperer to market. To be recognised at such a prominent UK event, among strong competition, is a great accolade - especially as votes came from both outdoor industry experts and the general public."

Steve continued: "Ghost Shadow uses 100% recycled ripstop nylon and recycled trims and is insulated with 100% and 70% post-consumer recycled PrimaLoft Eco synthetic insulation. It provides amazing warmth-to-weight ratio for a stand-alone outer or warmth layer and remains warm and dry, even in wet weather."

As well as weight and fabric technologies, Ghost Shadow was also recognised for its further impressive eco benefits, including using 52% less water and reducing carbon emissions by 39% during the manufacturing process.

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Messe Frankfurt: Kam International's displays at Heimtextil International Textile Trade Fair 2019, Germany

Oerlikon receives large orders from China despite recent disruption

Oerlikon reports it has "received new large orders for manmade fibres production solutions from three of the world's leading manmade fibres manufacturers". All three companies are based in China and have been key customers of Oerlikon for many years.

The orders are for Oerlikon Barmag's filament-spinning technology for the efficient production of polyester fibres. The three projects have a total value of more than CHF 600 million (EUR 565 million). "A very small proportion of these projects will be recognized in Oerlikon Group's order intake in 2020, and the majority will be accounted for in 2021 and 2022. On-site delivery and installation of these systems is planned for the period from 2021 to early 2023," Oerlikon said today in a press communication.

"The systems business in China remains largely unchanged despite the short-term interruption caused by the coronavirus epidemic following the Chinese New Year celebrations. Long-term project planning for major customers in the manmade fibres industry has resulted in new major orders being placed with Oerlikon Barmag. One of the three new orders, valued at more than CHF 300 million (EUR 282 million), is the largest order ever received by Oerlikon Barmag, based in Remscheid, Germany," the company said.

The comprehensive manmade fibres technology solutions by Oerlikon are used along the entire value chain in polyester yarn manufacturing and contain cutting-edge automation and digitalization technologies.

Oerlikon's innovative technologies will enable the three Chinese companies to increase their production capacities for polyester yarn and to remain competitive. Oerlikon Barmag will provide the entire system for WINGS POY and WINGS FDY, as well as the texturing machines from the eFK product family in phases over a period of slightly over two years.

"These three orders show that the Chinese textile industry continues to place its trust in the world market – and in Oerlikon. They make it clear that globally interconnected industries such as the textiles industry and business models like that employed by the Manmade Fibers Segment are more robust than many people believe," said Dr. Roland Fischer, CEO Oerlikon Group.

Georg Stausberg, CEO of Oerlikon's Manmade Fibers Segment, added: "That these customers repeatedly select Oerlikon is primarily linked to our innovative technologies, but also due to the fact that we have been handling these extensive projects flexibly and reliably for decades and also mastering challenges that, like today, arise from global epidemics causing temporarily interruptions for production sites and logistics."

DSM introduces bio based Dyneema

Royal DSM, SABIC and UPM Biofuels, a leading producer of sustainable raw materials, have announced a partnership that will help to reduce the environmental footprint of Dyneema fibre. The collaboration will see Dyneema transition to bio-based feedstock leveraging SABIC's Trucircle solutions for certified renewable products. "As such, DSM is delivering on its commitment to improve the sustainability footprint of Dyneema moving towards a circular, bio-based economy," DSM said.

In December 2019, DSM announced ambitious sustainability targets for its Dyneema high performance fibres. This new partnership represents an important step in realizing the goal of sourcing at least 60% of its feedstock from bio-based raw material by 2030. The transition to bio-based feedstock will maintain the unique properties of Dyneema, enabling customers to adopt a more sustainable solution without compromising process efficiency or final product performance.

The bio based Dyneema material will be carrying the globally

recognized ISCC Plus certification and will not require re-qualification of downstream products. Bio-based Dyneema will be available from April 2020.

UPM Biofuels produces bio-based feedstock UPM BioVerno from the residue of the pulping process. This is then processed by SABIC to make renewable ethylene under its Trucircle umbrella of solutions. Trucircle includes certified renewable products, specifically resins and chemicals from bio-based feedstock that, the company says, are not in competition with the food chain and help to reduce carbon emissions.

According to DSM, by applying a mass balancing approach**, it is then able to create bio-based Dyneema fibre that delivers consistent durability and performance with a reduced environmental impact. "The new partnership underlines DSM's commitment to working closely with partners and suppliers to realize a more sustainable value chain," DSM said.

Wilfrid Gambade, President of DSM Protective Materials: "By partnering with SABIC and UPM Biofuels, we are taking the next important step in our sustainability journey, and driving our industry's transition from conventional to renewable resources. By improving the impact of our materials, together with our partners, we are helping to protect both people and the environment they live in. In this way, we are using our bright

science to deliver brighter living."

Mark Vester, Circular Economy Leader at SABIC, commented: "We firmly believe that true collaboration and innovation will drive positive change. With our Trucircle initiative, we are more committed than ever to closing the loop on used plastics in 2020. We are delighted to be partnering with DSM and UPM Biofuels as a further step towards transforming the value chain and creating a circular, transparent, and sustainable economy."

Juha Rainio, Sales and Marketing Director at UPM Biofuels added: "We are committed to replacing fossil-based feedstocks with renewable ones. This collaboration with SABIC and DSM is an excellent example of a future beyond fossils, which is a key driver for UPM going forward."

Reifenhäuser joins Circular Plastics Alliance

Reifenhäuser has become a member of the European Union Circular Plastics Alliance (CPA). On March 10, 2020, Ulrich Reifenhäuser signed a declaration that commits over 175 companies and associations to reuse 10 million metric tons of recycled plastics in new products by the year 2025. The move also takes Reifenhäuser's systematic strategy of sustainability a step further.

"Plastics are part and parcel of recycling," says Ulrich Reifenhäuser, explaining the company's step in supporting the CPA. "Our industry is called upon to incorporate plastics into the Circular Economy. We bear co-responsibility to establish collection systems, recycle plastic waste, and minimize production waste." Reifenhäuser says it already offers solutions for a functioning Circular Economy to ensure that outstanding products with excellent properties are recyclable.

Sustainability in the Reifenhäuser

Group is incorporated in every product from the start and is an integral part of corporate strategy, the company says. The company has many years of experience and a large network of experts and partners, especially in the field of research and development for recyclable films and films containing recyclate material, Reifenhäuser adds.

Tim Pohl, Director Sustainability, summarises the company's commitment to the Circular Plastics Alliance: "Besides our know-how in the field of line technology, we intend to utilize our competence to find solutions for innovative recipes and processes. Together with other members of the Alliance, we can research for recyclable packaging solutions at our modern Technology Center."

The Reifenhäuser Group is a leading provider of innovative technologies and components for plastics extrusion. Founded in 1911, the company is a global supplier of high-tech solutions and with its technologies and the know-how of its 1,600 employees, it supplies machines and lines for the production of very high-quality blown film, cast film, polishing sheet, nonwovens, and components. The CEO of the Group is Bernd Reifenhäuser.

12th March 2020, Kelheim, Germany

Kelheim achieves low risk status in CanopyStyle Audit

Environmental not-for-profit organization Canopy, third-party auditor NEPCon, and Kelheim Fibres released the results of Kelheim's CanopyStyle Audit. "The company's current supply chain is confirmed as low risk of sourcing wood from Ancient and Endangered Forests or other controversial sources," Kelheim told press members.

"Canopy congratulates Kelheim Fibres for its low risk audit results," said Nicole Rycroft, Canopy's Executive Director. "Producers are increasingly hearing from brands that they will no longer source Ancient and Endangered Forest textiles by the end of 2020. This audit result is a validation of Kelheim's efforts in that direction and positions it well in a competitive marketplace."

"Future-oriented fibre materials cannot come at the cost of Ancient and Endangered forests and other valuable resources. Therefore, we are committed to focus on sustainability at every step from raw material sourcing and state-of-the-art closed-loops production processes," said Craig Barker, CEO of Kelheim Fibres.

"As a small producer, we are proud to have accomplished low-risk audit results. We welcome the recommendations the audit report has given us for further improvements, and we will actively work towards implementing them."

"NEPCon is pleased to be the independent auditing body for the CanopyStyle initiative and in particular making it possible to meet the growing demand for CanopyStyle audits throughout Europe," stated Jon Jickling, Director, NEPCon Solutions.

"Kelheim Fibres was committed to this third-party assessment of their raw material sourcing."

Key findings of the audit include:

• The company is at low risk of sourcing from Ancient and Endangered Forests

• The company has a limited fibre basket and uses a significant proportion of FSC-certified fibres in its viscose products

• The company has begun supporting forest conservation solutions in key areas of Ancient and Endangered Forests

In the spirit of continuous improvement, Canopy recommends that the company increase the proportion of FSC-certified fibre, and make efforts to source 100% FSC, as well as continue to invest in research and development of low-impact alternative fibres, with the goal of launching a fibre line that contain these products.

This audit, which reflects a snapshot in time, is to be conducted annually to ensure that the company continues to meet the expectations of the CanopyStyle initiative. The audit findings contribute to Hot Button Issue Report.

Canopy is an international not-for-profit environmental organization dedicated to protecting forests, species and climate. Canopy collaborates with more than 750 companies to develop innovative solutions, to make their fibre supply chains more sustainable, and to help protect the world's remaining ancient and endangered forests. Canopy's partners include H&M, Sprint, Penguin Random House, Zara, TC Transcontinental, The Globe and Mail, and Scholastic. Canopy's work relies on the support of individual donors who share its passion for the planet.

12th March 2020, Jyväskylä, Finland

Touchpoint and Spinnova collaborate on ecological workwear

Finnish sustainability pioneer in sustainable workwear, Touchpoint, and innovation company Spinnova have today introduced their first demo product - the Tapio apron at the Gastro Helsinki event. "The apron, made from Spinnova's highly sustainable fibre, is very likely the world's most ecological piece of workwear to date," Spinnova says. The objective of the collaboration was to make the world's most sustainable workwear collection. The Tapio prototype apron, named after the ancient Finnish god of the forest, is 100 % wood-based, made without harmful chemicals and quickly biodegradable.

"Its most interesting circular feature is the fact that the apron can be recycled into new fibre in the Spinnova process, without dismantling. The apron contains no materials that shed microplastics and has no plastic or metal parts to weaken its recyclability. The Tapio apron is also undyed and uncoated," the company adds.

"Every detail is carefully considered so that there is nothing unnecessary in the apron. We think it's beautiful in its simplicity and sustainability," says Touchpoint's CEO, Outi Luukko.

"Touchpoint was one of the first brand owners to start collaborating with Spinnova in 2018. Spinnova has found a common value foundation, and Touchpoint's brave and open-minded willingness to make trials important factors in the

collaboration," the company says.

"Touchpoint wanted to join our journey long before we knew much about the technical or commercial development of our fibre and wanted to publicly introduce a demo product before knowing when a collection is possible. This calls for a passionate approach on sustainability from a textile brand," comments Spinnova's CEO Janne Poranen.

"We are born curious and have grown to turn challenges into possibilities. We need solutions that don't burden our environment and that can in the future replace, for example, cotton production. We started with an apron that helps us raise discussion and spread awareness of the possibilities this will offer to a more ecological workwear scene and the entire textile industry," concurrs Luukko.

Another demo product will follow the Tapio apron, and a complete commercial workwear collection is possible a bit further down the road. Spinnova is now in the pre-commercial stage and planning its first commercial production facility.

Spinnova is a Finnish, sustainable fibre company that has developed an ecological breakthrough technology for manufacturing cellulose-based textile fibre. Spinnova's patented technology includes 0% harmful chemicals and 0% waste or side streams, making the fibre and the production method "the most sustainable in the world", according to the company. The fibre is also recyclable with the Spinnova process without harmful chemicals. Spinnova's raw material commitment is to only use certified wood or waste streams.

Spinnova was named a World Changing Idea by the Fast Company in 2019, and earned the Sustainability Achievement of the year by ISPO and Scandinavian Outdoor Awards in 2020.

Touchpoint was established 2008, the company provides sustainable workwear solutions that represent the new era. Some Touchpoint case references are Hesburger, Viking Line, SOL Palvelut, Finavia, AirPro, NoHo Partners and Scandic. Touchpoint is also building a closed-loop solution for domestic textile waste in B2B segment. The recycling facility, Rester, starts operating in the beginning of 2021.

Designtex and Celliant launch upholstery fabrics range

Designtex and Hologenix, inventor of Celliant, have announced the launch of Designtex Celliant upholstery. Celliant is a blend of naturally occurring, thermo-reactive minerals that are applied as a nonwoven backing to four fabrics across fifty colours.

"The minerals work to capture and convert body heat into infrared energy, which has been clinically shown to increase local circulation and improve cellular oxygenation, as well as help regulate body temperature, all of which means more energy, endurance, comfort and well-being," Designtex and Celliant said in a press statement this morning.

"We like to think of this new collection as charging stations for people," said Susan Lyons, Designtex President. "The technology provides health and wellness benefits for sedentary moments, like an office worker in their chair or a person sitting in a waiting room, which is revolutionary. It really is a human solution and we are proud to be a part of bringing wellness to the

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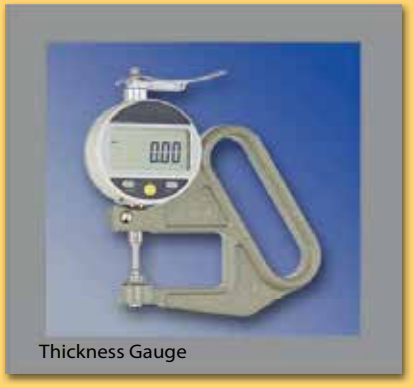
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built environment."

Designtex is a leader in the design and manufacturing of applied materials for built environments, including education, retail, hospitality and healthcare spaces, as well as entertainment and sporting arenas. Celliant is a prominent developer of infrared responsive textiles, which the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined are medical devices as defined in section 201(h) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and are general wellness products.

"People have mentally and physically demanding careers," noted Hologenix CEO, Seth Casden. "Designtex recognizes that people need mental acuity, strength and endurance to perform at their best. They are evolving the textile industry with beautiful upholstery that doesn't just nourish the soul but also promotes well-being. With Designtex Celliant, these environments aren't just spaces you work in, but environments that work for you. This is a key moment in the evolution of textiles and spatial wellness, and we're proud to be partnered with Designtex."

"Designtex Celliant upholstery is the future of fabrics. With Celliant technology, Designtex and Hologenix are delivering wellness to the built environment with a solution to amplify the energy, endurance and comfort of the user," the companies conclude.

28th February 2020, Bobingen

Trevira at BCFA Open Berlin

Trevira will be joining the first BCFA Open Berlin pop-up exhibition, which will be held at the British Embassy on 6 May during Berlin Design Week (4-10 May 2020). The one-day event is being organised by the British Contract Furnishing Association (BCFA), and members of the association will have the opportunity to display their products in the atrium of the post-modern embassy building.

At the exhibition, specially invited interior designers and furnishers, along with purchasers from the contract market, will be able to find out more about the collections and products of high-end British manufacturers and textile houses, and attend interesting talks by two top specialists of the sector. Trevira will be showing a selection of Trevira CS fabrics which were on display earlier this year at the Heimtextil 2020, where they featured in the special exhibition 'Textile Future by

Trevira CS'. These fabrics are permanently flame retardant and can be deployed in a wide range of applications, as Berlin design company studio aisslinger impressively showed in the exhibition at the Trevira stand.

"For the Heimtextil fair, the prestigious studio aisslinger design team worked together with Trevira, creating a concept that revealed just how attractive and playful Trevira CS fabrics can be in a variety of settings on the contract market, including hospitality, healthcare, workspaces, public spaces and transport," the company said.

"Trevira is very much looking forward to being part of BCFA's first ever event in mainland Europe."

"Designers and architects who are interested in taking part in the event are welcome to register their details with Trevira."

21st February 2020, Cologne

First cellulose fibres conference debuts in Cologne

Delegates braved the storms and coronavirus warnings to attend the recently held 1st International Conference on Cellulose Fibres, held in in Cologne, Germany. "With 210 participants and 15 exhibitors from 26 different countries, the first conference on cellulose fibres was a great success and exceeded all expectations. The focus of the conference was on markets, technologies and sustainability – and especially alternative cellulose feedstocks," organiser, the Nova Institute said in a press statement.

"Cellulose fibres are a success story within the textiles market with a cumulated annual growth rate (CAGR) between 5 and 10% over the last ten years – similar growth rates are expected in the next decade. This makes cellulose fibres the fastest growing fibre group in the textile industry and also the largest investment sector in the bio-based economy worldwide."

"The entire cellulosic segment, including viscose staple fibres and filaments as well as acetate tow, accounts for about 6% of the world market. However, this segment has continuously gained weight thanks to dynamic growth rates of viscose and lyocell fibres that succeeded to outperform all other mainstream fibre types in each and every single year after the financial crisis. The challenge now is to achieve a balance between the ongoing capacity expansion and the growing demand – to avoid over capacities, but also to cover the growing demand of the

big brands," the institute said.

"The high growth rates are driven by the demand for natural fibres and bottlenecks in cotton, the microplastic problem and possible bans for plastic fibres. All three drivers will continue to play a significant role in the future development of the sector."

The conference covered the entire value chain from the lignocellulosic feedstock, dissolving pulp, cellulose fibres – such as rayon, viscose, modal or lyocell and new developments, to a wide range of applications, woven textiles for clothing and nonwovens for wipes and technical applications. "All these sectors have significantly gained in dynamics over the last few years. The sponsors of the conference, leading producers of cellulose fibres, confirmed this positive market development," the organisers added.

Jean Sun, from the Communication and Sustainability department of Sateri (China), a global producer of viscose fibres , commented: "Cellulose fibres are natural and biodegradable and have immense potential to meet global textile demand and consumer needs in an environmentally sustainable way."

Josef Innerlohinger, head of global R&D department at Lenzing, the leading producer of pulp and fibres for the textile industry, said: "There are many exciting developments going on – like textile recycling or new technologies and applications – and there is a growing demand for sustainable fibres made from renewable materials. So, I see a huge potential for cellulose fibres in various fields. But there are also some potential obstacles, which may hinder developments, where a strong cooperation is needed to overcome these topics."

Alessandro Pellegrini, Business Manager at Bozzetto Group, Italy, global provider of chemical auxiliaries for the textile industry, added: "It's a challenging time for the market, but we also see it's the right time for new fibres, because the market and especially the retailers are looking for sustainable alternatives."

Jukka Kantola, CEO at NC Partnering, Finland, one of the leading consultancy companies in the bio economy, and Chairman of the World Bioeconomy Forum said there is a great momentum for cellulosic textile fibres. "As there are consumers' pull, brands' expectations, industry interest, research support and environmental acceptance, I'm pretty optimistic that we will see more cellulosic fibres in the marketplace."

"We believe that everything that is made from fossil-based materials today can be made from wood tomorrow," commented Annamari Luukkainen, Digital Marketing Manager of Stora Enso (Sweden/ Finland), a leading producer of a wide range of wood-based solutions:

The Nova Institute says that many new ideas are on the way and although this path will be a challenging one, manufacturers are looking forward to future technologies and business opportunities for a sustainable bio-based and circular economy in the textile industry.

Sustainability

"Life cycle assessments show that modern cellulose fibres have a significantly lower environmental impact than petrochemical fibres or cotton with its artificial irrigation and heavy use of pesticides," Nova says. But this is not enough, as Nicole Rycroft from the environmental organisation Canopy (Canada) pointed out. In its strategy, Canopy stresses that wood for cellulose fibres may only be obtained from certified sustainable forestry, but it is even more important to use alternative feedstock sources. It was fascinating to hear in various presentations that high-quality cellulose fibres can be obtained from recycled textiles, cotton waste, agricultural by-products and even used toilet paper (in the sewage treatment plant). Thus, future cellulose textiles will meet the high demands of the recycling economy.

Conference success

Organisers say the conference

showed that such a networking event of the growing cellulose industry was more than overdue and that this view was also shared by the sponsors of the conference, who were as satisfied as the participants.

"It was a really successful first edition of the International Conference on Cellulose Fibres and I hope that many more will follow. The talks and accompanying discussions covered a wide area of topics related to cellulose fibres at a very high level. And there was also enough time for networking and further in-depths discussion, which also proved very valuable," commented Josef Innerlohinger of Lenzing.

"Already more than 200 participants is a good start for a new conference. We really enjoyed the informative presentations" (Alessandro Pellegrini, Bozzetto Group, (Italy)).

"It was very successful conference – well done. Already the first conference has attracted over 200 stakeholders along cellulosic textile fibre value chains. It has been a vivid dialogue between the parties during the high-level sessions. Would expect that the event will solidify its position as meeting point for cellulosic fibre society – industry and research "(Jukka Kantola, NC Partnering, Finland).

Montefibre to build new 100-ton carbon fibre line in Spain

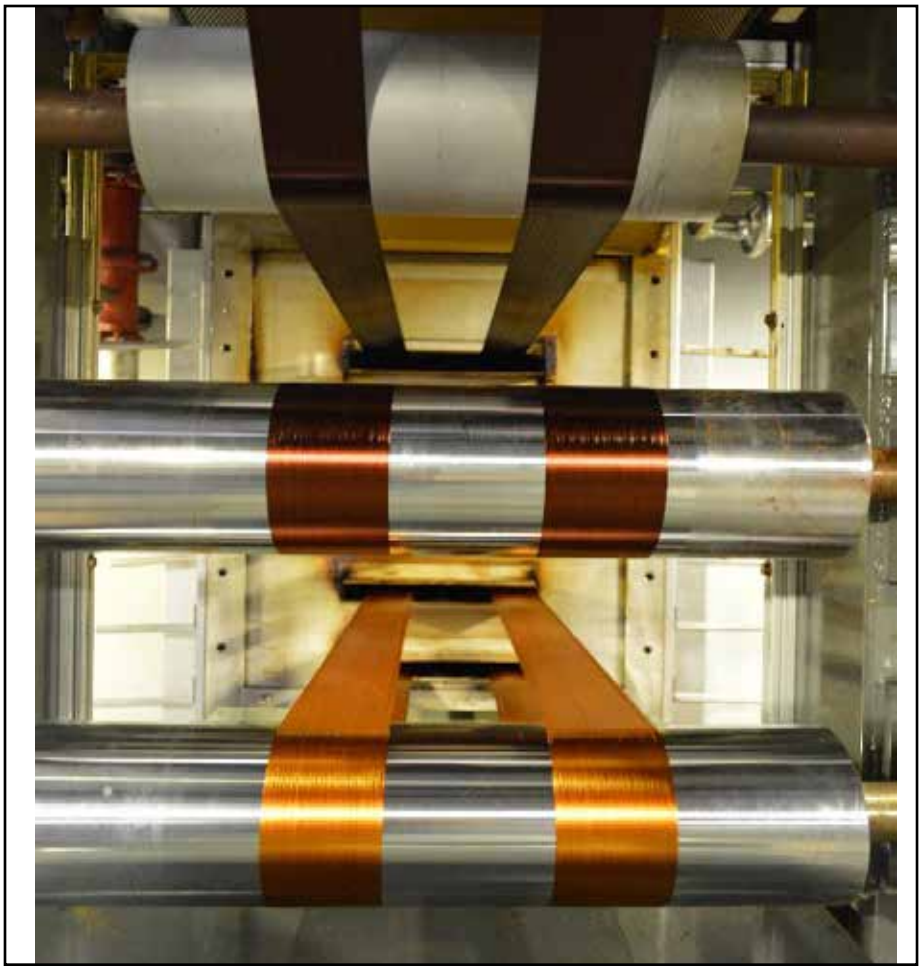
Montefibre Carbon is investing €16.2 million in its plant in Miranda de Ebro, Spain, €11.5 million of which will come from the Spanish Ministry of Industry, to produce polyacrylonitrile (PAN) precursor for conversion to carbon fibre with semi-aerospace quality and to build a flexible carbonization line.

The new PAN precursor fibre will have a tensile strength of 700 ksi and will be marketed as M700. The new carbonization line will be one of the most advanced lines in the industry to serve as a development and demonstration of Montefibre's carbon fibre and will be able to work with fibre from 80K to 480K, up to a capacity of 100 tons per year.

The carbonization line will be operational by the end of 2021 and will serve as a key hub prior to commercial production scale and will generate market-development volumes of carbon fibre, as part of a project to transform part of Miranda facilities into a collaborative research centre.

Montefibre's carbonization line will be the first owned by a Spanish company and the second to be installed in Spain – the first being the line built by Hexel in Illescas in 2008). The company will also become the third leading European producer of carbon fibre after SGL in Germany and Solvay in Belgium)#.

"The support of the Spanish Public Administration is essential to achieve the success of a project of the magnitude of Montefibre Carbon, which will be key to the industrial competitiveness of Spain, Castilla y León and Miranda de Ebro," said Alfonso



Cirera Santasusana, CEO and President of Montefibre.

Proprietary technology

The company is currently adapting four of its seven spinning lines to bring to market some 17,000 metric tons per year of its large-tow PAN precursor for conversion to carbon fibre. The first precursor to reach the market is an 80K tow in two industrial qualities, M500 (with a tensile strength of 500 ksi) and M600 (with a tensile strength of 600 ksi), which will be available this year. The M700 aerospace-grade 80K precursor will follow.

The experience of more than 40 years as world-leader in the development of textile acrylic fibre and speciality acrylic fibres has allowed Montefibre Carbon to develop a proprietary technology for the production of polyacrylonitrile (PAN) carbon fiber precursors.

Montefibre also has the support of the Spanish technology centre Leitat and has cooperative research and development agreement with the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the United States. Additionally, the company is a member of the Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation, the US-based national advanced composites consortium with over 150 members.

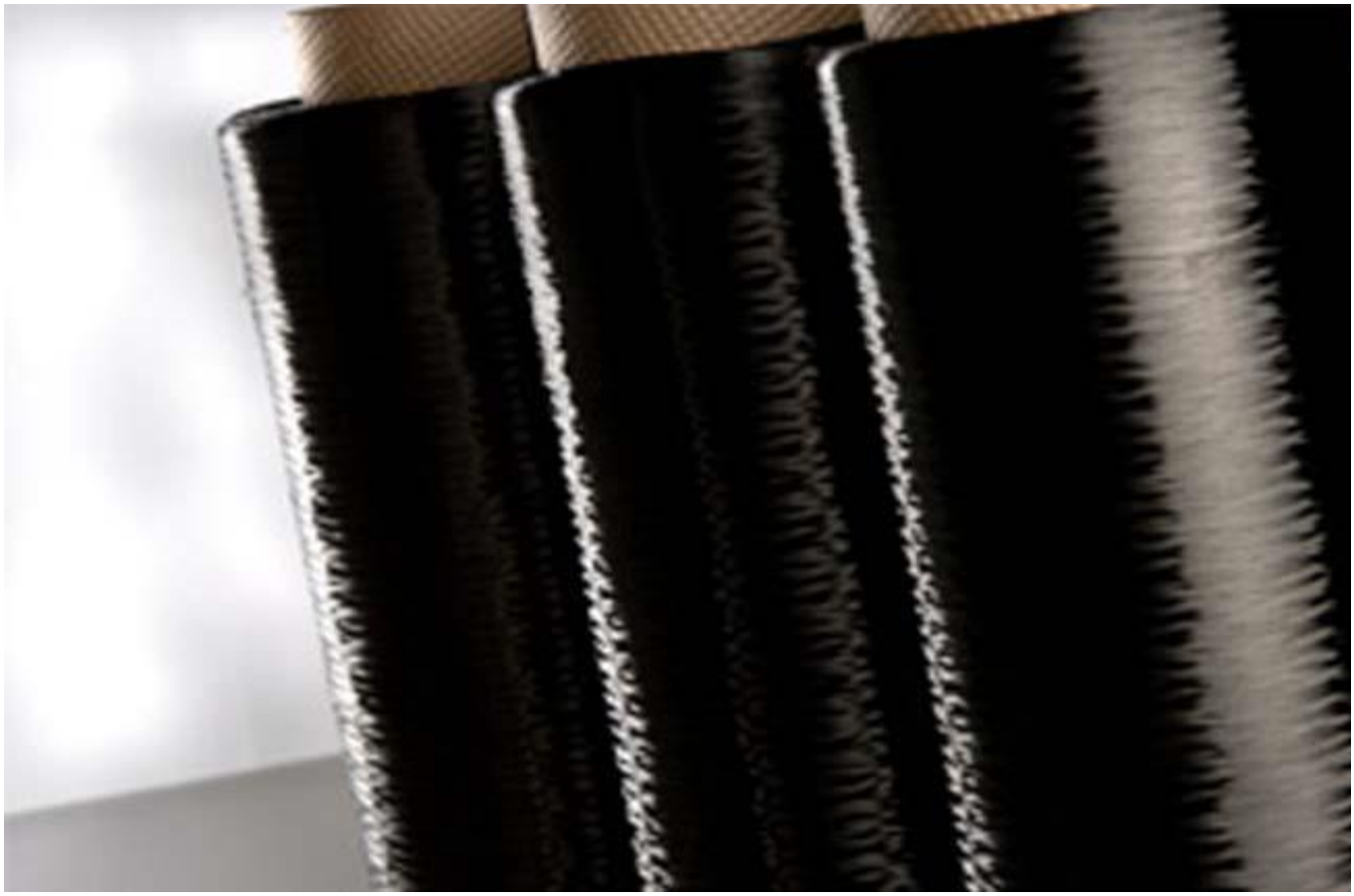
The Miranda de Ebro plant employs currently 112 people who have been producing samples and industrial tests of precursor fibres that have been tested in carbon fibre development centres around the world.

Cocona's 37.5 fibres to have new biodegradable additive

All of the 37.5 staple fibres and filament yarns by Cocona, will now have a new biodegradable additive. The move has been taken after more than three years of research and testing of 37.5 products containing the new biodegradable additive. Products containing the new additive have been found to degrade significantly faster than untreated polyester products.

This announcement comes after more than three years of research and testing of the sustainable technologies available to textile manufacturing, and specifically testing 37.5 products containing this new biodegradable additive.

Cocona has announced that all of its 37.5 staple fibres and filament yarns will include a new biodegradable additive. This announcement comes after more than three years of research and testing of the sustainable technologies available to textile



manufacturing, and specifically testing 37.5 products containing this new biodegradable additive.

"Starting July 1, 2020 Cocona is adding a biodegradable additive to all 37.5 polyester and polyamide staple fibres and filament yarns," said Jeff Bowman, CEO. "Importantly, we have confirmed that the additive does not affect the ability of products to be recycled and will not add any manufacturing cost or complexity. Because of this, we will be providing this new additive at no additional cost to 37.5 fibre and yarn spinners." Dr. Gregory Haggquist, Cocona's CTO, stated that, "After years of research we were unable to identify any unintended consequences and are confident this decision is in the direction of goodness."

Third-party testing using the industry standard for biodegradation, ASTM D-5511, has shown that 37.5 products containing the new biodegradation additive decompose by 54 per cent in 341 days reducing to methane, carbon dioxide and a biomass in an estimated 3.35 years if disposed of in a landfill that simulates the conditions found in this standardised test. This is significantly faster than untreated polyester products that are not expected to biodegrade in less than 450 years.

"While there's little doubt about the need for an answer to end-of-life biodegradation, we also recognise this is not the final solution. Our commitment is to continually evaluate and develop better and more sustainable ways to bring the benefits of 37.5 Technology to the marketplace," explained Bowman. "We also intend to transparently provide consumers with information regarding the benefits and limitations of the technology."

Bally Ribbon Mills Highlights 3-D Weaving Capabilities at JEC World 2020

Bally Ribbon Mills (BRM), an industry leader in the design, development, and manufacture of highly specialized engineered woven fabrics, announces it will highlight its 3-D weaving capabilities at JEC World 2020, which will be held May 12-14, 2020, in Paris-Nord Villepinte, France, BoothM73 in Hall 6. BRM will highlight its film infusion capabilities for 3-D woven joints; woven thermal protection systems (TPS); and advanced woven composite 3-D structures, including 3-D near-net shapes.

In BRM's film infusion process, a frozen sheet or film of resin is infused onto the custom 3-D woven joint. Film-infused 3-D woven joints ship as pre-made assemblies, ensuring consistent quality control from the industry-leading experts in fabrication and saving customers the cost of infusing the resin themselves.

BRM has perfected the science and art of 3-D continuous weaving to fabricate such structures as "Pi – π," double "T," "H," and other complex shapes. Offering the optimal blend of strength, durability, and structural integrity, these complex woven structures are used primarily in aerospace applications, often in airframe structural components and subassemblies including stiffeners and joints.

Drop by the booth to see lightweight materials like 3-D woven fabrics and learn about our multifunctional thermal protection systems (TPS) for atmospheric re-entry. BRM has implemented innovative weaving technologies to develop complex webbing for aerospace products. The woven TPS billet to be showcased at the boothis part of a line of products that was selected as the critical component of the heat shield on the Orion Crew Capsule, which helps protect against the extreme temperatures of atmospheric re-entry.

Also on display are lightweight, cost-effective, advanced woven 2-D and 3-D composite structures. Using a multi-dimensional continuous weaving method, BRM produces textiles that can be fabricated into near net-shape structures. These advanced weaving capabilities offer customers new solutions that reduce weight and cost. The technology weaves complex shapes automatically, eliminating many costly, time-consuming, and labor-intensive processes.

About Bally Ribbon Mills

Bally Ribbon Mills (BRM) designs, develops, and manufactures highly specialized engineered woven webbing, tapes, specialty fabrics, woven preforms, and two dimensional and three dimensional structural fabrics. With more than 95 years of textile manufacturing experience, BRM has earned a reputation for meeting new advanced design challenges. Working in aerospace, defense, medical, safety, automotive, commercial, and industrial applications, BRM offers ingenuity, technical know-how, extensive weaving capabilities, and rigorous quality assurance systems.

ANDRITZ at INDEX 2020

GRAZ, FEBRUARY 4, 2020. International technology Group ANDRITZ will be presenting its innovative nonwovens production and textile solutions at INDEX 2020 in Geneva, Switzerland, from March 31 to April 3 (booth 2114). The broad ANDRITZ product portfolio covers state-of-the-art nonwovens and textile production technologies such as air-through bonding, needlepunch, spunlace, spunbond, wetlaid, converting and textile finishing.

What's been happening at andritz since index 2017?

ANDRITZ DIATEC, ITALY NOW PART OF THE ANDRITZ GROUP

With the acquisition of ANDRITZ Diatec, ANDRITZ enlarged its product portfolio to include state-of-the-art converting lines for the hygiene, lamination, medical and food pad sectors. A wide range of special machines and technologies for the production of baby diapers and pants, adult incontinence underpants, adult diapers and pants, adult light incontinence products, sanitary napkins, panty shields, food pads, medical and laminating applications extend the supply and value chain of ANDRITZ. The converting process for hygiene products requires premium quality standards, high capacities, and top-level production efficiency by reducing labor costs and machine downtime. Every detail is essential. This is why customers can develop and run trials on ANDRITZ pilot facilities to optimize raw materials, roll goods and final product applications.

At INDEX 2020, ANDRITZ Diatec will present its new adult pants line, which offers top-class components and an innovative technology process. The growing market for adult incontinence products has resulted in a state-of-the-art process with highest quality standards, such as the development of ultrasonic side seam solutions with excellent results in terms of bond strength and system reliability. The machine speed no longer limits quality bonds. As a result, operations and size changes are faster and easier. The modern forming system for higher SAP concentration and the turning and placing system guarantee maximum process stability and put customers' adult pants at the top of the adult hygiene market. Learn more at INDEX.

Trends and innovations in the hygiene machinery business

Sustainability is more than just a trend in the nonwovens industry. It is a serious responsibility for the entire world for the years and decades to come. The strong demand to reduce the use of plastics, save energy and increase efficiency is a clear innovation factor for the nonwoven industry and has led to newly developed production processes. ANDRITZ has always invested in future-oriented technologies that reduce the use of the various substances and raw materials required as well as cutting energy consumption. For the hygiene business, ANDRITZ provides first-class air-through bonding, spunlaid, spunjet, spunlace and WetlaceTM machines, as well as converting technologies and corresponding services to meet these demands for years to come.

One great highlight of ANDRITZ at INDEX will be the introduction of innovative technologies for the production of "green"/ biodegradable products. Such processes for the production of biodegradable wipes are achieving high performance entirely with natural and/or renewable raw materials. The added benefit of using a blend of fibers, like wood pulp, short-cut cellulosic staple fibers, viscose, cotton, hemp, bamboo or linen, without chemical additives or binders results in a 100% biodegradable fabric, thus meeting customers' needs exactly as well as supporting the strong tendency to move away from plastics and synthetics.

In response to the demand to save raw materials, ANDRITZ will be presenting its neXline spunlace for lightweight fabrics. Decreasing weight per square meter while maintaining high MD and CD tensile strength is the main challenge. Indeed, fibers account for a substantial part of the production costs. Very high productivity is needed for the lighter fabrics required with perfect uniformity. ANDRITZ provides the well-known TT card web forming and the high-performance Jetlace hydroentanglement units that can more than fulfill these challenges. The spunlace roll goods may achieve weights of 25 gsm and even less for ultralight spunlace fabrics, and web uniformity is excellent.

Another highlight at INDEX will be the latest technology developments in the spunlaid sector. Besides the well-known calender technologies, ANDRITZ also delivers Spunjet technologies, finishing solutions, and state-of-the-art dryers. Customers can produce the exact fabric characteristics they need with superior ANDRITZ technologies. The patented nonwovens process called Spunjet is the in-line hydroentanglement of continuous filaments, creating a new generation of spunlaid nonwovens with unrivalled bulkiness and softness compared to standard spunbond fabrics. Spunjet offers customers the best properties ever achieved in existing and new nonwovens applications.

Process and product optimization to expand customers' business opportunities for years to come

In order to optimize processes and gain a faster return on investment, ANDRITZ is continuously developing innovative products, for example in the needlepunch segment with the brand new ProWin technology for profile weight correction. This unit combines the well-known technologies ProWid and ProDyn, enabling even better performance. By uniting these processes, customers have an even more homogeneous web and can reduce the input of raw materials. ProWin minimizes the level of instantaneous acceleration as well as the maximum internal speeds. As a consequence, the same machine can run faster with less mechanical stress. ProWin can also be retrofitted to recent ProDyn installations.

ANDRITZ always has the customers' needs in focus. With new development of the unique PA3000 pre-needleloom, ANDRITZ is responding to customer demands for higher capacities and lighter products. The PA3000 is an optimized cylinder pre-needleloom, which offers greater speeds and widths and has been specially developed for lighter webs. There is no friction between the web and the rolls, and there are no issues with the visual appearance. In addition to further technological development of its machinery and equipment, ANDRITZ relies strongly on smart IIoT products and solutions developed in-house by ANDRITZ and marketed under its technology brand Metris. Metris products are specifically tailored to the needs of ANDRITZ's customers and help them to achieve their goals in terms of productivity and sustainability. Metris products offer effective and intelligent methods to successfully digitalize industrial production processes, data are continuously analyzed, and the machines, plants and their production operations are networked and optimized. At INDEX, ANDRITZ will highlight the benefits of the first industrial Metris installation.

Running complete lines calls for in-depth expertise in nonwovens technology, excellent service and prompt support. Most recently, ANDRITZ introduced the new 24/7 remote diagnostic service. Customers save time and money by obtaining fast support through this service. ANDRITZ remote assistance is based on three pillars: 24/7 service hotline, online diagnostics and augmented reality support. The dedicated teams of ANDRITZ experts supervised by customer care specialists are ready to assist customers with any mechanical, electrical, process and fully remote connection service – any time.

Focus on nonwoven products: the perfect manufacturing process for every application

Neumünster, February 21, 2020 – For the sixth time now, Oerlikon Nonwoven will be showcasing market- and customer-oriented solutions for hygiene, medical, filtration and other technical applications at the globally-leading nonwovens trade fair INDEX in Geneva, Switzerland. Between March 31 and April 3, 2020, visitors to the trade fair can convince themselves of the Neumünsterbased systems constructor's extensive product and process know-how.

Comprehensive spunbond portfolio – always the right solution

Oerlikon Nonwoven meanwhile has a very broad range of spunbond technology products and services. The process for manufacturing geotextiles from polyester or polypropylene has been optimized; it is characterized by high production capacities and yields, with simultaneously low energy consumption for producing benchmark nonwoven products.

For the manufacture of hygiene nonwovens, Oerlikon Nonwoven offers its new QSR (Quality Sized Right) systems. Here, the benefits of the Chinese machine construction partner's nonwoven formation are integrated into the complete solution. The advantage for nonwovens producers: highly competitive solutions at attractive prices with comparably low investment.

Cost-efficiently manufacturing meltblown nonwovens

New, unique and highly sophisticated filter media can be easily and efficiently manufactured thanks to Oerlikon Nonwoven's optimized meltblown technology. Whether as a stand-alone system with one or several positions, as 'plug & produce' installations for already existing systems or in conjunction with other technologies: the Oerlikon Nonwoven meltblown process already enables the cost-efficient manufacture of meltblown nonwovens with the quality requirements of tomorrow.

Ever more producers are choosing the meanwhile extensively tried-and-tested and consistently further-developed Oerlikon Nonwoven meltblown solutions.

Airlaid technology for the nonwovens of tomorrow

Pulp or cellulose fibers as raw material for manufacturing nonwovens are currently virtually unrivaledwith regards to sustainability and environmental compatibility. The Oerlikon Nonwoven airlaid process is the ideal solution for processing this raw material into high-end products for a wide range of applications.

Today, there is huge demand for manufacturing solutions for high-quality, lightweight airlaid nonwovens with economically attractive production speeds and system throughputs. In this area, the patented Oerlikon Nonwoven formation process – which

also permits the homogeneous mixing of the most diverse raw materials, while simultaneously guaranteeing superb evenness and homogeneous fiber laying – is setting standards even for nonwovens with low running meter weights. And the benefits of this technology are also increasingly gaining significance in sustainable recycling applications.

P&G patented PHANTOM technology from Teknoweb Materials

Also being showcased at the trade fair stand is the P&G patented PHANTOM technology from Teknoweb Materials, Oerlikon Nonwoven's strategic partner for hygiene products and wipes. The PHANTOM technology is released to Teknoweb Materials by P&G in worldwide exclusive license. The PHANTOM technology is the superior dry laid alternative technology for manufacturing wet wipes from pulp and polymer fibers, for example.

Compared to conventional, known processes, this technology offers superior performances with cost advantage in much more eco-friendly products. Dispensing with hydroentanglement renders subsequent drying of the material redundant. Targeted process management allows the optimal setting of the relevant product parameters such as softness, tenacity, dirt absorption and liquid absorption. 3816 characters including spaces.

About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) develops modern materials, systems and surface technologies and provides specialized services aimed at securing high-performance products and systems with long lifespans for customers.

Supported by its technological core competencies and its strong financial footing, the corporation continues its medium-term growth plan by implementing three strategic factors: focusing on attractive growth markets, ensuring structural growth and expanding through targeted M&A activities. Oerlikon is a globally-leading technology and engineering corporation, operating its business in two segments (Surface Solutions and Manmade Fibers) and employing around 10,500 members of staff at 175 sites in 37 countries worldwide. In 2018, Oerlikon generated sales of CHF 2.6 billion and invested around CHF 120 million in research & development.

About Oerlikon Segment Manmade Fibers

With its Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven brands, Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment is the world market leader for manmade fiber filament spinning systems, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber systems, solutions for the production of nonwovens and – as a service provider – offers engineering solutions for the entire textile value added chain. As a future oriented company, the research and development at this division of the Oerlikon Group is driven by energy-efficiency and sustainable technologies (e-save). With the supply of continuous polycondensation and extrusion systems and their key components, the company caters to the entire process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn. The product portfolio is rounded off by automation and industry 4.0 solutions. The primary markets for the products of Oerlikon Barmag are in Asia, especially in China, India and Turkey, and – for those of Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven – in the USA, Asia,

Turkey and Europe. Worldwide, the segment – with just under 3,000 employees – has a presence in 120 countries of production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the R&D centers in Remscheid, Neumünster (Germany) and Suzhou (China), highly-qualified engineers, technologists and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.

Technology transfer that is creating waves Remscheid, February 27, 2020 – for more than a decade now, the Manmade Fibers segment of the Swiss Oerlikon Group has been hosting a comprehensive technology symposium at the beginning of each year in the Indian region around Silvassa/ Daman. Numerous Indian

manmade fiber producers have settled in this area, around a four-hour drive north of Mumbai. Fed from Oerlikon polycondensation and extrusion systems, these companies manufacture polyester, nylon and polypropylene on large-scale installations with Oerlikon Barmag WINGS POY, WINGS FDY, IDY and DTY product lines and using Oerlikon Neumag's staple fiber and BCF technologies. Reason enough for the Manmade Fibers segment's experts to regularly provide their clientèle with detailed specialist presentations in India on the latest developments of the product and service portfolio.

And this was once again the case at the event held at the beginning of 2020, where around 450 managers and employees from local businesses took the opportunity to exchange ideas and information. For the third time in succession, Oerlikon also entered into dialog with the next generation of managers at major Indian polyester and nylon manufacturers in a separate event hosted in Mumbai beforehand. The technology symposium was again held – for the very first time – just a few days later and in a slightly modified form at a second venue: in Kolkata in West Bengal, a potential second future key location for manufacturing manmade fibers in India according to plans revealed by the Indian government. Here, the discussions held by the Oerlikon experts focused above all on the transfer of technologies for manufacturing polyester, nylon and polypropylene. Oerlikon is able to offer the entire process chain – from the melt to the textured yarn or the fibers and including the necessary semi- and fullyautomated logistics process – from a single source. This is of interest above all for potential new customers and investors in West Bengal and neighboring Bangladesh, as some do not have decades of expertise in manufacturing manmade fibers, as is the case for most companies in the region around Silvassa/ Daman.

Clean Technology. Smart Factory.

The focus of all events was on the latest product and service developments from the Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven brands. With their 'Clean Technology. Smart Factory.' motto, the engineers from Germany presented selected machines and systems specifically designed for the Indian market, along with the associated services. Needless to say, the innovations unveiled at the last ITMA were of particular interest to all attendees.

eAFK Evo and WINGS FDY PA6 promise greater productivity Philip Jungbecker, Senior Technology Manager for texturing machines at Oerlikon Barmag, presented the new Oerlikon Barmag eAFK Evo generation of machines. "The eAFK Evo promises superior speeds, greater productivity and consistently high product quality, along with lower energy consumption and simpler operation vis-à-vis comparable market solutions", comments Jungbecker. In particular, the machine concept's numerous new value-added features include two that are excelling with fantastic technology: the optimized, innovative EvoHeater and the EvoCooler, a completely newly-developed active cooling unit. These proved to be of huge interest to the attendees of the technology symposium.

WINGS FDY is now also available for the polyamide 6 process. To this end, the new 24-end winding concept makes the efficient production of FDY PA6 yarns a reality", explained Guido Dresen, Regional Sales Manager at Oerlikon Barmag. Extending the polyamide yarn production from 12 to 24 ends with DIO and WINGS FDY pays yarn producers dividends, particularly in terms of investment expenditure (CAPEX) and operating expenditure (OPEX): significant savings with regards to energy, footprint and – due to the more ergonomic design – string-up time are among the concept's most convincing arguments.

The enclosed draw unit ensures low spin finish emissions, offering a safe working environment. Offering swift string-up, the optimized yarn path of the tried-and-tested WINGS FDY

PET system is united with the high relaxing performance of conventional polyamide systems to create a completely new concept. The 24-end WINGS FDY PA hence profitably combines the benefits of both processes.

The result: outstanding yarn properties, superlative dyeability, optimum process performance and high full package rate. A perfect package build guarantees excellent further processing properties in the downstream processes. With a 116-mm stroke, this winder makes high package weights possible, therefore delivering added-value yarns for further processing. As a consequence, yarn manufacturers can give themselves a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

The BCF S8's impressive performance data

With the new BCF S8 production platform, Nis Lehmann-Matthaei, Sales Manager at Oerlikon Neumag, promised manufacturers of carpet yarns greater performance within this fiercely-competitive market: "Superlative spinning speeds, up to 700 individual filaments and fine titers of up to 2.5 dpf – our new system's performance data and technological finesse are truly impressive. Our customers' feedback on the new system is outstanding", comments Lehmann-Matthaei.

Zero-waste philosophy successfully implemented

With the new VacuFil® recycling range, Oerlikon Barmag is now offering – in cooperation with its joint venture partner, BBEngineering – a zero-waste philosophy solution. Decades of experience in the areas of extrusion, filtration and spinning systems have been bundled into a new, innovative core component – the vacuum filter. It unites gentle large-scale filtration and controlled intrinsic-viscosity build-up for consistently outstanding melt quality. The vacuum unit – located adjacent to the filter – swiftly and reliably removes volatile contamination (such as spinning oil, for example).

The excellent degasification performance additionally relieves energy-intensive predrying", explained Dr Klaus Schäfer, Managing Director of BBEngineering. The modular structure of the VacuFil® range offers numerous possibilities for the process guiding system. Whether as a standalone solution with downstream granulation or as an inline variant with 3DD additive feed – customer requirements can be optimally catered for with various system configurations.

Exciting podium discussion on digitalization, automation and recycling In addition to presenting the four 2019 world premières, the program also included talks on further technology innovations. To this end, the latest developments of the relatively nascent Oerlikon Nonwoven brand were unveiled and the upgrade packages for the CW and ACW winder generations were explained.

Within the context of a podium discussion, Jochen Adler, Chief Technology Officer of the Manmade Fibers segment, together with further Oerlikon experts, answered questions relating to thefuture of digitalization, automation and recycling along the textile value chain, among other things.

Here, Jochen Adler stated: "Digitally upgrading our machines and production systems for manufacturing yarns, fibers and nonwovens along the textile value chain is increasingly becoming a focus of our customers' interest. Here, our promise is: creating digital value-added beyond our excellent hardware. We want to further optimize the efficiency of our systems and the quality of the end products with our digita solutions.

True to our e-save philosophy, our mission is to protect the environment and to promote the sustainability of our solutions – in future undoubtedly also with a focus on recycling. For this, we are deploying the know-how of our entire large-scale systems engineering team, including full-automation, transport, packaging and warehouse logistics and end-product automated quality control. We combine these

with our process competencies and digital data handling using our Plant Operation Center, or POC for short, and our artificial intelligence-based software solutions – known as 'AIM', our abbreviation for 'Artificial Intelligence Manufacturing'. This has created innovative Industrie 4.0-solutions for our customers – with integrated storage and communication capabilities, wireless sensors, embedded actuators and intelligent software systems. In turn, this allows us to build bridges between data and material flows and between the virtual and real worlds.

Complex large-scale systems from a single source

Michael Roellke, Head of Global Factory Sales, showed the interested audience how the Oerliko Manmade Fibers segment experts execute complex large-scale systems, simultaneously accompanying its customers with its decades of experience and expertise from day one. In his talk, he also once again emphasized the Oerlikon Group's performance, including supporting the financing of projects as well.

Roellke also explained the benefits of executing a factory project with Oerlikon: "Our customers have a contract partner who assumes the responsibility. There is a project manager as the primary contact partner. This reduces the number of interfaces and means less organization on the customers' part. We have a huge network of experts. All core components come from Oerlikon's in-house manufacturing facilities. We offer planning reliability, high efficiency as a result of continual process optimization, an optimized CAPEX/OPEX ratio as well as comprehensive handling of quality data – from the raw material all the way through to the individual package." This is absolutely unique in this form within the manmade fiber industry.

Economic center of gravity returns to Asia

Eagerly anticipated by the audience, André Wissenberg, Vice President, Head of Marketing, Corporate Communications and Public Affairs, spoke about the uncertain times amidst the global trade conflict between the US and China and the emerging countries suffering as a result. He determined that the manufacture of manmade fibers in countries such as India and Bangladesh has tremendous potential for the future. He stated: "Over the next few years, the manmade fiber industry will – to an aboveaverage extent – continue to benefit from market growth and the shift of market shares from cotton to manmade fibers.

Currently, growth of polyester lies at +2.4% CAGR. According to a study compiled by Wood Mackenzie, the anticipated growth rate for all polyester fibers between 2016 and 2030 is +3.3%, with +2.1% for staple fibers and even +3.8% for filaments. The per-capita consumption in India, which was 5.9 kg in 2018, is expected to reach 8.5 kg by 2030." New challenges for China, India and Bangladesh "This rapidly-changing global scenario is presenting us all with new challenges", continues Wissenberg.

"Almost 50% of the population will in future live in cities, and the demand for water, food and energy will rise considerably, above all in Asia and Africa. The quest for political and economic solutions for emerging countries will impact on all aspects of life, and the textile industry in particular. The economic center of gravity will continue to shift towards Asia. And we have to be ready for this." The US and Europe will definitely lose ground to China and India. In terms of gross domestic product, China ranked no. 1 in 2016, followed by the US, India, Japan and Germany. By 2050, India will be ranked second, with US shifting to third, while Indonesia displaces Japan to take fourth. And – with Africa – a new demographic giant will emerge, whose young and growing population could become a powerful growth engine for the continent, as long as there is sufficient investment in education, health and the economy. Africa's population growth will be responsible for around 58% of global growth between 2018 and

2050.

Commenting on the situation in China, Wissenberg stated: "The trends in China in 2019 have shown us that the country has transitioned from a high-speed economy into a society with high-quality growth. China's economy slowed from 6.9% in 2017 to 6.6 % in 2018, which is predominantly down to the tightening of financial supervision within the banking sector and the expanding trade conflict with the US. A further slowdown of 6.2% and 6% respectively is forecast for 2019 and 2020. Here, the impact of the coronavirus epidemic has not be taken into account." The reforms in China have progressed in several key areas, including:

1. Strengthening of the financial rules;

2. Control of local authority investments;

3. Slowdown of debt accumulation;

4. New FDI law and redrafting of the list of FDI entries. The general government deficit is currently estimated to be 11% of GDP. If the trade dispute were to further escalate, there are rumors emanating from China that fiscal incentives, above all, would be justified.

Overall, the global economy would benefit from a more open, more stable and more transparent rulebased international trading system. Wissenberg listed the biggest challenges for the Indian economy: maintaining and achieving annual average growth of between 9 and 10%, providing investor-friendly rights and taxation systems, limiting financial reporting and budgetary deficits, developing a world-class infrastructure for maintaining growth in all economic sectors, reducing currency devaluation, removing environmental obstacles for foreign direct investment, controlling inflation and permitting foreign direct investment in various areas. Overall, Wissenberg therefore sees an optimistic mood for the manmade fiber industry in India in this new decade, but simultaneously warns of the above-mentioned global risks.

Cultural highlights

Both technology symposiums were each accompanied by a cultural highlight. In Daman, a musical and dance performance showcased the history of Kashmir, while the 'Amar Sonar Bangla' program entertained the attendees in Kolkata. Here, Debabrata Ghosh, General Manager Sales at Oerlikon Textile India Ltd., demonstrated particular commitment and created both programs with the internationally-renowned 'Sukalyann d'entourage' dance studio in Mumbai and Toronto. approx.





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Consultation Process at the Winterthur Location Completed

- Discontinuation of assembly at the Winterthur location confirmed
- Reduction of 87 jobs
- Comprehensive social plan in place

On January 29, 2020, Rieter announced its intention to discontinue the assembly of machines at the Winterthur location due to structural changes in the market situation.

The consultation process with employee representatives was completed today, March 11, 2020. After intensive discussion and detailed examination of the submitted proposals, the discontinuation of assembly and the associated reduction of 87 jobs was confirmed.

The final position was communicated to the employee representatives and the Office for Economy and Labor of the Canton of Zurich. Rieter's employees were informed of the result. The decision will be implemented gradually during 2020.

Rieter has a comprehensive social plan. The focus is on the reintegration of affected employees with the support of the Regional Employment Centre (RAV) as well as a job center and the avoidance of hardship cases.

The company intends to reduce the headcount by means of workforce turnover and early retirement, however some layoffs will be unavoidable.

About Rieter

Rieter is the world's leading supplier of systems for short-staple fiber spinning. Based in Winterthur (Switzerland), the company develops and manufactures machinery, systems and components used to convert natural and manmade fibers and their blends into yarns. Rieter is the only supplier worldwide to cover both spinning preparation processes and all four end spinning processes currently established on the market.

Furthermore, Rieter is a leader in the field of precision winding machines. With 16 manufacturing locations in ten countries, the company employs a global workforce of some 4 590, about 21% of whom are based in Switzerland. Rieter is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange under ticker symbol RIEN. www.rieter.com Polopique was founded in

COMPACTdrum: The exible answer to a demanding market

Polopique was founded in 1996 in Portugal based on a long-term heritage in textiles by the founder family. Production is fully vertical from the spinning to the nished garments. Intermediate products are sold as well. The verticality does not only exist in manufacturing but also in designing of yarns, fabrics, and garments. The company works with a great variety of natural fibers, synthetics and their blends. Right now, Polopique produces more than 20 million garments a year and has more than 1000 employees.

The Challenge

Today, compact-spinning systems mainly produce yarns of cotton and viscose with low hairiness. The market requires quick changes, using all di erent kinds of bers and blends, mostly in the medium yarn count range. New yarn designs with a wide variety of hairiness are required. However, long hairiness should be minimized. For weaving applications, tenacity is a second important parameter to ease downstream processing, including nishing as well as longevity in the garment.

The Solution

In response to this dynamic market Polopique decided to install Rieter's new compacting device COMPACTdrum. This compacting device can easily be plugged on to the current models of Rieter ring spinning machines and allows compact spinning of nearly all types of bers and blends. It is open for a very wide yarn count range. The important part is that yarn can be designed based on the requirements of the nal product. Hairiness and tenacity can be adjusted anytime. Long hairiness causing pilling is eliminated to a larger extent than with any other compacting system.

The Customer's Benefits

Polopique is now able to cover the requirements of the fashion market in almost every respect. New blends allow for applications that were never known before. New designs are highly in demand in this market. The very low hairiness results in better pilling characteristics and therefore higher longevity of the garment.

The Customer's Statement

"We are extremely happy with the new compacting devices. The demand of the market is continuously changing. The fashion market requires innovations of yarns, fabrics, and designs. Rieter's new compacting device COMPACTdrum helps a lot in meeting the market needs. The possibility to use all types of blends enables

us a lot feeding the market with novelties. Also in cotton, we have a lot of brilliant ideas to stay ahead with COMPACTdrum."

Luís Guimarães

Chairman of the Polopique Group

STOLL and The Woolmark Company

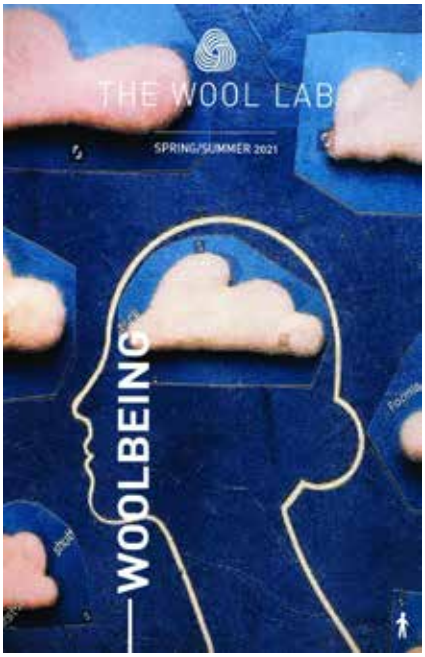
Reutlingen, March 17, 2020 – STOLL is very proud to announce the collaboration and contribution to several projects with The Woolmark Company.

Exclusive STOLL Webinar for the International Woolmark Prize Finalists (IWP) STOLL presented an exclusive webinar for the 2020 International Woolmark Prize (IWP) Finalists; this webinar showcased STOLL's latest innovations in flat knitting technology, digital design tools, ADF technology as well as examples of wool used in STOLL`s collections.

The International Woolmark Prize celebrates outstanding fashion talents from around the globe who showcase the beauty and versatility of Merino wool. It is the world's most prestigious award for rising fashion stars.

The IWP finalists for 2019/2020 were: A-Cold-Wall*, BLINDNESS, Bode, Botter, Feng Chen Wang, GmbH, Ludovic De Saint Sernin, Matthew Adams Dolan, Namacheko and Richard Malone.

Ireland's Richard Malone was announced the winner of the 2020 International Woolmark Prize and Emily Bode also celebrated after winning the inaugural Karl Lagerfeld Award for Innovation. Image contribution for the re-launch of the Woolmark Learning Centre The Woolmark Learning Centre has been developed to educate and inspire specialization within the wool supply chain. The educational platform offers an unprecedented level of knowledge transfer from industry experts within the global textile industry and is designed for students studying fashion, agriculture, science and textile engineering; designers, brands and retailers; and manufacturers of yarn,



textiles and garments. Developed in response to the global shift in education towards agile, self-paced and digital learning, the platform will work to unify the global textile supply chain.

STOLL supported The Woolmark Company for the launch of the Woolmark Learning Centre with images from various stitch constructions and items of clothing from the STOLL archive for the Knitwear Design and Make Module. The launch of this module is planned for Spring 2020.

Fabric contributions for The Wool Lab Vision trend books

STOLL supported The Woolmark Company to transform The Wool Lab – the world's best-known inspirational tool dedicated to wool – for Spring/Summer 2021.

The Wool Lab Vision has been introduced by The Woolmark Company to inspire the fashion, textile and lifestyle industries. Presenting the future of wool, from innovative manufacturing processes which spark imagination to ground-breaking product developments The Wool Lab Vision will change the way the industry works with wool.

The Wool Lab Vision is in addition to the latest edition of The Wool Lab, dedicated to Spring/Summer 2021 and staying true to its original mission, providing brands and designers with a curated collection of the world's best commercially available wool fabrics and yarns.

STOLL is very proud about the collaboration with The Woolmark Company and is looking forward to further exciting and successful projects in future.

About The Woolmark Company

The Woolmark Company is the global authority on wool. Through our extensive network of relationships spanning the international textile and fashion industries, we highlight Australian wool's position as the ultimate natural fibre and premier ingredient in luxury apparel.

The Woolmark logo is one of the world's most recognized and respected brands, providing assurance of the highest quality, and representing pioneering excellence and innovation from farm through to finished product. The Woolmark Company is a subsidiary of Australian Wool Innovation, a not-for-profit enterprise owned by more than 60,000 woolgrowers that invests in research, development and marketing along the worldwide supply chain for Australian wool.

A bralette full of promise

A new bra concept developed by Lisa Bahr makes use of the possibilities offered by the JACQUARDTRONIC® LACE

Modern technology and fresh, new ideas produce stylish designs and offer production advantages. Lisa Bahr has shown how this can be done in her work for her master's degree.

This student of Textile Products/ Textiles at the Hochschule Niederrhein (University of Applied Sciences, Niederrhein) has developed a completely new bra design and associated bralette using the features offered by the JACQUARDTRONIC® LACE machine – based on the motto, "smart and speedy". This innovative item of lingerie is made from just two lace pieces with two seams joining them together to produce the final garment – and moulding, pads or underwiring are no longer required. The shape of the cup is built into the textile itself.

"I wanted to give the bust the best possible shape, so I focused on the concept of two-way elasticity. Conventional lingerie lace is only stretch in one direction. When used in a design that requires very little making-up, the circular shapes are flattened out. The effect is the same as that of a sports bra or minimiser." To put her idea into practice, this young designer relied on the expertise and knowhow of KARL MAYER, and on the performance of a high-bar JACQUARDTRONIC® LACE machine. As with normal lingerie fabrics, she processed all-over elastane on the high-performance lace raschel machine, but combined the uncovered yarn with a covered yarn as the pattern yarn.

"The stretch, core-spun yarn can be processed better in the pattern guides. It also retains the textile characteristics of the fabric," explains Lisa Bahr. This student was inspired by the organic shapes of floating bubbles when creating her design, which features circular motifs in a subtle interplay with transparent and opaque effects.

The result is a bralette with a seductive look, a comfortable fit with few seams, a short time-to-market, and low production costs. A special little trick was used during production, i.e. the design of the back section of the bralette can also be used to produce the matching briefs.

Constant control of yarn tension

The new MULTIGUARD yarn monitor gives advance warning of a yarn breakage Modern sensor technology and data processing systems can be used to control all the important processing parameters and also to implement a wide range of optimisation measures. The production sequences can be optimised, as well as entire value-added chains. The efficient monitoring of yarn tension and feed during warp preparation can increase weaving efficiency by up to 5 %.

The new MULTIGUARD stop motion from KARL MAYER can make an important contribution here. This innovative system gives a warning in the event of yarn breakages or tension peaks, and generates parameters that can be used for internal production data management as well as external quality assurances within the framework of a quality management system.

All the yarn tension levels at a glance

MULTIGUARD continuously determines the tension values of each individual yarn at the exit of the creel and transmits the data to a computer for comparison with the target values. This generates a clear status report. The coloured indicators show the customer immediately which creel position lies within the tolerance, warning

or stop ranges. This enables him to intervene quickly in the warping process if there are any deviations from the target values. The specific, measured tension values are displayed in a compact diagram. They can be used for internal analyses and for quality management of the warping process. KARL MAYER has also developed the PROACTIVE-Warping three-level, modular recording system, whereby each level contains more information.

Module 1 manages all the basic data supplied by sensors on the warping machine relating to the warping or beaming quality. For example, the data relates to the exact positioning of the bands in relation to the drum axis. Level 2 complements these values with optical analyses from an integrated camera on the machine, whereby the focus is on the width, position and parallel arrangement of the bands. In module 3, the data is also transferred to the quality record from the creel monitoring system, i.e. the individual yarn tension values from the MULTIGUARD system.

A good start on the market

MULTIGUARD was launched as a prototype for the first time at ITMA 2019, and this innovative system generated a huge level of interest. "The possibility of detecting critical deviations in yarn tension levels early on, and to intervene in order to adjust them was well received by our customers," says Martin Fuhr, the Head of Development in KARL MAYER's Warp Preparation Business Unit. A Belgian customer has already ordered the new yarn monitoring system. Further promising projects are currently being negotiated. MULTIGUARD is suitable for every type of creel. It is integrated into the machine's software and monitor on new machines.

A new, sure-fire success is in the starting blocks

Successful launch of the RDJ 6/1 EN, with its high cost:benefit ratio, for the shoe fabric sector

KARL MAYER has expanded its range of machines with piezo jacquard technology for producing stylish shoe fabrics, and the new RDJ 6/1 EN has now been incorporated into the series comprising the RDPJ 7/1 EL and RDJ 5/1 machines. This new machine has a better price, and operates faster than the higher-bar version. However, there is very little difference in terms of the design potential. Almost 90 % of the jacquard shoe fabrics currently produced can be manufactured on the RDJ 6/1 EN.

The configuration of this new machine makes it ideal for producing engineered spacer textiles. Compared to the RDJ 5/1, the RDJ 6/1 EN has one extra guide bar, EN drive and a wellthought- out yarn feed system to the jacquard bars, and offers extended design possibilities, a higher product quality, and easy pattern change. The cost is still competitive.

A high-performance machine for producing shoe fabrics

The RDJ 6/1 EN is available in the gauges of E 22 and E 24, and has a working width of 138". The distance between the knock-over comb bars can be adjusted continuously from 2 mm to 8 mm. Customers can now buy a flexible production machine with five guide bars, one split jacquard bar, whose split bars can operate in a counter lapping operating mode, and an EN pattern drive. It can also produce an extensive range of fabrics.

Dense structures can be worked, as well as a wide range of patterns with holes, which can be of any size and placed in any location. The result is attractive shoe fabrics with a specific breathability. If the split jacquard bars are moved in a counter lapping operating mode, the contours of the openings are exceptionally clear. In this case, the yarn is fed from two sectional warp beams.

This facilitates yarn drawing-in and doubles the yarn running times – with a positive effect on the productivity The EN drive makes a further contribution to increasing the efficiency. The seven electronic guide bar drives enable the patterns to be changed very easily and flexibly,

and the costs of buying, storing and changing the pattern discs are eliminated. Like all KARL MAYER's machines, the RDJ 6/1 EN can also be operated very easily. A new feature compared to the RDJ 5/1 is that the machine and knitting elements are equipped with LED lighting as standard. The increased visibility simplifies handling even more, especially when drawing-in the yarns. This new doublebar raschel machine is completely compatible with the RDJ 5/1 and the RD 7/2-12 EN as far as the knitting elements are concerned. This reduces the storage requirements for spare parts.

Successful market launch

The RDJ 6/1 EN was presented to a wide audience for the first time at the in-house show held at KARL MAYER (CHINA) during ShanghaiTex, which took place from 25 to 28 November 2019. The visitors asked many questions about the new machine. Yuji Yamamoto, the Product Manager at NIPPON MAYER, is preparing to have many discussions on various projects in the next few months. Mass production was scheduled to start in September 2019, and the first machines have already been sold.

A Raschel machine from and for China

KARL MAYER's new RJ 5/1 offers improved price-performance ratio, and attracts a lot of attention in China With its new machine KARL MAYER brings fresh impetus to the market of patterned Raschel fabrics in China. The newcomer with the designation RJ 5/1 was launched at an in-house show held at KARL MAYER (CHINA) during ShanghaiTex, 2019, where it was a real crowd puller.

Especially due to its excellent value for money, this highly efficient model catches the manufacturers' attention. Offering attractive acquisition costs, the RJ 5/1 is more productive than comparable competitor products. Moreover, the machine has a highly stable and very precise machine run. The textiles produced on this machine impress by their outstanding quality. Featuring trendy designs and a style that minimizes making-up, the possible products of the RJ 5/1 are tailored to the needs of the Chinese market.

A machine for the lingerie and clothing market in China

With this machine from local production – manufacturing site is KARL MAYER (CHINA) – the Product Manager, Kriss Wang, wants to address the domestic customers belonging to the commodity market. He sees great potential for modernization projects in particular. "We submit a cost-efficient offer especially to those RSJ users, who want to modernize their factories", explains this textile expert. The patterning portfolio of the RJ 5/1 machine includes traditional articles from the RSJ sector such as charmeuse, made with three guide bars, as well as elastic and rigid Power Net constructions. With its enormous design possibilities, this new development encourages especially the current seamless trend. Back and front parts with opaque areas, lace-like tapes and contourings for making-up are made in one piece, directly during fabric production.

Leg openings and arm holes of the free-cut article do not have to be seamed. Only very few seams are required for closing the styles during the final processing. One example was shown during the in-house show at KARL MAYER (CHINA). In the course of the machine presentation, a 130" model produced a swimwear fabric in a gauge of E 32, with a lot of chic and easy make-up. Even the KARL MAYER lettering was seamlessly integrated into the eye-catching element ensemble.

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Modular Multi-Head Embroidery Machine

In 2003 Melco introduced the principle of modular production to the embroidery world and stopped to produce conventional multi-head embroidery machines. This was the result of Melco's quest to offer its customers the most productive, flexible and easy-to-use embroidery equipment. To this day, this switch to the modular system has proven extremely successful and there are a lot of very good reasons for it.

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SDL Atlas Introduces Upgrades to Rotawash, Colorfastness to Washing Tester

SDL Atlas introduces the next-generation of their popular compact colorfastness to washing tester, the Rotawash. The new upgrades are designed to increase the customer experience during testing.

Innovatively, pairing with the revolutionary RemoteAccess, Remote Instrument Monitoring Application, lets operators track the real-time testing progress of instruments anytime, anywhere, on the go, no longer confined to laboratories during long tests. Operators can view the remaining testing time against the end of a test. RemoteAccess is available for download on iOS and Android devices.

Additionally, the Rotawash now has a flashing light paired with an indicator beep that signals the completion of a test. The improved Rotawash is for world-wide delivery effective immediately.

Committed to providing customers confidence in standard based testing, SDL Atlas has offices and experts in the United States, United Kingdom, Hong Kong and China, plus agents serving over 100 countries, SDL Atlas is ready to support its customers with instruments, test materials, and services anywhere in the world.

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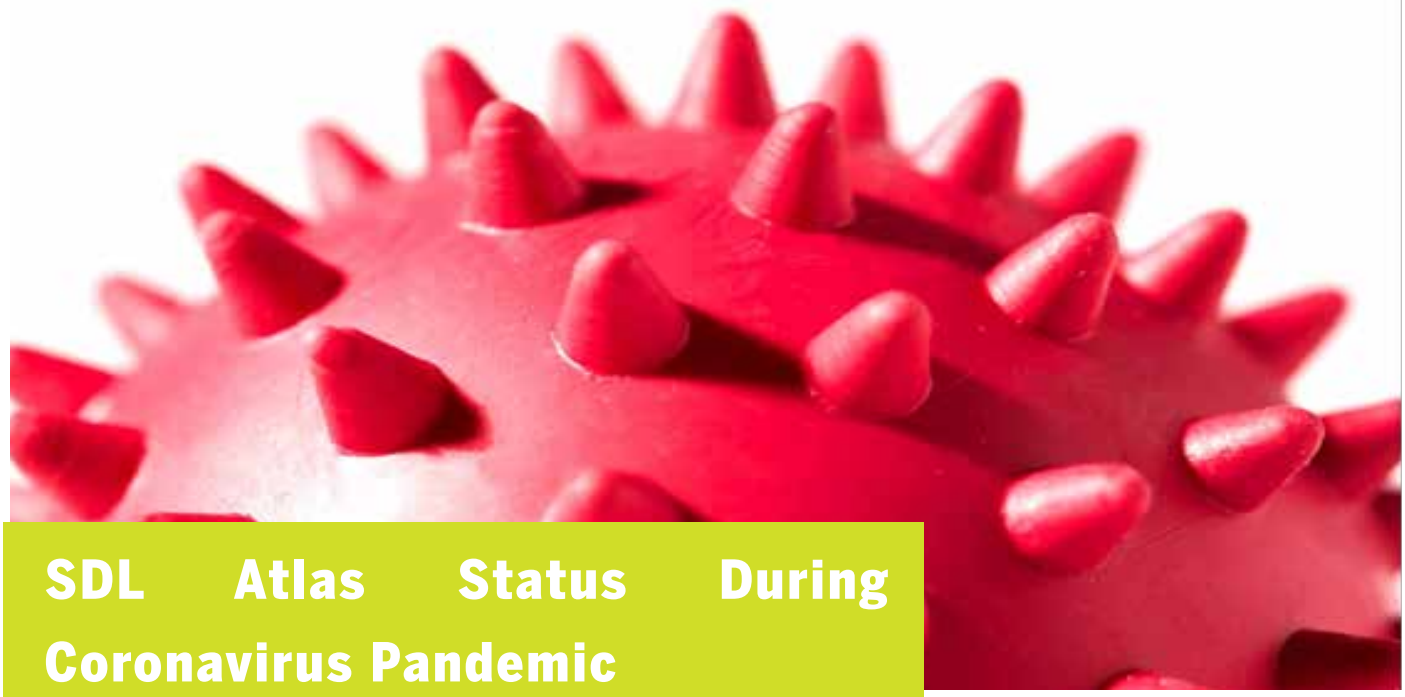


SDL Atlas Status During Coronavirus Pandemic

As a global supplier of testing instruments and test materials, SDL Atlas has been actively managing our response to the coronavirus pandemic. We know that many of our customers around the world are critical in helping to produce the protective materials and garments used in fighting this virus and are relying on us to continue to provide the test materials and instruments they require. With facilities and staff on three continents, SDL Atlas has been monitoring and following all local directives to keep our employees safe and to help minimize the spread of Covid-19. This must be and will be our top priority. Our facility in the US has not been required to close at this time. We have only essential on-site staff coming in while all others work from home. Our European staff are also working from home. Our facilities in China and Hong Kong are fully functioning. Although we face a challenging time, we take our global partnerships seriously and our team will continue to make every effort to meet your needs. With our multiple facilities and inventories in different countries, we do not foresee any significant disruption of our supply to customers. We will post an update if that status changes.

Turkey – Aygenteks

Aygenteks is a family run company which was founded in 1973 by MetinCenapAygen and is a provider of laboratory test instruments for the Turkish textile market. Aygenteks has been James Heal's Turkish Sales Channel Partner since 1981 and provides an excellent service to the Turkish market. Based in Istanbul, Aygenteks now deals with customers in many markets, including, Textile, Automotive, Food, Parquet, Packaging, Rubber and Leather.

Aygenteks provide many services, including, sales, installation and maintenance and with their wealth of knowledge and experience they provide an excellent service to their customers.

Meet the Expert – Peter Brown – Quality Manager

In the next of our Meet the Expert Series, we met up with Peter Brown, James Heal's Quality Manager, to find out more about his role within the business and how his work ensures James Heal stay as the industry leader when it comes to Textile Testing.

How did you first get involved in Quality Management?

I am actually an engineer by trade and I always remember being a young child fascinated by Lego. My parents always encouraged me to take things apart and put them back together again and as I got older, I started to do that more and more. A great example is when I was 18, I bought a 1976 Triumph Spitfire and re-built it before I went to University. So, to sum it up I am interested in repairing things and making things better – which fits in with quality, because quality is all about analysing a problem and eliminating or significantly reducing the risk.

Can you explain more about what being the Quality Manager involves?

I have lived in Yorkshire for 26 years and have always worked in manufacturing, I started working for James Heal in December 2018, so I am coming up to my one-year anniversary.

My role at James Heal is very varied and being a Quality Manager includes so many things, but in a nutshell, it is promoting quality throughout the whole business – not just manufacturing. We do this by looking at consistency and using systems. These two things are very related and help to ensure you get the same result every time.

For me, the important thing to remember is the definition of quality, which is "adhering to a specification".

What attracted you to James Heal?

I have worked in a large variety

of companies in my career, but the fact that James Heal is a smaller business really appealed to me.

I feel that working in a smaller company gives you variety and I really enjoy that every day is different. One day I could be presenting to the board of directors and the next day I could be building a machine on the fitting floor. I knew a little bit about the company as my previous place of work, where I also worked as the Quality Manager, used some old James Heal products.

Is there one project you are particularly proud of in your time at James Heal?

There is one ongoing project that I am working on with various people from around the business and once complete it will definitely be something to be proud of. The project is the transition of the ISO 17025 to the new UKAS standard. It is hard work and the new standard is more stringent, but it will be worth it in the end and there will be a real sense of achievement once it is all complete in the next couple of months.

What is the Textile Fabric Testing, Test Method, Test Item Classification?

Introduction: The human use the textiles (materials made of fibers) with different forms has been used for thousands of years, and the earliest records of textiles are traced back to fabrics, baskets, and nets on small ceramic tablets 27,000 years ago. Now, textiles have been applied to various industries, and our life is already inseparable from textiles, so the testing industry for textiles has emerged.

What is Textile Testing? Why do you need Textile Testing? The Purpose and Significance of Textile Testing.

Textile testing is a scientific test technique and method to evaluate whether the quality of textiles meets the requirements of the specified standards. Based on the use and conditions of textiles, we analyze and study the influence on the product by the composition, structure, and properties of textiles, and determine the use value of textiles.

When using textile products, you must hope that they have a good touch, good appreciation, durability, and should not contain harmful substances. But how should we ensure that textiles meet the demand? Through the analysis, test, evaluation and comparison of the physical and chemical properties of textiles, we comprehensively study the factors related to textile quality and the relationship between these factors, from which the most important quality information can be obtained, so as to improve the quality of textiles and fully meet the needs of consumers under the most economical conditions.

The main purpose and significance of textile testing are:

To check the quality and suitability of raw material

To monitor the production (process control)

To assess the quality of the final product

To investigate the faulty materials

To set standards or benchmarks

For research and development purpose

For new product development

Basic Conditions and Method of Textile Testing

1 First of all, we should understand the test purpose and determine the test standards.

For textile testing, we should understand the standard requirements of customers and test at the beginning of proofing, so as not to find unqualified after mass production, resulting in a large number of rework and even waste of resources. For textile research

and development, standard setting, we need to formulate the test variables, test one by one, find out the factors that affect the quality of textiles, so as to guide the production.

2 Sample preparation stage

Sampling, humidification, pretreatment (washing, drying), cutting samples; adjusting test environment. This step is to reduce the impact of external factors on the test, to ensure the repeatability of textile testing.

3 Test stage

Select the machine (must be calibrated before the test)

Start the test

Record test data

Restore machine (machine parameters, switching power supply, test hygiene)

Tidy up the test samples (be classified and put away)

In this step, it is necessary to reduce the operation error and avoid the test error caused by human factors. So the experience of the operator is very important.

4 Test report

According to the standard, see if the tested sample is evaluated.

Analyze and sort out the data and get the test results.

Prepare test report and file it.

Classification of Textile Testing Items

1. Classification according to the textile application

From fiber to yarn, from yarn to fabric, from fabric to textile finished product, every step of the textile product production process cannot be separated from testing.

For example, fiber testing mainly includes fiber content & fineness analysis, Micronaire value test, fiber length, fiber strength test and so on. Yarn testing mainly includes yarn twist, yarn density, yarn strength, yarn winder and so on.

Fabrics and textile products are the most widely used, and there are many test items. Common textile products are wearing textiles, household textiles, medical textiles, industrial textiles, military textiles, and arts & crafts textiles and so on. These products have different testing items because of different application, such as apparel testing pays attention to comfort and color fastness test; bandages, gauze and another medical textile testing will pay attention to safety and permeability testing; safety clothing will pay attention to fire resistance test and so on.

2. Classification according to textile test standards

International Standards: ISO, IEC, GATT

Regional standards: CEN, CENEL, ASAC, PASC, ARSO

Chinese National Standard: GB/FZ

American National Standard: ASTM

American Association of Dyeing and Chemical Authors: AATCC

EU Standards: EN

Japanese Industrial Standards: JIS

Australian National Standards: AS

British National Standards: BS

French Standards: NF

German Standard: DIN

Korean Industrial Standard: KS

3 Classification according to textile property

The common properties of textiles include the appearance and preservation of textiles, the durability of textiles (also known as mechanical properties), the safety properties of textiles, and the comfort properties of textiles.

The appearance test of textiles mainly includes the appearance defects and surface smoothness of textiles, the color difference and color fastness of textiles, the pilling property of textiles, the snagging property, stiffness, drape and wrinkle recovery of textiles, and so on.

The durability test of textiles mainly includes the tensile fracture characteristics of the fabric, the tear characteristics of the fabric, the abrasion properties of the fabric, the dimensional stability and so on.

The safety performance test of textiles mainly includes PH value test, flame resistance, antistatic property, formaldehyde content, mildew resistance, antibacterial resistance, contamination resistance and so on.

The comfort test of textiles mainly includes thermal conductivity, moisture permeability, air permeability, waterproof and so on.

In addition, in the whole textile testing industry, the selection of accessories, consumables should also meet the standards, common consumables are lined, color cards, detergents, accompanied cloth, blue standard, sample photos and so on, if you want to build your own testing laboratory, obtain testing qualifications, then these consumables are essential.

TESTEX has developed a variety of textile testing instruments and consumables, which can be changed according to the application requirements. TESTEX textile testing instruments are guaranteed to meet corresponding standards and completely tested to ensure the highest performance and longer life.

20 types of fabric weaves

Dealing with different types of fabric day in and day out, I cannot but notice the fascinating weaving patterns of the fabric. And every time I am entranced by the movement of the yarns that make up the fabric. Studying this is part of my fabric love.

Other than this, it is important to know more about fabric weaves, because when you choose fabric for your project, you should know that the types of the weave of the fabric can determine the smoothness, comfort, thickness, durability, tear strength and even drape of the fabric. In effect, the whole success of your hard work and dreams about a sewing project hinges on the weave of your fabric -how'z that!

A fabric weave refers to the way warp and weft yarns are interlaced in a fabric. In the most basic of fabric weaving, the threads (lengthwise warps and crosswise wefts) go criss-cross in the simplest of pattern, at right angles to each other. But in others, they are woven in so many interesting patterns – artistically, decoratively. Do you know that the fabric factories can come up with a mind-boggling number of weave structures?

But the basic weave types that mix and match to form all the others are – plain, twill and satin weaves. They are given interesting variations or they are combined with each other to form different other woven patterns

Different Types of fabric weaves

- 1 Plain weave
- 2 Rib weave
- 3 Basket weave
- 4 Twill Weave
- 5 Herringbone weave
- 6 Satin weave
- 7 Sateen weave
- 8 Leno weave
- 9 Oxford Weave
- 10 Bedford cord weave
- 11 Waffle Weave
- 12 Pile weave
- 13 Jacquard weave
- 14 Dobby weave
- 15 Crepe weave
- 16 Lappet weave
- 17 Tapestry Weave
- 18 Striped weaves
- 19 Checquered weaves
- 20 Double cloth weave

1. Plain weave

This is a weave with the most simple interlacing but it makes for a very strong and firm fabric because these interlacings are more frequent than for any other weave.

In this weave, the warp thread is interlaced over the weft thread by alternately lifting and lowering of the yarns. ie each and every weft thread goes under and over the warp threads across the width of the fabric.

The advantage of this weave is that it is quite strong and durable and produces very fine good quality fabrics.

It is also called tabby weave or taffeta weave or linen weave. Also called Panama weave.

Hopsack is a plain weave with two or more threads in weft and warp interlaced instead of one. Also called Celtic weave

Percale is a type of plain weave which produces a very smooth high thread count fabric by the same name.

Poplin weave is an unbalanced plain weave in which two weft-threads and one warp-thread of the same colour cross each other. As weft threads are more than the warp thread there is a ridge on the weft thread creating a ribbed weave. In this weave cotton polyester and nylon fibers are used.

In most of the plain weave fabrics the weft thread and the warp thread are of the same colour resulting in an even coloured fabric but for some fabrics like end-on-end poplin and cambric the weft thread will be white or some other colour while the warp thread will be coloured – this results in a subtle shade of the colour.

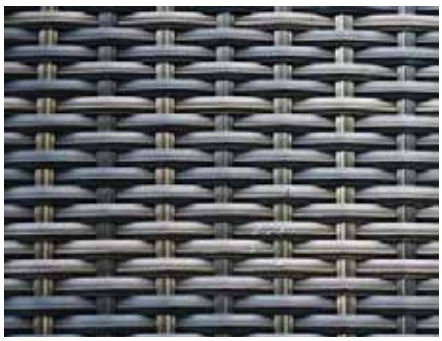
Fabrics with a plain weave: About half of the woven fabrics are in this weave. It includes most of the different types of cotton like muslin, organdy, canvas; linen, rayon, silk, Chiffon, organza, voile, wool, crepe and a whole lot of other fabrics

2. Rib weave

A variation of the plain weave. Here, either weft yarn or warp yarn is woven raised because it is a thicker yarn ie the warp and weft yarns are of different weights. Usually, it is the weft yarn which is thicker in which case there is an appearance of prominent ribs in the horizontal direction.

Fabrics with a rib weave : Broadcloth, Faille, Poplin, grosgrain

3. Basket weave

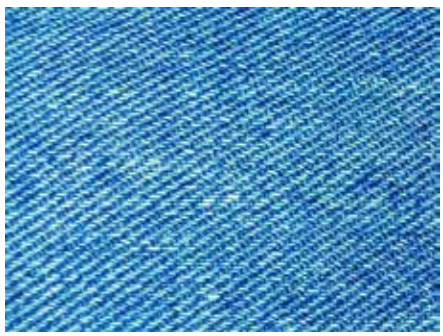


This is a variation of the plain weave but with more than one thread. Two or more warp fibers alternately interlace with two or more weft fibers. Instead of the over under pattern in a plain weave we have a over over under under pattern.

The resultant fabric has a matt weave and flexibility and a looser construction. It is not as durable as plain weave, though and may shrink in the wash. It is difficult to sew. Another name is a hopsack weave

Fabric with this weave: Canvas, Duck cloth, Monk's cloth.

4. Twill Weave



In this weave, one or more warp fibers alternately weave over and under two or more weft fibers repeatedly (Weft-faced)or one or more weft fibers alternately weave over and under two or more warp fibers repeatedly (warp-faced). This results in a **strong and soft fabric which has more drape than all other weaves with a self-design effect, with parallel diagonal ribs formed left-to-right or right-to-left but the**

fabric has a smooth surface.

There are clear diagonal lines on the surface of the fabric. The back side of this weave is rough and will show the opposite pattern of the front. Fabrics with twill weave are more durable, heavy and wrinkle resistant than ones with plain weave

In denim, inarguably the most famous twill fabric, the weft-thread is white or off-white and the warp-thread is indigo-dyed.

Fabrics with Twill weave: Denim, flannel, Velvet, Drill, Jersey, Gabardine etc has this weave.

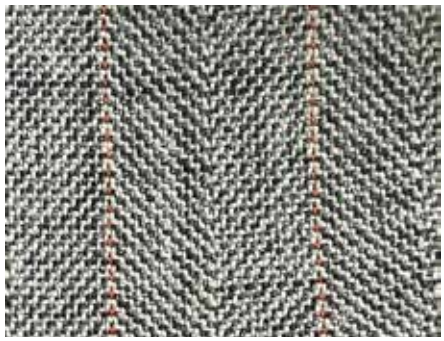
Twills have a wale. Wales can be S or Z. If the wales run from upper right to lower left the weave is called right-hand twill / z twill; If the wales run from upper left to lower right the weave is called left hand twill / s twill. When there is a combination of right-hand and left hand twill it is called a broken twill

Variations : **One and one (Pick & Pick)** has light and dark warp and weft. **3 by 1** twill has three threads crossing over one weft thread. This is a common denim weave. **2 by 1** twill has two warp thread crossing over one weft thread.

Gabardine is a fine steeply set twill weave. **Cavalry twill** is a slightly broader steeply set twill; **Whipcord** is another bold and steep twill. **Diagonal twill** has a pronounced diagonal twill weave. **Double diagonal twill** weave has two or three differently wide and bold twill lines.

Twilled hopsack weave looks as if twill is running both left and right. **Pinhead** has one ligt and one dark warp and a solid dark weft. Barleycorn is a twill way arranged to look like barley corn. **Pepper and salt** is a variation of the one and one with highly contrasted twist in the warp and weft.

5. Herringbone weave



This refers to a broken twill weave which gives a herringbone (zig zag) pattern with right and left twills appearing alternatively side by side , both having the same width. The herringbone weave is also called feather twill or arrowhead twill. Other than the attractiveness of its design it has all the qualities of a twill weave. This is similar to other broken twill designs like the chevron pattern Shell weave has a combination of right and left-hand twills – looks like a shell Corkscrew weave has the herringbone pattern but at a very low angle. Fabric with the herringbone weave: Tweed

6. Satin weave

This is a variation of the twill weave but with continuous warp yarn, with as few interruptions of weft as possible ie it has fewer intersections of warp and weft threads – weft yarns are floated over warp yarns, which results in a smooth and shiny surface.

The fibers used are filament fibers like silk or nylon. The fabric in this woven pattern will be very smooth and lustrous and has a flexible structure, because of the long floats. The greatest luster will be in the lengthwise direction.

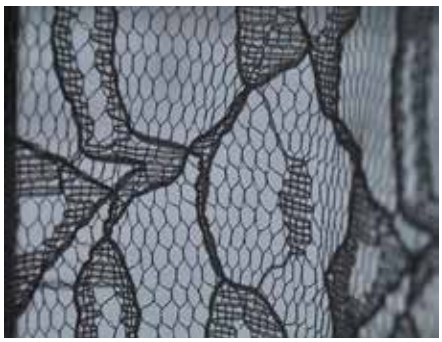
The disadvantage is that the fabric fibers will easily snag so this weave is not considered as strong as the other weaves.The advantage of this weave is its own disadvantage – it is the long floating yarns that snag.

Fabrics with this weave: Many types of satin fabric like peau de soi, charmeuse.

7. Sateen weave

This is a satin weave with short staple yarns like cotton. The floats will be in the weft direction ie continuous weft yarn, with as few interruptions of warp as possible. The fabric is not as lustrous as the satin weave fabric but they are more durable.

8. Leno weave



In this weave, wrap yarns do not lie parallel to each other as in other weaves; the adjacent warp fibers (two or more) are twisted around consecutive weft fibers (one or more)to form a spiral pair (figure 8). It results in a sheer open weave fabric which is at the same time strong. It is also called gauze weave

Fabrics with Leno weave : Gauze, net, tulle.

9. Oxford Weave

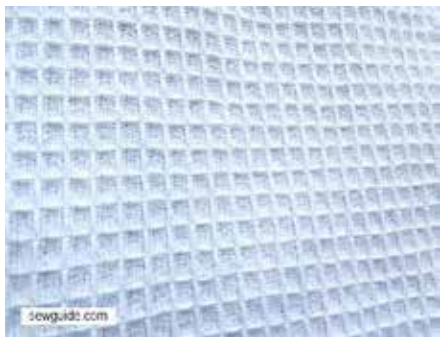
In this two, thin warp yarns are woven to each very soft, thicker yarn in the weft direction. This results in the thin warp yarns to break leaving holes. The resultant fabric is very fine and soft. In a similar Pinpoint weave weft-thread alternatively pass over and under two warp-threads

Fabrics with oxford weave : Oxford cloth, shirting.

10. Bedford cord weave

This is a characteristic weave found in the fabric Bedford cord with lengthwise ridges. The weave has prominent lengthwise ribs with sunken lines in between. This is a combination of a plain weave and whipcord twill weave. Wadding threads are introduced in this weaving to bring more prominence to the cords.

11. Waffle Weave



This is also called honeycomb weave because of the pattern it creates on the face of the fabric. The warp and weft threads are interlaced and floated in a manner that produces a regular pattern of small square ridges and hollows in the fabric. This weave has a 3D effect but makes for a rough surface because of the raised areas on the face of the fabric. The shapes formed on the fabric surface maybe square or diamond.

12. Pile weave

This is a weave that is used to

make a soft pile fabric which is very absorbent and insulating . You will find cut/uncut piles on one side or either side of the fabric as a result of this weaving. The uncut or loop piles has loops on the face and back of the fabric. Ground yarns and additional yarns for the pile are used in the fabric construction Fabrics with a pile weave: Velvet (Cut pile), terrycloth , Corduroy, Velveteen (Uncut/loop pile).

13. Jacquard weave

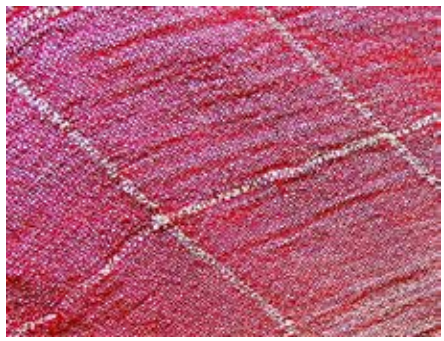
This is a beautiful weave with intricate and colourful designs woven into the fabric. This weave is produced on a jacquard loom. The weave results in a fabric which is strong and lustrous and has a luxurious look and feel. Jacquards can be made one color or a mix of colors and can be used to create simple as well as complex patterns. Often the back side of a jacquard is the mirror image of the pattern on the front. The weave is named after the Frenchman Joseph Marie Jacquard who invented the jacquard loom.

Fabrics with this fabric weave: Brocade, Damask, Brocatelle, Matelasse are fabrics with this weave and these fabrics are typically used for bedding, upholstery, draperies etc.

14. Dobby weave

This is a patterned plain weave with small designs/geometric patterns. You need special dobby machines to create this weave. The machine selectively raises some warp threads and selectively depresses others with the help of a dobby card. The fabric which is woven this way is comparatively flat and fine. Fabric with Dobby weave : Moss crepe.

15. Crepe weave



A type of weave that results in a broken irregular pebbled appearance by the use of high twist yarns and a special method of weaving.

Fabric with this weave : Crepe fabric

16. Lappet weave

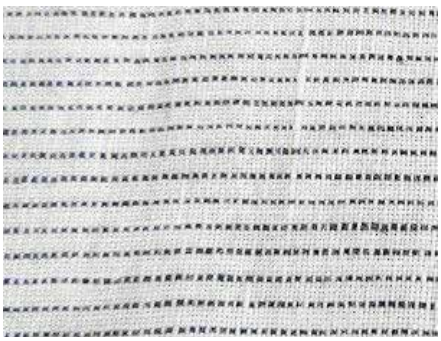
Lappet weave is a method of creating machine-made embroidery-like figures on a fabric ground, by introducing warp threads. Swivel weave a similar weave in which weft threads are introduced. It is very similar to how embroidery is done.

17. Tapestry Weave

This is also done by the jacquard loom but it is mostly based on

handlooming techniques and has very elaborate designs made usually of a single repeat. The complex designs characterized by numerous colour changes are formed by weft yarns and warp yarns. It is used interchangeably with jacquard weave. You will find wall hangings and flatweave rugs made in this technique

18. Striped weaves

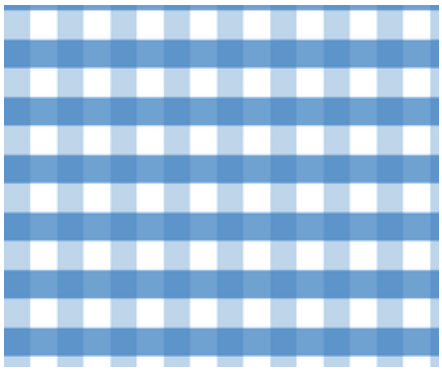


A pinstripe patterned weave has a single fine striped thread that looks like a line made up of pinhead shots

Eton stripe is a Plain weave variation with light and dark warp and weft – resulting in a straight vertical line of light and dark alternatively. Also called Hairline. Chalk stripe weave results in light lines like the one made by a tailor's chalk You can check out the names of more striped patterns on fabric here.

19. Checquered weaves

Block check weave has blocks of check patterns in light and dark yarns



A **diamond weave** is a twill weave with right and left twills looking like a diamond pattern

Two and two glen stripe with overcheck has one and one base with a two and two stripe

Three and Three has a twill base with three light three dark weft and warp

Shepherds check has a twill weave with five or more light, five or more dark warp and weft **Glenurquhart check** has a twill weave with dark and light warp and weft coloured yarns to give a chequered effect.

Dog's tooth has a twill weave with four or more light, four or more dark warp and weft

Gun club check has four or more light, four or more mid, four or more light, four or more dark, warp and weft. You can check out the names of more chequered patterns on fabric here.

20. Double cloth weave

In this weaving technique, two fabrics are held together with another set of yarns. Sometimes, they are separated, as in the case with velvet

Fabric with this weave : Velvet.

Picanol at Afro Stitch & Tex in Egypt (March 5-8, 2020)

Picanol will be present at AFRO STITCH & TEX from March 5 to 8 at the booth of its agent for the region, Nobeltex (Booth B1, Hall 5). This trade fair is dedicated to textile processing technologies and this is the tenth time that the event will be held in Egypt. AFRO STITCH & TEX will feature two complementary trade fairs: the first one relates to garment processing technologies (this runs from February 27 to March 1), while the second trade fair will focus on textile processing technologies, one of which will be weaving (this will run from March 5 to 8). Egypt is home to the only fully vertically integrated textiles industry in the Middle East, with

the entire production process - from the cultivation of cotton to the production of yarns, fabrics, and ready-made garments - being carried out on a domestic level. The textile sector plays a central role in the Egyptian economy.

Picanol is the worldwide leading manufacturer of airjet and rapier weaving machines, and it is active in all of the different segments of the textile industry: i.e. apparel, home, and technical textiles. Its current product program includes the all-new OmniPlus-*i* airjet machine, which was launched last year. This machine features a brand-new insertion system and it sets a new benchmark in airjet weaving by combining the highest levels of performance with best-in-class air consumption and power consumption.

The OptiMax-*i* and the GTMax-*i* 3.0 cover a complete range of applications and they are generally recognized as being the most versatile and best-performing rapier machines on the market. With the TERRY*plus* Summum and TerryMax-*i* machines,

Picanol is the only premium weaving machine manufacturer able to offer both airjet and rapier technology for the weaving of terry fabrics. Customers can count on a highly professional service team, with local presence in all textile segments and a high-performing aftermarket team that supplies spare parts within the shortest lead-times.

"The positive and fruitful relationship between Picanol and the Egyptian market is long-standing and it will certainly continue into the future in line with our 'Let's grow together' slogan! We are looking forward to meeting our Egyptian customers, as well as customers from other African countries, in order to share information regarding the latest technology offered by Picanol," explains Bruno Caffieri (Picanol Area Sales Manager).

Stäubli Textile exhibiting in Egypt

Stäubli, a leading global solution provider for the manufacturing of virtually any woven application, is participating at its agent NOBELTEX's Booth 5B1. Visitors will learn about the benefits of Stäubli's state-of-the-art systems for automation in weaving preparation, shedding for frame & Jacquard weaving, and more. All are perfectly suited to the mill's daily needs.

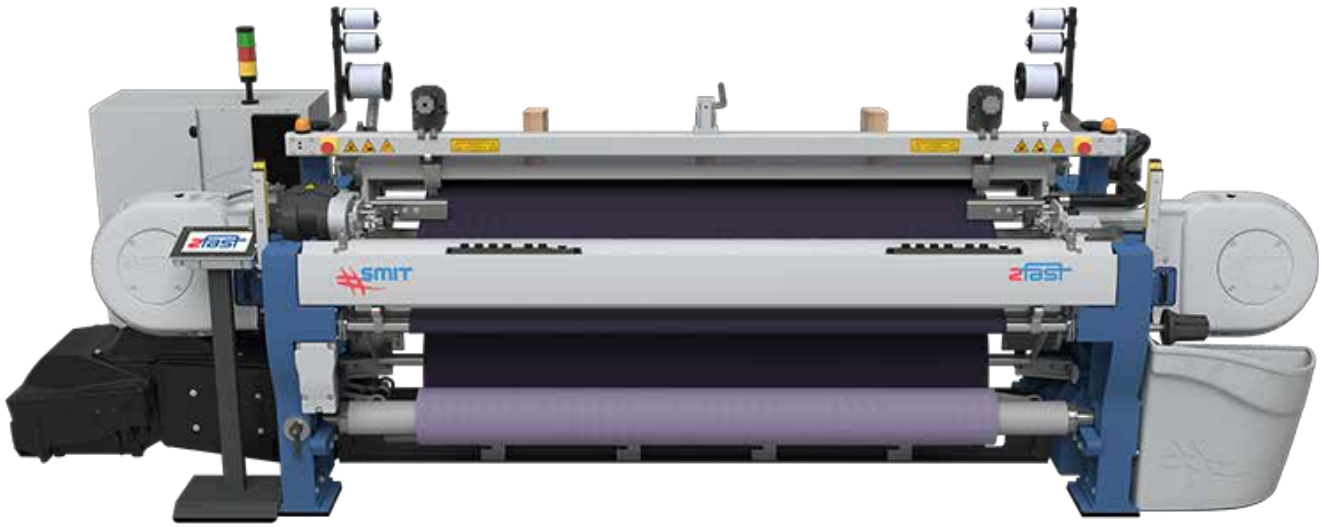
LX electronic Jacquard machine

The Egyptian textile industry is expecting a significant rise in exports in 2020, as are many other African textile-producing countries. To keep pace with this growing demand, manufacturers need efficient machinery to ensure their customers flexibility in applications, quality fabrics, and on-time delivery. With its broad range of ultra-reliable weaving solutions and its locally available sales and service support, Stäubli plays a key role in ensuring optimized manufacturing conditions in the weaving mill.

Stäubli shedding solutions are a cornerstone of weaving mills around the world. They are renowned for their high-quality design using first-rate materials, advanced engineering based on intensive and continual R&D, and long service life. Among the broad range are cam motions, dobbies, and Jacquard machines, including the high-speed LX/LXL/LXXL electronic Jacquard machine series.

These machines are ideal for high-speed weaving on all types of air-jet, rapier, and water-jet weaving machines and are available in formats with up to 25,600 hooks. They offer the broad versatility needed by mills that seek to excel in weaving flat fabrics, terry cloth, and technical textiles.

Visit Stäubli at Stitch & Tex Expo. Our experts will be there to discuss your weaving projects in order to arrive at ideal solutions for an optimized process in your mill.



Monforts Advanced Technology Centre's Adventures in Aquaculture

Monforts has recently been involved in a number of R&D trials aimed at improving the performance of the fishing cage nets employed in fish farming operations at its Advanced Technology Centre (ATC) in Mönchengladbach, Germany.

The cultivation of both freshwater and saltwater fish populations under controlled conditions is a global industry valued at around $200 billion annually and only made possible with the use of huge aquaculture nets.

Biofouling

"These nets are very prone to biofouling and to avoid its negative impacts, high-pressure robotic jets are now used to clean them," explains Monforts Head of Technical Textiles, Jürgen Hanel. "Net cleaning is expensive and can also damage current antifouling coatings on the nets, causing contamination as well as fish health and welfare risks."

"The abrasion resistance of the nets is also extremely important, because in addition to the general wear and tear of the underwater environment, they also contain a lot of potential food for predatory bigger fish, such as sharks. Even sea lions have been known to be attracted to these fish farming cages but have the advantage of being able to jump over the top of them if they're not sufficiently protected."

The development of more effective antifouling coatings for fishing cage nets has been one aspect of R&D work at the Monforts ATC, while the use of how alternative fibres could potentially be coated or finished to replace the polyamide which is currently most widely used has also been explored.

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The issue of plastics and synthetic fibres in the oceans has generated global media attention recently, and the aquaculture industry is exploring all avenues that will lead to more sustainable practices.

Diverse applications

"We are asked to investigate a wide range of fabric finishes and coatings at the ATC, where our customers can test their own textiles and technical fabrics on Monforts dyeing, finishing and coating machines under fully confidential, real production conditions," says Jürgen Hanel.

"The range of textiles finished or coated with Monforts technologies is already extremely diverse, including standard knits and wovens, as well as advanced denim. When it comes to technical textiles, our lines are already being used commercially for treating substrates for digitally-printed soft signage, carbon fabrics for composites, filter media which must perform in extreme temperatures and flame retardant barrier fabrics, to name just four applications, but the list gets longer all the time."

Expansions

Since its opening in 2013, over €3 million has been invested in equipment at the Monforts ATC, which over an area of 1200 square metres houses two full finishing lines, engineered to accommodate an extremely diverse range of processes, in addition to a Thermex range for the continuous dyeing of denim.

Recent expansions have included the installation of the latest Monforts texCoat coating system, with its multi-head capability, and the CYD yarn dyeing system for denim, both of which received an enthusiastic reception at last year's ITMA show in Barcelona.

"We have subsequently demonstrated the potential of these new technologies to many customers during their visits to the ATC, in addition to running full trial programmes on our industrial-scale machines," Jürgen Hanel concludes. "The intended end-uses may not always be as unusual as fishing cage nets, but whatever the application, trials in real production conditions yield the results that enable us to make many recommendations for improving fabric finishes and coatings."

Touchpoint textile, show for digital printing, at Drupa

Drupa 2020, leading trade fair for printing technologies, will have a new special show for digital textile printing - Touchpoint textile. The show reflects the rising significance of digital textile printing and its importance as a driver of innovation and growth for the printing industry. A special attraction of the show will be a microfactory.

Drupa 2020 is to be held from June 16 to 26, in Düsseldorf.

Touchpoint textile is backed by two main partners - the German Institutes for Textile and Fibre Research (DITF) as Europe's largest textile research centre,

and the non-profit European Specialist Printing Manufacturers Association (ESMA).

Together with cross-industry partners, DITF is setting up a Digital Textile Micro Factory at drupa, a fully networked, integrated production chain from customer specifications and design to fabric finishing. Demonstrating new possibilities for digitalisation and direct customer interaction, such as 3D garment simulations with direct data transfer to virtual and augmented reality applications, the microfactory shows how digital textile printing, cutting and colour management can be integrated in a fully connected production environment.

A variety of products, such as flags, t-shirts and bags, will be fabricated "hot off the press" each day. Networked production chains of this kind, fuelled by a combination of agility, creativity, flexibility and productivity, empower the textile industry to respond ever more promptly and specifically to customer demands and trends, even in small quantities.

With the textile industry spawning technologies for numerous industries, touchpoint textile connects these various sectors, offering them a platform for cross-industry collaboration, new projects, as well as product and manufacturing ideas.

The special show is an indicator of how Drupa is gaining ground in new markets, which apart from textile printing include packaging, large format printing, industrial and functional printing. All of these segments are going through the same transformation processes, offering tremendous potential for growth.

ESMA, in charge of the conference programme, has invited speakers from research, development and industry to discuss printing and finishing technologies, workflows, market developments and sustainability. "Textile printing is expanding rapidly thanks to innovations in printing processes. Both, digital and conventional technologies, can contribute to this change," says ESMA general manager Peter Buttiens. "We're looking forward to demonstrating our expertise and know-how in textile applications to visitors at drupa's touchpoint textile."

"Continued digitalisation and cross-sectional technologies are accelerating innovation," comments Sabine Geldermann, director of drupa and global head of print technologies at Messe Düsseldorf. "Drupa's role is to be a source of momentum for our industry, fostering and shaping change.

We're committed to identifying all relevant issues and integrating them in our forums. The growth potential in textile printing is phenomenal. It's against this backdrop that we are dedicating a special platform to these applications." Even beyond the touchpoint textile special show, digital textile printing will be an important focus of many exhibitors.

Mahlo measuring and control technology at INDEX 2020

Mahlo GmbH + Co. KG will be presenting product solutions for high-quality and efficient nonwovens production at Index 2020 from 31 March to 3 April in Geneva, Switzerland (Booth 47229). Amongst other things, visitors will see the latest sensor development for the established quality measurement system, Qualiscan QMS-12.

"Nonwovens are used in almost every industrial sector and are becoming increasingly important - filter nonwovens ensure clean drinking water, the health sector relies on nonwovens for infection protection, and extremely durable geotextiles play an important role in the construction of dams," Mahlo says.

"No matter what tasks the nonwoven products perform, their functionality must always be 100% guaranteed," the company adds. "However, this can only be achieved if every production step runs flawlessly and all specifications developed in advance are fulfilled. Important parameters in the manufacturing process are weight per unit area, moisture or layer thickness."

"With its established system solutions, Mahlo can determine these values reliably and without contact. In this way, the German machine manufacturer helps manufacturers and finishers to achieve first-class quality standards and maximum efficiency in production."

A Qualiscan QMS with a measuring frame Webpro M measures basis weight with a beta-sensor and moisture with an infrared sensor for spunlace fleece. Mahlo GmbH + Co. KG.

The modular system, which also includes sensors and measuring frames, measures, records and controls critical parameters such as basis weight, moisture or layer thickness across the entire width of the fabric. Depending on the application and task, different measuring methods are used for this purpose. Additionally, there is a choice of X-ray and beta radiation, white light interference or near-infrared measurement. The latter also uses the latest technical development from Mahlo - as the Infralot IMF-T version, the basis weight and moisture sensor also uses the transmission method for the first time when measuring.

"This makes it the ideal solution for thicker materials up to 500 g/m². In addition, in contrast to conventional methods, it completely dispenses with a rotating filter wheel. With Mahlo's newly developed simultaneous filter, all wavelengths are measured simultaneously and at the same point. Instead, the light is distributed simultaneously to six detectors. This eliminates measurement inaccuracies and enables true seed-spot measurement of reference and absorption resonances," Mahlo concludes.

H&C Whitehead invests in new Bruckner machines

In recent months H&C Whitehead has successfully commissioned several Bruckner machines. Next to investment into new Bruckner machines and washing range, H&C has got a new production building built to house these new lines. H&C founded in 1925 by Harold and Carl Whitehead, is a recognised world class textile finisher for an extensive range of textiles.

David Whitehead, owner and CEO, H&C Whitehead, has successfully led the company for many years and has invested a great deal of effort in preparing the company for the future.

As part of an ongoing capital upgrade strategy, a new state of the art Bruckner finishing stenter with an Eco-Heat air/air heat recovery unit has recently been installed in their factory in Brighouse, UK. This complements two other Bruckner stenter lines, both of which have heat recovery systems in-stalled. Essential requirements were the highest performance heat setting consistency across and throughout the oven for delicate woven fabrics and minimal energy consumption in support of Whitehead's sustainability initiatives.

The stenter frame is mainly designed to process fabrics for the apparel industry with anti-pilling, stain resistant or anti-microbial finishes, but also flame-retardant chemistry is applied onto upholstery fabrics to meet fire safety regulations. The Bruckner Eco-Heat backpack heat-recovery unit is integrated into the stenter structure, which does not require a separate support structure, but provides for safe access to the unit. It significantly reduces the stenter heating energy requirement up to 20 per cent. The unit is equipped with several cassette type heat exchangers, which can be removed easily for cleaning or maintenance purposes. One of the other existing Bruckner lines has been retrofitted with a Bruckner Eco-Heat air/water heat recovery plant on the exhaust system. It is used to heat up process water for their new open width washing range and can, depending on the heat requirement of the process, regain up to 85 per cent of the stenter exhaust air heat.

"Bruckner have been instrumental in the transformation in the quality of our end product over the last ten years. The reliability of their machinery has also proven essential to the 'just in time' nature of our business. I cannot fault the company and their flexibility in finding solutions to our specific requirements, especially floor space limitations. I hope that Bruckner continues to go from strength to strength and that the textile industry will continue to benefit from their programme of research and development and continual improvement into energy reduction systems and many other areas that will help the environment and improve the quality and consistency of the finished fabric," said Whitefield.

WEKO - Weitmann & Konrad GmbH & Co. KG

Low add-on application systems for sustainable DENIM yarn dyeing and textile finishing.

Since 1953 WEKO has been developing and producing non-contact application systems for product optimisation and surface finishing with different types of fluids and powdery substances. Our focus is always on sustainability by reducing waste, use of auxilliary, energy and water to create high quality finished products with the lowest possible, exact and replicable application amounts. Diverse industries rely on the low cost of ownership and the even and stable contact-free application.

WEKO-NEO

New innovative applications are revolutionizing the whole textile finishing process. The worldwide textile production is suffering from immense cost pressure and is driven by using high volumes of fresh water, energy and chemicals with comparatively slow production speeds. Encapsulated, contact-free rotor spray system for extremly even application of dye stuffs, auxilliaries and avivage. Wide range of application amount and adjustable penetration level. Non-stop auxilliary change over during production. Made for one side, both side or both side different application e.g. hydrophilic / hydrophobic in a single pass.

The specially designed WEKO-NEO finishing system and the new processing is adaptable to any existing or new stenter frame line and also of any section of slaher dyeing range. One system fits it all spending the given savings in resources and costs.

Major order for BRÜCKNER for several carpet back coating lines from Turkey

Established in 1955 in Istanbul, DINARSU is today the number one company in the Turkish carpet industry. With targeted investments and a wide range of products the company takes solid steps towards being a world brand. DINARSU is the first tufting carpet manufacturer in Turkey holding CE certificate and the first and only manufacturer to offer a picture quality production with a 400 dpi resolution. The German machine manufacturer BRÜCKNER has already delivered some lines to DINARSU in the past years. Recently a further major order for several lines for the latex back coating of tufted carpets was finalized. The delivery of the first line is planned for summer 2020, others will follow at the end of the year and at the beginning of 2021. Ali Erdemoğlu stated: „As both companies are family-run companies, their main aim is to hand over their long-term business partnership to the next generation some day.“

H&C Whitehead, UK: highest quality end products with BRÜCKNER technology

Family owned textile finisher H&C Whitehead Ltd. was founded in 1925 by Harold and Carl Whitehead. The company is a recognized world class textile finisher with more than ninety years of experience in coating and finishing an extensive and varied range of textiles. Within recent months they have successfully commissioned several BRÜCKNER machines.

As part of an ongoing capital upgrade strategy, a new state of the art BRÜCKNER finishing stenter with an ECO-HEAT air/air heat recovery unit has recently been installed in their factory in Brighouse, UK. This complements two other Bruckner stenter lines, both of which have heat recovery systems in-stalled. Essential requirements were the highest performance heat setting consistency across and throughout the oven for delicate woven fabrics and minimal energy consumption in support of White-head's sustainability initiatives. The stenter frame is mainly designed to process fabrics for the apparel industry with anti-pilling, stain resistant or anti-microbial finishes, but also flame-retardant chemistry is applied onto upholstery fabrics to meet fire safety regulations.

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Mr. David Whitehead, Owner and CEO, has successfully led the company for many years and has in-vested a great deal of effort in preparing the company for the future. Next to the investment into the new BRÜCKNER machines and the new washing range he has had a new production building built to house these new lines.

Mr. Whitehead states: "BRÜCKNER have been instrumental in the transformation in the quality of our end product over the last ten years. The reliability of their machinery has also proven essential to the "just in time" nature of our business. I cannot fault the company and their flexibility in finding solutions to our specific requirements, especially floor space limitations.

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www.textiletimes.com

Huntsman textile effects partners with xenon arc to form navicolor

Dedicated marketing channel to better serve the US market

Singapore Huntsman Textile Effects and Xenon arc today announced the formation of NaviColor, a dedicated marketing channel to service the unique needs of select customers in the United States textiles and apparel industry.

NaviColor is a business specifically designed to meet the needs of select Huntsman Textile Effects customers and to further expand the growing customer base. NaviColor features a dedicated team of professionals in a highly advanced technological environment to support customers utilizing Huntsman's Textile Effects innovative chemicals, dyes and digital inks in the United States.

"NaviColor represents a significant investment in our customer experience and will help us enhance how we deliver value to our customers," said Brook Swinston, Huntsman Textile Effects Commercial Director Americas. "Huntsman is a recognized global market leader and innovator in textile dyes, chemicals and digital inks. This approach enables us to be closer to our customers, deliver value and react with more agility."

NaviColor is the latest deployment of Xenon arc's innovative xa-Direct model that helps the world's preeminent manufacturing companies reach, grow and more effectively service the needs of their customer base s. Leveraging its domain expertise of the marketplace, combined with extensive voice of the customer research and leading-edge technology platform, the xa-Direct model delivers enhanced customer intimacy, valuable insights and improved customer service levels.

"We are excited to partner with Huntsman Textile Effects," commented Mica Zuniga, Vice President of Strategic Growth for Xenon arc. "Together, we have created a thoughtful and complete offering focused on delivering best-in-class service, and technical support to valued customers by representing Huntsman Textile Effect's market-leading products."

NaviColor will exclusively represent Huntsman Textile Effects product portfolio including:

- Dyes
- Chemical Auxiliaries
- Digital Inks

About Huntsman: Huntsman Corporation is a publicly traded global manufacturer and marketer of differentiated chemicals with 2018 revenues of approximately $9 billion. Our chemical products number in the thousands and are sold worldwide to manufacturers serving a broad and diverse range of consumer and industrial end markets. We operate more than 75 manufacturing and R&D facilities in approximately 30 countries and employ approximately 10,000 associates within our 4 distinct business divisions. For more information about Huntsman, please visit the company's website at www.huntsman.com.

About Huntsman Textile Effects:

Huntsman Textile Effects is the leading global provider of high quality dyes, chemicals and digital inks to the textile and related industries. With operations in more than 90 countries and seven primary manufacturing facilities in six countries (China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Thailand), Huntsman Textile Effects is uniquely positioned to provide prompt

and expert technical service wherever our custom ers are based. Sustainability, innovation and collaboration are at the heart of what we do. We use cutting edge technology to develop solutions and create innovative products with intelligent effects such as durable water repellents, color fastness, sun protection or state-of-the-art dyes which reduce water and energy consumption.

22 January 2020 marked a new milestone for DyStar Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd, as they moved to a new office premise at 5th Floor, Citi Tower, 33-A, Block-6, P.E.C.H.S, Main Shahra-e-Faisal. The inauguration ceremony was honored by DyStar's Group CEO, Mr. Eric Hopmann and the Managing Director of DyStar Pakistan, Mr. Faisal Mumtaz.

"We have come a long way since 2002 when DyStar formally started in Pakistan. From a small company of 16 people with a tiny market share, DyStar is now one of the biggest textile dyes and chemical companies in the country. The journey took us 18 years, and I am glad of the achievements thus far. Moving forward, we will continue to serve the market with our innovative technologies and products," shared Mr. Faisal Mumtaz.

Misunderstanding of BPR: It is also about "treated articles"

Seven years after the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) came into force, every EU country must for the first time submit a report on compliance with the guidelines in 2020. This will bring new attention to the BPR and probably increased controls. All the more reason for manufacturers of textiles and plastic products and definitely for importers to deal with the pitfalls of the regulation.

Equipped products are also subject to mandatory labeling.

It is not uncommon even today for people to be unaware that it is not only the biocidal products themselves, such as anti-mosquito spray, that are subject to compulsory registration and labeling. This was the case in the previous directive, the BPD. The currently valid BPR, on the other hand, stipulates that articles that have been treated with biocidal products, such as socks with anti-odor technology, door handles treated to prevent bacterial colonization, or tents that are treated to prevent the formation of mildew, must also be labeled. They are referred to in the BPR as "treated articles".

Watch out for the gray area!

What seems logical at first glance can be interpreted differently in practice. A survey by the Swedish Chemical Agency (KEMI) of 10 EU member states showed that there is a wide gray area. Nine of the ten EU countries surveyed agreed on only one of the products as to whether it should be classified as a biocidal product or as a treated article.

The BPR guide compiled by SANITZED AG provides a comprehensive and easy-to-follow overview of all relevant aspects.

Asia Pacific Rayon explains why it has chosen STeP by OEKO-TEX® to help communicate its commit-ment to sustainability.

"By obtaining STeP by OEKO-TEX® certification, APR has achieved another important milestone as part of its commitment to sustainability."

What is your philosophy and strategy for sustainable production?

Sustainability is fundamental to APR. We firmly believe in the value of continuous improvement and transpar-ency in guiding our sustainability efforts and engagement with stakeholders through open dialogues. APR strives to be a leading viscose rayon producer committed to the sustainability, transparency and efficiency of our operations, serving the interests of communities and country, and delivering value with renewable fibre to our customers.

What are your reasons for becoming STeP certified?

We are committed to becoming the most responsible viscose manufacturer operating in line with leading international standards.

How does the OEKO-TEX® certification scheme help you in communicating your success in sustainable production with your stakeholders and can it help in communicating your performance and target setting with your buyers?

It helps communicate our commitment to sustainability - responsible manufacturing, transparency, good chem-ical management etc. Adding OEKO-TEX® certification to our product portfolio provides an additional level of assurance to our customers.

What innovative technologies are installed in your facilities to enhance efficiency, save

resources, reduce consumption, encourage circularity, and reduce costs?

We are a fully integrated plantation to Viscose fibre facility. Our energy is produced from 100% renewable resources. Our facility is equipped with the latest CS2 recovery plant to ensure maximum chemical recovery and reuse rates. We have set targets for key sustainability KPI's with defined timelines for achievement.

What are the major challenges in getting your facilities STeP certified? And how did you overcome these?

Each module has its unique challenges. We appointed a senior manager as the owner of each module to oversee and manage the challenges. One of these challenges was having to re-design our entire shift schedule to ensure full compliance with the standard.

Does the management team see the positive changes after implementing the STeP system in your facilities in terms of people, management, productivity, product quality, environmental impact and brand image?

Yes – the implementation of the STeP standard has brought overall positive changes in our facility. "Sustainability is the foundation of our business license to operate. This is a major achievement considering that APR just started its operations in December 2018." said Ben Poon, Business Head, Asia Pacific Rayon.

What are the next steps for your sustainable production journey?

We are in the process of adopting the ZDHC chemical management guideline for full compliance with MRSL 2.0. We are also in the process of applying for the EU EcoLabel certification.

How do you comment on your experience working with TESTEX to obtain STeP certification?

The Auditors from TESTEX were diligent, professional and attentive. Their knowledge of the STeP standard was impeccable and they were able to assist us with all our enquiries.

Do you plan on introducing the MADE IN GREEN by OEKO-TEX® label?

Yes, we have already submitted our application.

Statement by TESTEX STeP Auditors Endang Setiawan and Pipit Fitriyani Hayati:

The company has been very cooperative and made a great effort to support its tremendous ambition for sustainability. It has achieved excellent results in various areas and is pursuing greater targets. With STeP by OEKO-TEX® certification, it is now on the path to proving itself as sustainable viscose manufacturer.

Archoma Joins 'The Denim Window' To Support Inspired, Sustainable Denim Creation

Reinach, Switzerland, 24 February 2020 - Archroma, a global leader in color and specialty chemicals towards sustainable solutions, today announced that it has joined 'The Denim Window' as its showcase company for color and effect technologies.

The Denim Window is a showroom located in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and dedicated to providing apparel brands with inspiration, sustainability and innovation for their denim collections. Created and curated by Silvia Rancani, a passionate denim consultant with a unique flair for fashion and technology, The Denim Window connects

carefully selected companies with brands through exclusive events and showcases at The Denim Window location.

The Denim Window allows its visitors to find in one single place fabric mills, garment makers, chemical suppliers, fiber and trim producers, where designers, product developers, fashion students, denim lovers & emerging talents are invited to review and learn more about the products, aiming to stimulate creativity and innovation through collaborations.

The Denim Window and Archroma will regularly organize workshops to support brands and retailers with systems and inspiration to create denim colors and effects in "The Archroma Way: safe, efficient and enhanced. Because it's our nature!".

The company, which made the headlines with innovations such as its aniline-free* Denisol® Pure Indigo or its EarthColors® range of dyes based on non-edible biomass waste from the herbal and agricultural industries, participated to the recent exhibition organized at The Denim Window in Amsterdam on 23 January to celebrate Chinese New Year with the new Denim Window 2020 member companies.

"Amsterdam has developed as one of the world's denim cities with global meet-ups and events, and now the conferences, workshops and permanent showroom of The Denim Window", explains Umberto Devita, Business Development Manager for Denim & Casual Wear at Archroma.

"The Denim Window, Archroma and the other member companies share the same passion for creativity, innovation and denim with a soul, and that makes us a match made in heaven. We are very excited to have been given this opportunity to collaborate the Denim Window dream team!"

Archroma's showcase at The Denim Window's location in Amsterdam, Netherlands. (Photo: The Denim Window)

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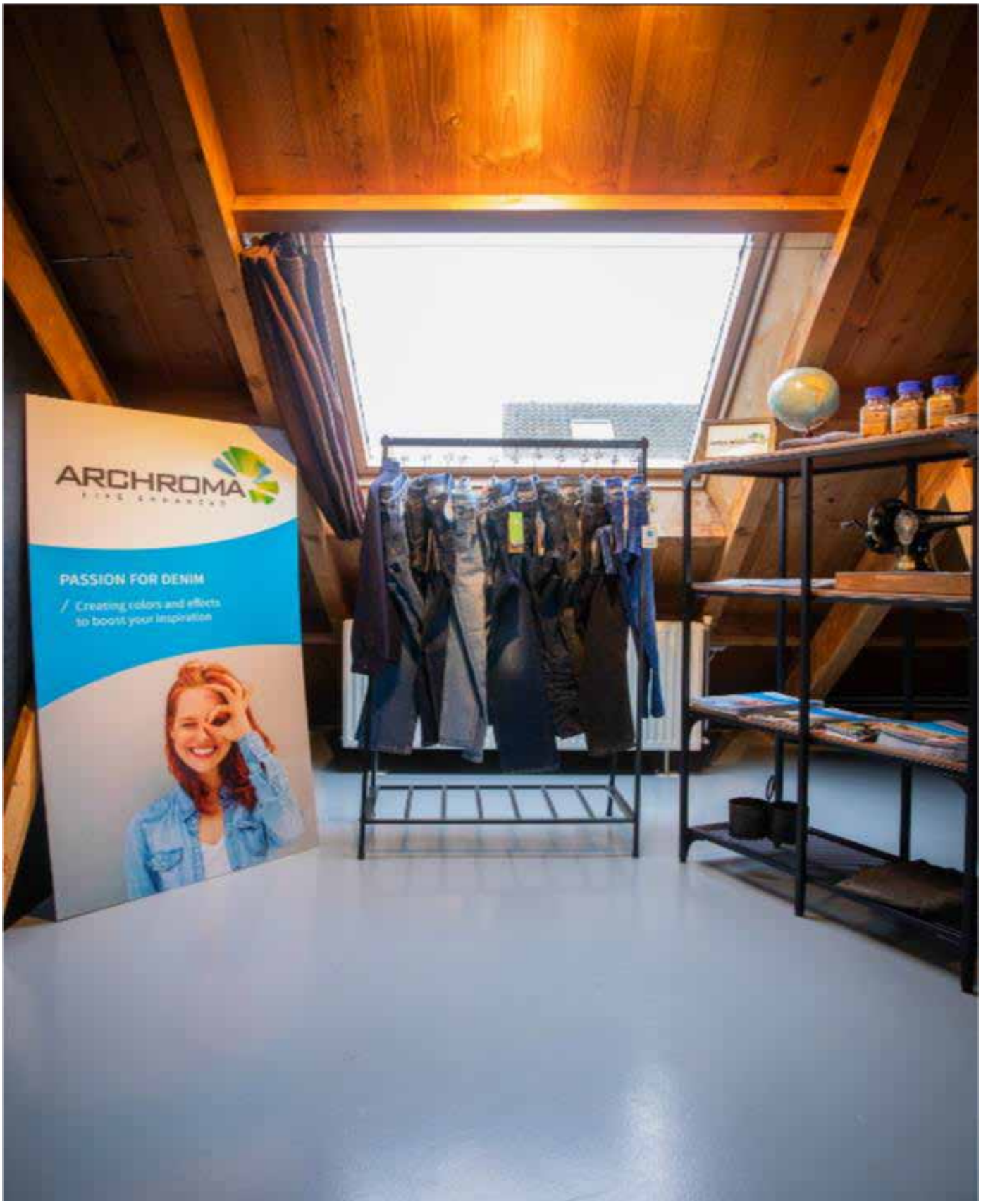

Home Textiles Market to Witness Significant Growth Due to Altering Inclinations in Home-Based Furnishing Till 2025 | Million Insights

FELTON, California, March 12, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- With reference to the report published by the experts the scope of the global Home Textiles Market was appreciated at US$ 94.73 billion in 2018. It is estimated to touch US$ 133.4 billion during the forecast period with a CAGR of 5.01% during the period of 2019 to 2025.

Drivers:

Development in end-use segments, for example residential and hospitality, together with the increasing attentiveness regarding altering inclinations of home-based interior decoration is expected to motivate the global home textiles industry. Increasing sector of real estate and refining criterions of living style have caused in an augmented expenditure on homebased beautification and interior. Similarly, this expected to be one of the important features boosting the development during the years of forecast. Furthermore, altering inclinations in home-based furnishing is estimated to additionally increase the development for home textiles.

In 2018, North America was the biggest local market and is projected to uphold the supremacy during the period of forecast. Nations, for example India, China, the U.K., the U.S.A and Germany, observed an augmented demand for home textiles owing to growth in per head earnings and speedy development. In 2017, in the U.S.A, the normal spending on home textile was US$ 115. Furthermore, better number of

retail openings and online portals are backing to the development of the market for home textiles.

There are numerous issues motivating the global home textile market. Increasing concentration by governments and promising supervisory strategies are likely to be one of the most important motives for the development. Such type of backing has come across with growth in funds within the market. It is additionally boosting the development. Improvement in inclinations of style and thoughtfulness **concerning domestic furnishing is furthermore projected to enhance the development.**

Restraints:

On the other hand, there are, some reasons those are detaining the development. The global home textiles industry is estimated to face substantial challenge from the higher prices of logistics. The leading manufacturers of the products of home textiles are situated in emerging nation state those have weak organization and logistics chains. This is likely to appear such as the most important issue restricting the development of the market for home textiles.

These economies possesses plenty of raw material but of low-quality in addition to face scarcity of high-quality raw materials. These are important for the production of high quality products of global standard. Furthermore, the time-consuming cycle of the replacement of home textile products is estimated to hamper development of the market for home textiles.

Classification:

The global home textiles market can be classified by Sales Network, Product, and Region. By Sales Network, it can be classified as: Online, Retail Outlet. By Product, it can be classified as: Bedroom Linen, Floor Coverings & Carpets, Bathroom Linen, Upholstery, and Kitchen Linen.

Regional Lookout:

By Region the global home textile industry can be classified as North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, Central & South America, and Middle East & Africa. In 2018, North America funded to the biggest share of the market. It was almost 43.15%. For example, because of rich style of living with greater power of purchasing and due to the better demand for home textiles, the U.S.A, motivated the regional development. Furthermore, increasing sum of manufacturing companies and the retailers within this province has headed to an augmented diversity and easily obtainability of the luxury products of home textile. As a consequence, continuous improvements in the arena will additionally increase the development of the local market. For illustration, New Saga Home Textile, approached up with an idea of bed-in-a-bag. Europe is estimated to track North America by means of the share of the market.

One of the principal exporter of these products is Asia Pacific. Similarly, due to the increasing levels of per head earnings of the customer and the development in the segment of real estate, within the region, is expected the speedy development for home textiles.

Companies:

Owing to increasing demand for contemporary and well-furnished spaces of living, the manufacturing companies are concentrating on R&D activities for the manufacture of progressive products.

Some of the important companies for home textiles market are: Hunan Mendale Home textile Company Ltd., Shanghai Hometex, Trident Group, Ralph Lauren Corporation, Springs Global, Honsun Home Textile Co.LTD, Marvic Textiles, Shenzhen Fuanna, New Sega Home textiles and Wels pun Group.

Additional notable companies are: Luolai Home Textile Co. Ltd., American Textile Company Inc., Sun vim Group Co. Ltd., Bed Bath & Beyond Inc., Headlam Group, Tapis Saint, Shaw Industries, Maclou, Mohawk Industries Inc. and Bombay Dyeing.

Market Segment:

- **Home Textiles Product Outlook (Revenue, USD Billion, 2015 - 2025)**
  - Bedroom Linen
  - Bathroom Linen
  - Carpets and Floor Coverings
  - Others
- **Home Textiles Distribution Channel Outlook (Revenue, USD Billion, 2015 - 2025)**
  - Retail Outlets
  - Online
- **Home Textiles Regional Outlook (Revenue, USD Billion, 2015 - 2025)**
  - North Americ
    - U.S.
  - Europe
    - U.K
    - Germany
  - Asia Pacific
    - China
    - India
  - Central & South America
  - Middle East & Africa

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LatestBedding sheets and duvet sets bear the Cotton Egypt Association certification

LatestBedding, an online seller of comforter sets, sheets and other bedding and window treatments, has expanded its offering by adding Pure Parma 100 percent Egyptian cotton sheets and duvet sets to its lineup. The products, which have received the Cotton Egypt Association seal, are made of cotton that is grown and handharvested in the Nile River Valley that is known for its long staple fibre. Styles available include Yalda, a double hem stitched sheet; and Ariane, with self-colored scroll embroidery. The bedding comes in a variety of colours ranging from white and ivory to icy blue and peach. Along with the sheets, LatestBedding is adding Pure Parma duvet sets that include a duvet cover and two shams.

"When it comes to bedroom design, we believe style and comfort should go hand in hand," said Faisal Yaqoob, Marketing Manager for LatestBedding. "It's no secret that people sleep easier on quality bedding. By adding Pure Parma products to our current line, we're doing our part to help our customers get a more restful and complete night's sleep."

Organic bedding market to gain steady profits: study

The global organic bedding market is picking up pace and is set to rise at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of nearly 4.7 per cent by the end of 2029—a trend that is expected to continue in the foreseeable future, according to a study by Ireland-based market research firm Fact.MR.

The rise can be attributed to the increased importance being given to sustainability and eco-friendly materials, and the higher investments being made for sleep aids, the study found.

Numerous people from around the world suffer from lifestyle based ailments like insomnia, asthma, and fibromyalgia, and the development of new organic bedding materials in variants of mattresses, bed linen, pillows, are anticipated to generate additional demand for organic bedding, it said. Bed linen accounts for the largest segment in this market, reaching more than 33 per cent of the overall value, owing to the high demand for eco-friendly and sustainable goods. Novel materials like bamboo and design innovations involving lower thread counts are gaining popularity and are driving the demand for organic bedding. East Asia, South Asia and Oceania will account for the largest and fastest growing segments in the organic bedding industry with CAGRs of more than 5 per cent. Such growth will rise from factors like a growing spending power of the working class, issues with sensitivity of the skin and the rising importance of sleep postures among consumers in such countries, Fact.MR said in a press release citing the study.

Reliance Industries buy 37.7 percent stake in Alok Industries

Reliance Industries said it has acquired 37.7 per cent stake in textile manufacturer Alok Industries Ltd for rs. 250 cr. Reliance had jointly with JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Co Ltd bid for acquiring Alok Industries that was auctioned under the insolvency and bankruptcy law by lenders to recover their unpaid loans. The Ahmedabad bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) had last year approved the joint bid.

"Please note that in accordance with the approved Resolution Plan, ALOK has recently allotted 83.33 cr equity shares of rs. 1 each at a premium of rs. 2 per equity share for cash at total consideration of rs. 250 cr to RIL," Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) said in a regulatory filing. Pursuant to this acquisition, RIL will hold 37.7 per cent equity share capital of Alok Industries, it added. Also, in accordance with the approved resolution plan, Alok Industries has allotted 250 cr 9 per cent Optionally Convertible Preference Shares (OCPS) of Re 1 each for cash at par, for a total consideration of rs. 250 cr to RIL.

In March 2019, the Ahmedabad bench of the NCLT had approved the sole RIL-JM Financial ARC bid for Alok for rs. 5,050 cr. RIL had planned to raise about rs. 4,550 cr through bank loans while infusing rs. 500 cr equity in the company. Alok Industries, incorporated on March 12, 1986, is an integrated textile manufacturer headquartered in Mumbai with interests in the polyester and cotton segments. It has a product suite comprising of cotton yarn, apparel fabrics, bed linen, terry towels, embroidery, garments and polyester yarn. The company has representative offices for sales promotion in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. It posted a profit of rs. 2,283.82 cr on a turnover of rs. 3,128.76 cr in 2018-19. "Approval of National Company Law Tribunal, Ahmedabad Bench and Competition Commission of India has been received," the filing said.

SBI, the lead bank, had initiated insolvency proceedings against Alok Industries in June 2017. It was among the 12 accounts with outstanding loans greater than rs. 5,000 cr that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) asked banks to refer to the NCLT process. Alok Industries owed lenders a total of rs. 30,000 cr.

Arvind unveils 'United by Indigo' Festive 2020 collection

Stimulated by the acceleration in denim sector, **Arvind, a textile-to-technology conglomerate**, has announced launch of its latest collection, United by Indigo – a collection for the forthcoming Festive 2020 Season In India that thoughtfully balances the legacy of authentic denim with future possibilities to capture essence of the present-day global trends.

At the unveiling held in Mumbai recently, **Arvind Denims** debuted the Infiknity Range, representing infinite possibilities in indigo inspired active wear lifestyle, using a range of technology adaptations in knitting. Also on display were the latest updates on the already popular range of Mutants that blend the ruggedness and durability of traditional jeanswear with comfort and supple softness of real knits. The widely acknowledged **Blockbuster range of denims** that democratised jeans for a wider Indian population, were also on display. Apart from these, up-dates in the Azurite, Boomerang and Self-Edge range of products were well appreciated.

At the core of the collection was the central theme of 'Sensation', with surfaces and hand feel that tease our senses and make us feel plush, warm and cared for.

The Lycra Company, a market leader in functional and performance speciality – stretch yarn technology, co-hosted the event. Lycra Company has been Arvind's Innovation partner since many years and have collaborated to deliver multiple unique and successful products to the Indian

market.

"This collection celebrates the potential of collaborations and technology lead innovation. We are constantly inspired by the Consumer's free-spirited pursuit of an experiential lifestyle. Our shared passion & love for Indigo unites and binds us. The Indian Festive Season is a celebration of the Human spirit. We have chosen three mood boards, namely Sensation, Reflection and #LIT that represent our view on the season," said **Aamir Akhtar, CEO, Arvind Denims.**

Arvind recognises the critical role of trade channel partners in expanding its reach into the Indian denim market. It actively collaborates with its channel partners to study and respond to emerging consumer trends across all segments of the denim market. Caring for the environment, economic and social Impact, are a way of life at Arvind and it is a pioneer in making **denims increasingly sustainable and eco-friendly.** Arvind is India's largest denim manufacturer and ranks among the top three in the world. It produces over 100 million meters of denim fabrics and 8 million pairs of jeans every year.

Wrangler introduces women's denim workwear line

American denim brand Wrangler announced a new line of workwear apparel specifically designed for women. This is an expansion of the brand's Wrangler Riggs Workwear line, which offers functional clothing intended for the jobsite.

The Riggs Workwear for Women collection addresses common issues women face when searching for clothing to meet their on-the-job needs. This includes pants and jeans made with the brand's copyrighted Room2Move technology, which offers four-way stretch for freedom of movement. Shirts in the line are made with moisture-wicking or stretch fabric to enhance comfort.

Clothing in the new line features reinforced sticking for longevity and utility features such as chest and sleeve pockets. The range is currently available online and through select specialty retail partners. Sizing ranges from 0 to 20 and XS to 3XL, with prices between 29 and 49 dollars.

"With our Wrangler Riigs Workwear line, we have been outfitting jobsites for more than fifteen years," Jenni Broyles, VP and GM of Wrangler North America, explained in a statement. "Today, we are proud to offer a collection that provides the exceptional fit that female consumers know and love from Wrangler, while meeting the functional and performance benefits found in all Wrangler Riggs Workwear apparel.

"The women's Wrangler Riggs Workwear line is designed to be as strong and protective as the woman who wears it, leaving her feeling empowered, confident and comfortable without compromising her style on the job."

Germany Launches One of Europe's Most Modern Gas-Fired Power Plants Replacing Coal-Fired Power Station

• INNIO technology provides coastal power plant with gas engines that replace decommissioned coal-fired power plant, resulting in over 70% carbon dioxide reduction

• 20 Jenbacher J920 FleXtra gas engines make up heart of coastal power plant, generating 190 megawatts of electrical power

• Coastal power plant overall efficiency exceeds 92%, setting new standards for fuel utilization combined with high operating flexibility

Kiel, Germany – January 17, 2020 –German municipal utility, Stadtwerke Kiel, launched one of Europe's most modern and flexible gas engine-based combined heat and power (CHP) plants on the eastern shore of the Kieler Förde inlet in northern Germany. Representatives of Stadtwerke Kiel, Kraftanlagen München GmbH (KAM) and INNIO celebrated the launch with a ceremony marking the culmination of a five-year project.

Collectively, the 20 Jenbacher J920 FleXtra gas engines provide a total electrical output of 190 megawatts (MW) and a thermal output of 192 MW. Both power and heat from the coastal power plant feed into the electricity grid and district heating network operated by Stadtwerke Kiel, helping maintain grid stability across North Germany.

The German government has embraced a comprehensive plan to reduce carbon emissions across the electricity sector. Two critical pillars of the government's plan for a cleaner electricity sector include increasing the adoption of renewable energy and eliminating coal-fired power plants. With the support of German policy, wind and solar power energy sources now exceed coal-fired electricity generation. The proliferation of renewable energy across the German power system has led to significant electricity supply variability. With the onset of renewable energy integration to

the grid, natural gas-fired power generation has become pivotal to renewable energy development, leading to greater grid stability and reliability for energy consumers. Increasingly, natural gas has been the fuel of choice to support renewables in replacing coal in power and heat generation.

In 2015, Stadtwerke Kiel made plans to shutter its 323-MW coal-fired power station. The municipal utility kicked off its plans to transition from coal-fired electricity generation to that of natural gas with the signing of a contract to acquire 20 Jenbacher J920 FleXtra gas engines. The Kiel order of INNIO Jenbacher's most powerful gas engines comprised the largest ever order for the gas engines product line in Jenbach. During the successful completion of a 20-day trial run of the power plant in November 2019, the 20 Jenbacher gas engines exceeded 92% overall efficiency. As compared to the previous coal-fired power plant – which was decommissioned in March 2019 – emitting over 70% less carbon dioxide.

Stadtwerke Kiel focused on achieving the greatest possible flexibility as a primary requirement of the plant. Given the high proportion of wind-generated electricity in the regional grid, the coastal power plant is able to feed full power into the local electrical grid within a short period to offset the volatility of the wind level, thereby ensuring stability of the grid. The Jenbacher J920 FleXtra gas engines have proven results in excellently compensating for renewable energy fluctuations. The efficient state-of-the-art Jenbacher gas engines can achieve full capacity in less than five minutes, operating as complementing technology and application to support the implementation of the energy transition plan across Germany.

"INNIO is pleased to have been selected to provide Stadtwerke Kiel with our most advanced gas engine technology to support their phase out from coal. With Germany's plans to shutter all coal plants and rely primarily on renewable energy, our Jenbacher J920 gas engines will help balance the Kiel grid," commented Carlos Lange, president and CEO of INNIO. "As renewable energy usage will continue to grow across Germany, INNIO will continue to make significant investments in research and development and will further expand its technological leadership in power generation based on regenerative gases-in specific, hydrogen and hydrogen carrier gases-to help build out 100% carbon neutral and carbon free power plants."

INNIO and KAM engineered and implemented the coastal power plant. While INNIO provided the gas engines and engineering expertise, KAM operated as the general contractor responsible for engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning the turnkey power plant, including the auxiliary buildings and integrating the heat storage and electrode boiler. The team arranged the power plant in four units of five blocks each, with the advantage of being operable in slices.

"This construction was the largest investment in the history of Stadtwerke Kiel. It challenged us all and required a lot of strength, time and energy. Now the energy supply of the future is a reality in Kiel, and we look with a lot of pride at our coastal power plant," says Frank Meier, CEO of Stadtwerke Kiel AG.

"On November 28th, 2019 I signed the acceptance protocol, and we now have seven weeks of operational experience with our coastal power plant, setting new standards in terms of flexibility, efficiency and sustainability. We are not only shaping the future of Kiel's energy supply, we are also contributing to a significant reduction in CO2 emissions," adds Dr. Jörg Teupen, Board Member for Technology and Personnel at Stadtwerke Kiel AG. The plant supplies over 73,000 households and facilities in Kiel with environmentally friendly district heating. Additionally, the electric power generated feeds into Kiel's 110-kilovolt power grid, which supplies electricity both to households in the state capital

and some of the surrounding municipalities. Excess energy is passed on to the upstream power grid.

"Kraftanlagen München is committed to support our customers in the development and implementation of their most complex challenges," said Stéphane Stoll, Chairman of the General Management of Kraftanlagen München GmbH. "Our team of engineers have worked diligently to support Stadtwerke Kiel in realizing their vision of a modern energy future for residents and businesses. The coastal power plant in Kiel will provide cleaner, flexible power and heat for many years to come."

Caterpillar Announces Updates and Response to COVID-19 and Global Business Conditions

Caterpillar Announces Updates and Response to COVID-19 and Global Business Conditions

DEERFIELD, Ill. – Caterpillar Inc. (NYSE: CAT) is providing a business update regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The continued spread of the COVID-19 pandemic is starting to impact Caterpillar's supply chain, a possibility the company disclosed in its risk factors included in the company's Form 10-K filed on February 19, 2020. The company is monitoring the situation closely and supply chain teams have been executing business continuity plans, which include, but are not limited to, being alert to potential short supply situations, and, if necessary, utilizing alternative sources and/or air freight, redirecting orders to other distribution centers, and prioritizing the redistribution of the most impactful parts. Caterpillar is committed to continuing to execute these plans and will remain in close contact with its supply chain to monitor future possible implications, especially on production facilities.

At this time, Caterpillar is continuing to run the majority of its U.S. domestic operations and plans to continue operations in other parts of the world, as permitted by local authorities. However, due to uncertain economic conditions resulting in weaker demand, potential supply constraints and the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and related government actions, Caterpillar is temporarily suspending operations at certain facilities. The company will continue to monitor the situation and may suspend operations at additional facilities as the situation warrants. The magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the extent of any impact on Caterpillar's business, financial position, results of operations or liquidity, which could be material, cannot be reasonably estimated at this time due to the rapid development and fluidity of the situation. It will be determined by the duration of the pandemic, its geographic spread, business disruptions and the overall impact on the global economy.

Caterpillar's financial results for the first quarter and remainder of 2020 will be impacted by the above factors and the continued global economic uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, Caterpillar is withdrawing its financial outlook for 2020 provided in the press release filed as Exhibit 99.1 to its Form 8-K filed on January 31, 2020. Further updates will be provided in Caterpillar's first-quarter earnings announcement and conference call on April 28, 2020.

Caterpillar's financial position remains strong. On a consolidated basis, Caterpillar ended 2019 with $8.3 billion of cash and available global credit facilities of $10.5 billion. To protect the safety, health and well-being of employees, customers, dealers, suppliers and communities, Caterpillar continues to implement several preventive measures while also meeting the needs of global customers. They include increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of facilities, social distancing practices, remote working when possible, restrictions on business travel, cancellation of certain events and limitations on visitor access to facilities.

UK's indoor air is not coronavirus-ready

Oliver Zimmermann, CEO of Condair Group, comments on the lack of humidity control regulations for public places and the subsequent impact on possible coronavirus transmission and the nation's health. UK building occupants are being exposed to increased risk from viruses, such as the coronavirus, because the UK's regulations on indoor air quality (IAQ) are falling short of current scientific knowledge. Maintaining IAQ at above 40%RH has been scientifically shown to reduce viral cross infection, including coronavirus and influenza. Yet out-of-date regulations on the topic result in buildings such as hospitals, offices and schools experiencing dangerously low humidity levels every winter. Studies, such as Casanova et al 2010[1], have specifically examined humidity's role in coronavirus transmission. This study showed that coronavirus was deactivated fastest when exposed to a mid-range humidity (50%RH), rather than dry (20%RH) or damp (80%RH) air. There are many other studies, dating back from the 40s to now, that all indicate that an indoor humidity of 40-60%RH has a positive impact on cross infection and people's susceptibility to viruses. Alongside Casanova et al 2010, summaries of 25 other such studies are listed on our website. The UK building services sector accepts this indoor humidity level as being best practise, with professional bodies such as BSRIA and CIBSE endorsing a mid-range humidity for health in their recommendations. However, without regulation that determines an acceptable range of indoor humidity for public places, building designers, who are driven to reduce building energy consumption and costs, do not commonly include humidity control in their plans.

The seasonality of viruses, such as coronaviruses and influenza, are further evidence of humidity's role in their transmission. Indoor air is much drier in the winter and this corresponds to the rise of infections. The government's coronavirus containment strategy takes into account the fact that infections will probably drop as warmer weather returns, and indoor humidity levels naturally return to a midrange 40-60%RH. It doesn't need to be this way! A healthy indoor humidity can be maintained during winter if buildings incorporated humidification as part of the ventilation system. This would significantly reduce seasonal 'flu transmission and save thousands of lives every year.

The government and the NHS advice on mitigating the risk from coronavirus focuses on hand hygiene and avoiding unwell people. However, viral cross infection occurs via the air as well as from physical contact. As the general public are largely helpless to manage this important aspect of infection control, government advice ignores this topic. The responsibility to

manage IAQ ultimately falls on building owners and operators to safeguard occupant health. This is particularly true with regards healthcare facilities, where people are most vulnerable and at risk to airborne infections, such as coronavirus and influenza. As a nation, the UK is being failed in this respect. Design guidelines, such as the Department of Health's own guidance on ventilation systems for healthcare premises (HTM 03-01), state that humidity control is not required unless for specific physiological or operational reasons. The guidelines even present the expense of operating humidifiers as the main reason for avoiding humidity control, without any acknowledgement of the benefit it offers for infection control. The Department of Education's guidelines on indoor air quality in schools also state that humidity control is not required and short-term exposure to very low humidity is acceptable. Given the overwhelming scientific evidence for indoor humidity of 40-60%RH being an effective infection control mechanism, and the pending viral pandemic on our doorstep, what will be the true cost to the nation of the UK's regulatory bodies' failure to listen to the science and maintain a healthy indoor humidity?

100 years of Kaeser Kompressoren

A Tradition of Innovation

The history of the Coburg compressed air specialist, Kaeser Kompressoren truly is a remarkable story. Although many a company celebrates its centenary, they cannot all boast such sustained and continuously positive development. A look behind the scenes.Kaeser is active all over the world in its centenary year, 2019. However, the general public rarely comes face to face with the compressed air specialist's products. Only the portable compressors catch the eye with their black and yellow livery and attractive design, when used for road construction work. Compressed air stations tend to be hidden away in outbuildings. Yet Kaeser compressors are just as likely to be found in power

stations in Australia as in Peruvian gold mines, used by aerospace engineers in the US, fish farms in Norway, car manufacturers in Germany, at the CERN particle accelerator in Switzerland, on ski

pistes in Austria, on Arabian oil fields or the weaving mills in Asia. Compressed air is just as vital as electricity. No company with an industrial production line can get by without compressed air. Today, Kaeser has a global presence. Its customers range in size from craftsman's establishments to large-scale industry. It all began in a small workshop in Coburg's Hahnweg. The old buildings are still standing in which Carl Kaeser senior started producing spare parts and engines for cars, along with gear wheels and special machines for the glass industry, with a team of eight employees and two apprentices in June 1919. Business was booming. Within a few years, the company was to employ a 150-strong workforce. After World War II, virtually the entire customer base fell by the wayside as most were located in Thuringia and Saxony – and thus on the other side of the border. Taking advantage of the available automotive expertise, production was adapted without further ado to similar products: reciprocating compressors. Thus began Kaeser's successful focus on compressed air. In 1948, the first reciprocating compressor rolled off the Hahnweg production line as the company continued to evolve. Further challenges emerged during the mid-1960s. In retrospect, it may perhaps be described as the first technological shift. Screw compressors came onto the market. Once again, Kaeser spearheaded the change with its very own invention: Sigma Profile was born. Developed in-house, it is a rotary screw airend with a special energy-efficient rotor profile that was groundbreaking at the time. Since then, Sigma Profile has been the centrepiece of every Kaeser rotary screw compressor; needless to say, it is also refined on an ongoing basis. Screw rotors are interconnected spirals with helical lobes.

This innovative spirit pervades the company to this day, resulting in a steady stream of innovations in compressed air technology and applying equally to hardware, software and services. From the refrigeration dryer to revolutionary controllers (Sigma Air Manager 4.0), from the portable compressor to completely new business models, where the customer basically only purchases the compressed air, through to digitalisation and Industrie 4.0, Kaeser still blazes a trail in the industry for the cost-effective, reliable, efficient generation and use of compressed air, thanks to its innovative, top-quality products and services. Most production facilities are located in Germany, with sales and service available in every corner of the globe.

The company's early international expansion was a vital aspect of its growth. The first branch opened in Switzerland in 1978, with Austria and France following hot on its heels. Today, Kaeser has more than 50 own subsidiaries and is represented by exclusive contract partners in over 100 countries. Kaeser Kompressoren employs in excess of 6000 staff worldwide, many of whom have been loyal for decades.

How was this achieved? The company's secret recipe is an unwavering passion for innovation, sound engineering expertise, close customer contact and an awareness of their needs, combined with exceptional quality standards, a good dose of common sense and the main ingredients: excellent teams and strong family ties. However, family does not just refer to the owner family, Thomas Kaeser and Tina-Maria Vlantoussi-Kaeser, now the third generation to manage the company, while the fourth has also just come on board, in the form of their son Alexander Jan Kaeser.

All staff are considered family at Kaeser. This is evident in the high apprenticeship rate, well above average, and the extremely long service record of the employees, usually more than 30 years. But it is also reflected in the company's business development: for 100 years without fail, the operating result has been positive. Even in 2009, the year of the global crisis. From Anchorage to Auckland, Coburg or Kauai, Kaeser is a family-owned company with strong ties to Germany; it views the entire world as its home turf and offers 'Made in Germany' quality from start to finish. The next innovative chapter is just waiting to be written.

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