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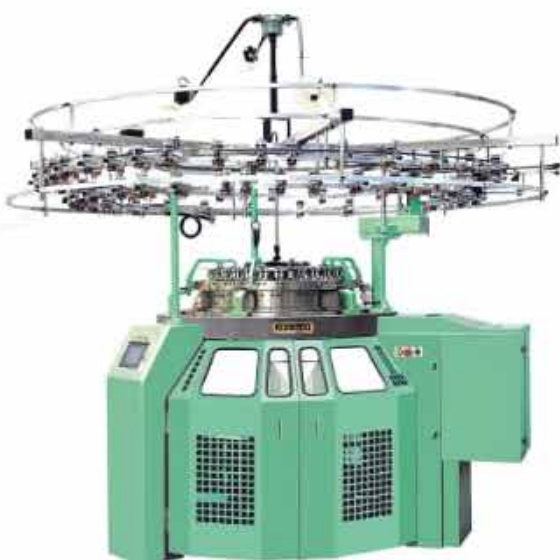
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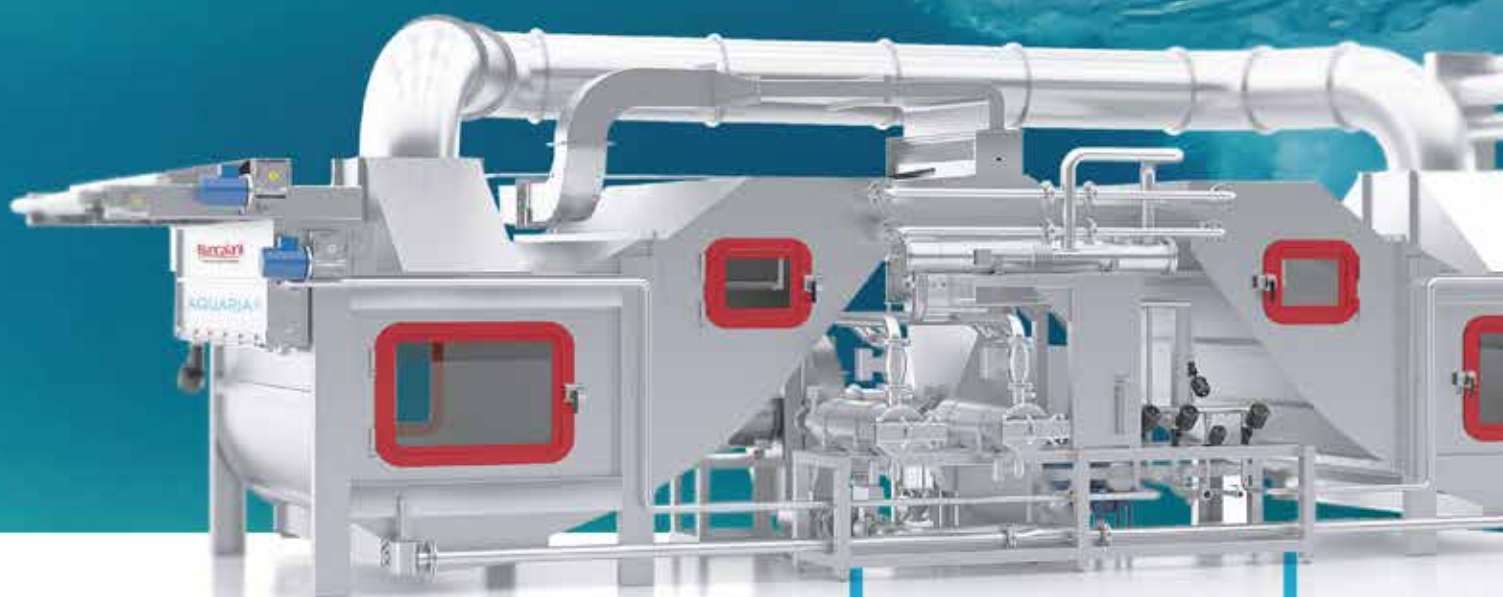
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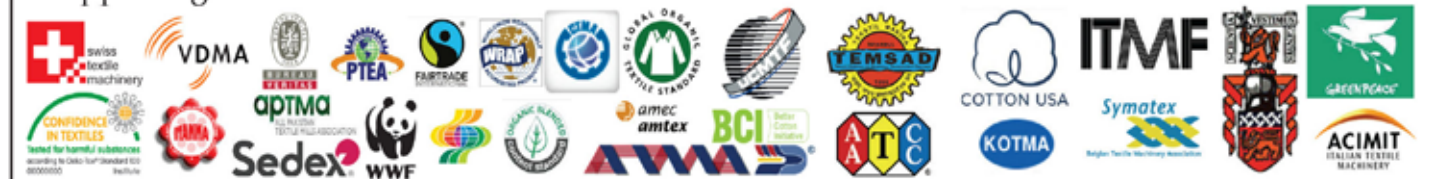
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## Title Story



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## editorial

*Dear Readers,*

Welcome to our April, Kingpins Denim special Edition.

It's Kingpins time. At the time of writing, there are ten days before the show begins. The show is blessed because the reaction they are getting is substantial and rather unexpected. More than 30 brands from the USA have signed up to come – where they expected almost none; and more than 1,000 people from Europe have registered. Considering the expected “walk -ins,” the show at “SugarCity” will have robust attendance and they can almost feel the buoyant attitude, enthusiasm and energy already.

More than 100 Companies globally exhibiting at Kingpins Amsterdam this month. From Pakistan the leading names in the Denim production are exhibiting once again at Kingpins, but many of them are complaining about the space shortage, for that they couldn't participate at the show, even the TDAP failed to provide them space at Kingpins. Leading Denim manufacturers from Pakistan at Kingpins will be Naveena Denim Limited, Master Textiles, Soorty Enterprises, Crescent Bahuman, US Denim & Apparel, Nishat Apparel & Dyeing Mills, Artistic Milliners, Artistic fabric mills, Siddiq Denim and many more.

We wish all the Kingpins participants all the best of luck.

Approximately 5,000 participants embraced the opportunity to again engage in face-to-face business meetings with global leaders in nonwovens and engineered materials at IDEA® 2022 in Miami Beach, Fla., collocated with the second FiltXPO™, North American's only exhibition and conference dedicated exclusively to filtration and separation.

Both events were successfully held March 29-31 at the Miami Convention Center. Industry participants at IDEA® 2022, the 21st edition of the world's preeminent event for nonwovens and engineered fabric professionals, expressed their business confidence through the floor exhibits and the return to face-to-face business interaction. Scott Beir, Executive Officer, CFM Global, called IDEA® 2022 “an exceptional show.”

Maersk's strong commitment towards Pakistani exporters is yielding solid results, as indicated by the growth in exports registered by Maersk in the first quarter of 2022. After a slump in exports in 2021 due to the various challenges arising from the global pandemic, the local exporters have shipped almost 33% more containers out of the country between January and March this year on Maersk vessels compared to the same period last year. Maersk's efforts to ensure access to empty containers and space on vessels have made a real difference in the last quarter.

The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) said that textile exports climbed by 25.43 percent in the first nine months of the current fiscal year (2021-22) compared to the same time the previous year. Cotton yarn, whose exports climbed by 25.97 percent from

\$721.216 million last year to \$908.487 million this year, was one of the textile items that contributed to trade growth.

Similarly, raw cotton exports increased by 1009.03 percent, from \$0.593 million to \$6.577 million, and cotton cloth exports increased by 26.51 percent, from \$1,419.181 million to \$1,795.457 million.

Cotton (carded or combed) exports increased by 100 percent to \$1.632 million from \$0.064 million last year, yarn (other than cotton yarn) exports increased by 104.53 percent, from \$23.560 million to \$48.188 million, and knitwear export.

In addition, bed wear exports increased by 19.33 percent, from \$2,052.259 million to \$2,448.859 million; and towels exports increased by 18.42 percent, from \$692.110 million to \$819.589 million.

Bangladesh, the second-largest apparel exporter in the global market, has made its apparel industry a role model for the other manufacturing countries. The industry touched the breakthrough of having 155 US Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified green factories as of January this year.

The largest trade association in the country representing the readymade garments (RMG) industry of Bangladesh—the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA)—has been honored with the Green Leadership Award 2021 for its contribution to developing Bangladesh as a country of green garment factories.

The U.S. cotton 2021/22 supply and demand forecasts are unchanged from last month. The marketing year price received by upland cotton producers is projected at a record 91 cents per pound – up 1 cent, reflecting recent high prices. The February 2022 upland farm price reached a record 100 cents per pound.

Month-to-month changes in the global 2021/22 cotton estimates are also small, with higher production and lower consumption resulting in an 800,000-bale increase in ending stocks, to 83.4 million bales. Production is forecast 340,000 bales higher, with increases for Pakistan and Greece. A 500,000-bale decline in China's expected consumption resulted in a similar decline in the global estimate, which now stands at 124.1 million. A 300,000-bale decline in both China's and Pakistan's import forecasts are only partly offset by a 150,000-bale increase for Turkey. World trade is projected about 450,000 bales lower this month, with exports projected lower for India, Brazil, and Malaysia.

WASEEM J. KHAN  
Editor-in-Chief



# GLOBAL TEXTILE AND CLOTHING NEWS

## COTTON MARKET WEEKLY

**Dr. O.A. Cleveland**

**Cotton Marketing Analyst, Professor Emeritus, Mississippi State University**

April 8, 2022

Cotton is a Calling Like the legendary Icarus, of Greek Mythology who flew so high the Sun melted his waxed wings and he fell to Earth, cotton is beginning to price itself out of the fiber market. Speculators and the few growers trying to squeeze the last point out of the market will not like this, but cotton prices are too high. Despite the unsustainable increase in agricultural inputs, cotton prices are just too high to sustain demand. Mills are indicating spinning cotton is unprofitable. Cotton is the facing demand degradation. The May contract is silently going away, and July will become the spot month in less than two weeks. First Notice Day for the May contract is April 25 and May option trading expires April 14. Open interest in the July contract now exceeds that of May. Yet, there are still some 2.5 million bales of long fixations (buying futures) and 300,000 bales of short fixations (selling futures) that must be settled on May futures. Too, the July contract still has excellent support as about 5.5 million bales must be bought on that contract before

June 24 and only about 600,000 bales need to be sold. The ratio of buying futures to selling futures is 9.2 to 1. Thus, the on-call sales positions will continue to offer support to July. Possibly another round of fireworks is in the works, but the bullishness of the 2021-22 cotton marketing season is all but a memory. The May/July contracts have another shot at 140 cents, but since cotton has all but priced itself out of the yarn market, cotton sales have slowed to a crawl and prices will look for a new trading range, most likely between 125 cent and 135 cents. To remain competitive in the yarn market cotton futures, need to slip back below that level. The sooner prices fall to 120 cents the brighter the demand for cotton will be. Even at that, 120 cents will still be pricy for yarn spinners. The May and July contracts are experiencing lower and lower lows, a signal that the bull run is over. It is about over given that sales have fallen to a snail's pace, but there is likely another charge left to push prices back to the mid 130's, strictly based on July on-call sales. The bull is pacing for a charge in December. However, that bull has its support from the supply side of the market, not the demand side that took May and July futures to the 140-cent lev-

el. In the face of a good timely rain this new bull will lose its footing.

The new crop December contract was initially supported by strong cotton demand. Two other factors pushed it higher. The widespread drought facing Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico has been very favorable for higher cotton prices, and in the absence of rain will more so. There is still time for very beneficial rain, but the region is much drier than normal, and the dryness has continued much later than normal. Additionally, skyrocketing grain and oilseed prices supported higher cotton prices just to ensure that cotton was competitive with respect to planted acres. December futures climbed to a life of contract high this week and settled at 115.48 cents. Compared with the old crop May and July contracts, December futures has made higher and higher lows, a signal of higher prices. Thus, our target of 119-120 cents and the possibility of 125 cents remains alive. USDA released its April supply demand report at week's end. Changes were few and in the scheme of world cotton trading, were insignificant. World stocks were increased marginally, and world production was increased marginally, and world consumption was decreased mar-



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ginally. The market treated the report as totally expected. USDA's weekly export sales report did shed light on the market's reaction to the higher prices of the past three weeks. Export sales were only a net of 62,900 bales of Upland and export sales cancellations jumped to 63,600 bales. China led the way in cancellations more than two thirds of the cancellations but did pur-

chase 23,200 bales on the week. However, export shipments were a marketing year high of 455,500 bales. Primary destinations included China, 171,300 bales; Turkey, 75,400 bales; Pakistan, 69,600 bales; Vietnam, 38,800 bales; Mexico, 20,600 bales; and Indonesia, 15,600 bales. Shipments of Upland were made to 23 countries. Expect July futures to move high-

er on the week as long Index Fund rolls continue (sell May, buy July). December is still in the hunt for 120 cents, but that price is strictly a weather play given slowing demand. Yet, the consumer is still flush with cash and will be for the remainder of the calendar year. Retail sales will continue strong.

## PAKISTAN POSTS HIGHEST MONTHLY TEXTILE EXPORTS OF \$1.74BN IN APRIL

April 30, 2022

The country has witnessed the highest ever monthly textile exports of \$1.739 bn during April 2022, up by 31% YoY and 7% MoM, the latest data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) showed.

During the ten months (July-April) of the current fiscal year, textile exports posted a growth of 26% YoY to \$15.98bn when compared to \$12.69 recorded in 10MFY21. The year-on-year increase in exports is due to strong demand in the West before the summer season, while other factors include the resumption of economic activity, which has led to a shortage of various retail brands, competitive utilities and borrowing rates. In the value-added segment, knitwear, readymade garments, bed-wear, and towels registered an upsurge of 44%, 44%, 16%, and 28%, YoY to \$488mn, \$351mn, \$279mn and \$108mn during April 2022 compared to the same month last year.

Meanwhile, the country exported food commodities worth \$524mn during April 2022, registering a jump of 35.7% YoY or 2.2% MoM. Commodity-wise, rice remained the primary source of foreign exchange earnings during the review period as its exports were valued at \$259.6mn, up by 37% YoY. While the export of fish & fish preparations declined by 16.4% YoY to stand at \$40mn. The export value of meat and meat preparations clocked in at \$35.6mn, up by 10.3% YoY. In April 2022, the export of petroleum products posted a growth of 53.6% to \$45.2mn. It was mainly led by exports of petroleum crude, standing at \$38.5mn, depicting a growth of 81% YoY. Going into details made available by PBS, the other manufactures group observed a 23.8% YoY increase during the period to \$366mn. Under this group, the trade value of sports goods stood at \$36mn, up by 21.5% YoY. The country earned \$51.54mn through the

export of leather manufactures, marking a growth of 26% YoY.

The exports of chemical and pharmaceutical products witnessed an increase of 42.7% to value at \$153mn during April 2022. The major chunk of exports under the chemical and pharma group during the said period was mainly from the other chemicals and plastic materials which clocked in at \$92.7mn and \$35.4mn, showing significant growth of 35.6% YoY and 83% YoY.

"Textile exports growth is likely to remain strong in the upcoming months due to continued rerouting of orders out of China. Also, the surge in freight charges on shipments of unfinished products to competitors like Bangladesh is likely to fare well for Pakistan, as various brands have started routing orders to Pakistani exporters in order to arrest thinning margins," Abdul Ghani Mianoor at Intermarket Securities said.

**ETSA Peer Parliament**



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### Connecting With the New Generation

In its role as EU Commission Climate Ambassadors, ETSA held its second Peer Parliament in 3 months, this time on the morning of Friday, April 8th. This Peer Parliament looked to build off of the excellent work done in the first and its focus was centered around the idea of “sustainable consumer behavior meeting textile services.” A group of 23 young professionals and 3 CEOs of ETSA member companies gathered together (albeit virtually) to discuss the relationship between the future of the textile services industry, consumer behavior, sustainability, and circularity. The event was organized into three workshops of equal length. The first of these featured a guest speaker, Katerina Fortun, a Policy Analyst working on Adaptation to Climate Change at the European Commission, and was moderated by Dr Maren Otte, the Director of Corporate Communications & Corporate Responsibility at CWS, the fundamental question which formed the basis of this workshop was “What can individuals do in their daily lives to promote the Circular Economy and sustainability?” Ms Fortun gave an opening address to ETSA’s young participants where she sought to answer this question. She emphasized not only adapting to the “new normal” and the reality of climate change, but actively undertaking sustainable activities both at home and in one’s professional life. These small-scale sustainable activities can be on anything from electing to use less water, using greener transport



and indeed supporting the usage of higher quality and repairable products. This discussion was widened upon in the context of textile services, as the European Commission, and National Governments take more of a stance in combatting planned obsolescence, a rental and service-based business model will not only be more advantageous in terms of carbon footprint, but will also be more economically lucrative as well. This discussion continued and the group dove deeper in the 2nd workshop, which was moder-

ated by Gerda Jank, the Director of Communications at Jensen Group. Here, she moderated a dialogue which incorporated visual stimulation of current events and pressing issues, including the war in Ukraine, microplastic pollution and chemical dumping, with an interactive dialogue designed to make the young participants think of their role in the textile services industry, and what that means going forward in a world where sustainability and environmental consciousness will be all the more important, without of

course forgetting the interlinkages the industry has with other salient world events. The discussion also showcased the deep (and sometimes unappreciated role) textile services play in day-to-day life, in everything from cleanroom, hospitality, healthcare and even more.

She emphasized in the discussion, that as young participants in the textile services industry, they are all in a sense, not only ambassadors for the industry itself, but for a more prosperous and clean way of living in the future, as they will be the ones inheriting the planet. Building on the momentum of the previous two, the third and final workshop featured a reverse interview with ETSA CEOs. During the registration process, our young participants were asked to submit sample questions to the ETSA CEOs, on any subject matter they thought relevant to the discussion. The questions were then categorized and asked directly to the CEOs from the Moderator, who for this last workshop was ETSA Secretary-General Elena Lai. The three CEOs participating in this reverse interview were, An-

dreas Holzer, the CEO of Bardusch and ETSA President, Jurgen Höfling of CWS Group and Jesper Jensen of Jensen-Group respectively. The first series of questions from the participants, which was asked to the CEOs, dealt with how they perceive the future of the textile services industry, the role EU politics and national politics plays in their jobs as well as how they can, in their position of power ensure that sustainable goals are met and that future green ambitions and goals can be reached. As the discussion continued, the moderator, Elena Lai began asking progressively more difficult questions ranging from how digitalization can advance sustainability, the current Russian-Ukrainian war and subsequent rising energy costs, among other relevant topics. The three men answered the questions with calm, resolve and resourcefulness, emphasizing not only the important role the textile services industry plays in Europe, but its need to evolve, adapt and include the voices of younger people. This Peer Parliament brought together the current and future generations of

the textile services industry with an insightful and productive dialogue. While sustainability and environmentally conscious behavior starts on the individual level, ETSA and its members are committed to doing our part to work toward a greener and more sustainable world for future generations. It is for them, the younger generation that the European Commission, declared 2022 to be the "European Year of Youth" in order to emphasize a greener, more inclusive future. ETSA would like to thank all of its young participants who attended the event, as well as the Katerina Fortun, the moderators, Dr Maren Otte, Gerda Jank and Elena Lai, as well as the three CEOs, Andreas Holzer, Jurgen Höfling and Jesper Jensen. A recording of the third and final workshop is being edited and will be on the ETSA website shortly. We at ETSA are looking forward to hosting another Peer Parliament during the ETSA Congress in Rome next month. Further information on that will follow shortly. A great and productive event!

# VIETNAM'S TRADE SURPLUS IN JAN-APR 2022 \$2.53 BN

22 April '22

Vietnam witnessed a trade surplus of about \$1.07 billion in

April, pushing the total in the first four months of this year to \$2.53 billion, according to the

general statistics office (GSO), which recently said that in the January-April period, the do-



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mestic economic sector suffered a trade deficit of \$9.2 billion, while the sector having foreign investments enjoyed a surplus of \$11.73 billion. The export revenue in April reached \$33.26 billion, down by 4.2 per cent from the previous month, but up by 25 per cent year on year. The figure hit \$122.36 billion in the first four months, a rise of 16.4 per cent over the same period last year, according to a news agency. Twenty-two goods groups have seen export revenue exceeding \$1 billion so far this year, including five each with revenue of over \$5 billion. Exports of fuel and mineral products accounted for 1.3 per cent of the total export revenue, while contribution from processing sector

is 89 per cent, and that of the agro-forestry and fisheries sectors, 6.8 per cent and 2.9 per cent respectively. According to the GSO, the country's imports were worth \$32.19 billion in April and \$119.83 billion in the four months to April, mostly in production materials. In the first four months of this year, the United States remained the largest export market of Vietnam with \$35.7 billion, while China was the largest goods supplier with \$37.1 billion worth of goods.

In the period, trade surplus generated from the European Union market was \$10.4 billion, up by 36.1 per cent year on year.



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# EUROPEAN BUSINESSES MORE POSITIVE ABOUT INVESTING IN VIETNAM IN 2022

25 Apr '22

European business confidence in Vietnam's investment environment continued to rise at the start of 2022, says the business climate index (BCI) from the European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (EuroCham) conducted by YouGov. For the first quarter (Q1) of 2022, the index climbed to 73 points, once again reaching its highest point after the fourth wave of the pandemic. This is a 12-point increase compared to the fourth quarter of 2021, in addition to nearly 58 points of growth compared to the third quarter, with business leaders now more upbeat after the relaxation of Vietnam's pandemic-related restrictions and the continued acceleration of its economic development, EuroCham Vietnam said in a press release. European business leaders are generally showing increasingly improving attitudes towards the prospective growth of Vietnam's economy as well. More



than two-thirds of respondents now believe that the Vietnamese economy is more likely to stabilise and improve in the second quarter of 2022, compared to 58 per cent who held this view in the fourth quarter of 2021.

This far exceeds the 5 per cent of respondents who anticipate economic deterioration for the next quarter. European business stakeholders also indicated ambitious second quarter projections for their companies, especially when compared to projections made

for the first quarter. Nearly 66 per cent of respondents are expecting increased revenue for the second quarter of the year, compared to 52 per cent three months earlier.

Likewise, more than 46 per cent of respondents are forecasting headcount increases for next quarter.

The BCI is a regular barometer of European business leaders and investors. This research was first conducted in 2013 and has been carried out by YouGov since 2020.



# STRONG HOME TEXTILES EXPORTS CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERTEXTILE SHANGHAI HOME TEXTILES SUPPLIERS

**IN 2021, CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE HIT AN ANNUAL RECORD OF OVER USD 6 TRILLION WITH A 21.2% YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH OF EXPORTS[1] THAT IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE RISING IN THE YEAR AHEAD. THE STRONG PERFORMANCE OF HOME TEXTILES EXPORTS ALSO REFLECTS THE GLOBALLY-HIGH MARKET DEMAND IN THIS SECTOR. INTERTEXTILE SHANGHAI HOME TEXTILES – AUTUMN EDITION 2022 WILL HELP DOMESTIC AND OVERSEAS SUPPLIERS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MARKET POTENTIAL AND CAPTURE THE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE WITHIN. THIS EDITION WILL BE HELD AT THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION AND CONVENTION CENTER (SHANGHAI) FROM 15 – 17 AUGUST.**

Based on recent numbers provided by China's National Bureau of Statistics, the country's export of home textile products between January and November 2021 was worth USD 43.574 billion, a year-on-year increase of 31.2%, and an increase of 20.8% over the same period in 2019[2]. The data shows that the current export scale of the country's home textiles industry has now exceeded the 2019 pre-pandemic levels.

The credit for China's steady growth in exports is the country's zero-Covid approach, which has generally prevented disruptions to factory production as suggested by industry experts and Morgan Stanley[3]. Another outcome from the pandemic is that people's way of life has changed as many spend more time at home. This is further driving the demand for more high quality home furnishing products. An exhibitor from last year's edition

shared how positive their trading business was in 2021. "Ninety per cent of our sales are from overseas and we have already matched our records from this time last year. From this, our business is still good and we are confident in the market prospects," Mr John Wang from Suzhou Roufang Textile Technology Co Ltd pointed out during the October fair.

## **High demand for home textiles products to feature**

In terms of popular export products, higher value-added home textile items such as bedding, blankets, carpets and curtains have led the way. In 2021, these four product categories accounted for 77.7% of total the home textiles exports, with increases of more than 26% from the previous year[4].

Bedding and curtains were two of the biggest product groups showcased at last year's Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles, where

bedding suppliers and curtains & curtain fabric manufacturers accounted for approximately 26% and 15% of the total exhibitors respectively. These companies introduced their trending products to a range of quality buyers at the fair. Mr August Ji, Director of Business Development – Bedding from Nantong Heritage Home Textiles Ltd explained why the company exhibited their latest bedding products at the show: "The fair hold a great level of awareness and trustworthiness in the eyes of the market. Many of our long term customers came to our booth, as well as potential clients who are doing R&D on similar types of products that relate to ours."

Apart from these popular exported goods, the show will also display a wide selection of other home textile products including towelling, carpet & rugs, table & kitchen linen, home textile technologies, textile design and more.



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## Big opportunities to discover in the Chinese home textiles market

Home textiles are not just welcomed by the international consumers, but they are also highly desired in the domestic market. According to Askci Consulting, one of China's leading industry research institutes, the size of the country's home textile market has grown from USD 31.9 billion (RMB 203.6 billion) in 2016 to USD 39.2 billion (RMB 250.2 billion) in 2019, with a compound annual growth rate of 7.1%. It is expected that market shares will further rise to USD 48.7 billion (RMB 310.2 billion) in 2022[5]. Several past exhibitors have also recognised this domestic market potential. Prestigious Textiles China's Regional Manager, Mr Eason Cai expressed: "I believe the pandemic has caused challenges for all industries in the domestic market as there was a downturn in 2020. But from what we see in our sales figures over the past two years

is that our company is now about 30% up on its 2020 results. This, at the very least, shows that the Chinese market is still dynamic and has huge potential." Likewise, Mr Michat Sliwinski, China Sales Manager of Animex believed that local buyers are now looking for good quality products and are even willing to spend more for finer raw materials. As a result, the company sees more opportunities in China and feels optimistic about the domestic market. Ms Wendy Wen, Senior General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd also commented: "As income levels in China continue to raise, the demand for a quality of life is also increasing. With this, home textiles have gradually become an important means for people to improve their comfort levels and well-being. The fair offers a chance for overseas exhibitors to tap into the fast growing Chinese market. It can also help domestic companies to maintain connections and relation-

ships with leading industry players, on top of keeping up to date with the ever-changing trends." The fair will once again offer a variety of value-added digital solutions to assist global participants gain access to the show's resources. These include interactive webinars, live streaming product presentations, the Online Business Matching platform, to name a few. More details about the digital platform will be available later. Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition 2022 will return to its standard format; the show will be held from 15 – 17 August while Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics – Autumn Edition and Yarn Expo Autumn taking place a few days later. The fair is organised by Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd; the Sub-Council of Textile Industry, CCPIT; and the China Home Textile Association (CHTA).

## TECHTEXTIL AND TEXPROCESS 2022 ARE IN THE STARTING BLOCKS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF INNOVATIONS

Frankfurt am Main, 21/03/2022. From 21 to 24 June 2022, the time has come: the world of technical textiles and nonwovens as well as the processing of textile and flexible materials will finally meet again at Techtextil and Texprocess. More than 1,000 registered international exhibitors promise a wide range of new developments in all product and application areas. After a three year break, exhibitors and visitors are looking forward to personal interaction.

Textile power restart: Techtextil and Texprocess offer numerous highlights. Visitors should not miss the new international start-up area, the Denim Future Factory, the Walk-in Forums and Innovation Awards



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with a focus on sustainability. Discussions and lectures on highly topical issues, innovative textile novelties and sustainable approaches are the focus of the leading international trade fairs. Top international decision-makers can expect a global and attractive product range at Techtextil and Texprocess from more than 1,000 registered exhibitors from 45 countries. Many joint stand participants and twelve international country pavilions round off the variety of products on offer. Strongly represented at Techtextil are, among others, the offerings for the application areas of construction, mobility, health, protection, as well as apparel for sports, medicine and functional clothing. Texprocess will feature the latest machinery, equipment, processes and services for processing apparel and textiles from various product groups such as CAD/CAM, cutting, textile finishing, sewing and embroidery technology or product preparation and finishing. Important aspects include digitalization and efficiency improvements. "Since the last edition of Techtextil and Texprocess in 2019, many exhibitors have invested intensively in the research and development of their products. They can now finally present their new products and innovations to customers, decision-makers and the public," explains Michael Jänecke, Director Brand Management Technical Textiles & Textile Processing.

**Focus on sustainability** With Sustainability@Techtextil and Sustainability@Texprocess, the theme of sustainability runs through all areas

of Techtextil and Texprocess. For the first time, exhibitors can submit both sustainable products that have already been certified and those that have not yet been certified for examination by an independent international jury. Following successful analysis, exhibitors with sustainable offerings will be identified at the trade fairs. For example, Techtextil exhibitors with innovative and sustainable fibers, yarns and fabrics as well as progressive processes or Texprocess exhibitors with new cutting technologies, water-saving dyeing processes and other future-oriented processing technologies are expected to present their products to visitors. In addition, the industry will discuss sustainable processing technologies and textile innovations in the walk-in conference formats of both trade shows: Techtextil Forum and Texprocess Forum. The Techtextil and Texprocess Innovation Award will also dedicate a separate category to the focus topic.

**Texprocess: Denim Future Factory shows innovative production and processing** A special highlight of Texprocess this year is the Denim Future Factory. The denim industry is the fastest-growing market in the textile and fashion industry and has developed significantly in recent times. The special show in hall 8.0 picks up on these developments and showcases innovations in manufacturing and processing along the entire textile process chain and focuses on sustainable approaches in denim production. Visitors will be able to experience new processes

in every step of production - from design, cutting, sewing, knitting and embroidery to finishing, IT and logistics.

**Digital Extension: experience Techtextil and Texprocess on site and digitally** For the first time, Techtextil and Texprocess 2022 will offer a Digital Extension: exhibitors and visitors will be able to meet both on-site in Frankfurt and virtually, and will be able to exchange ideas in complementary formats. These new touchpoints include: Matchmaking offers, round tables, chat function, 1-to-1 video calls, digital timetables, conferences, panel discussions or keynotes. Exhibitor events, such as web sessions, can be streamed live or on-demand. Messe Frankfurt's formats, such as the conferences, can be streamed on demand afterwards. From June 13 to August 8, the digital format will be available to all visitors, journalists and exhibitors.

**New hall layout in Frankfurt** Exhibitors and visitors will benefit from a spacious and modern hall structure. For the first time, Techtextil and Texprocess will be held in halls 8, 9, 11 and 12 on the western section of Messe Frankfurt. In addition, the ground-level hall layout at Texprocess will make logistics easier for technology suppliers. In future, large and heavy machinery can be transported more easily to the relevant stand.

**Everything in one place: Visitors experience the entire textile value chain** In parallel, Messe Frankfurt will host the Heimtextil Summer Special, the leading international trade fair for home and contract textiles, as



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well as the D2C Neonyt Lab (24.6.-26.6.2022), which is a progressive trend platform that brings fashion, sustainability and innovation to life. At the same time (20.6.-26.6.2022) the Frankfurt Fashion Week will

take place. Exhibitors and visitors will thus benefit from a representation of the entire textile value chain on the fairground and in the city of Frankfurt am Main. From innovative textiles and their

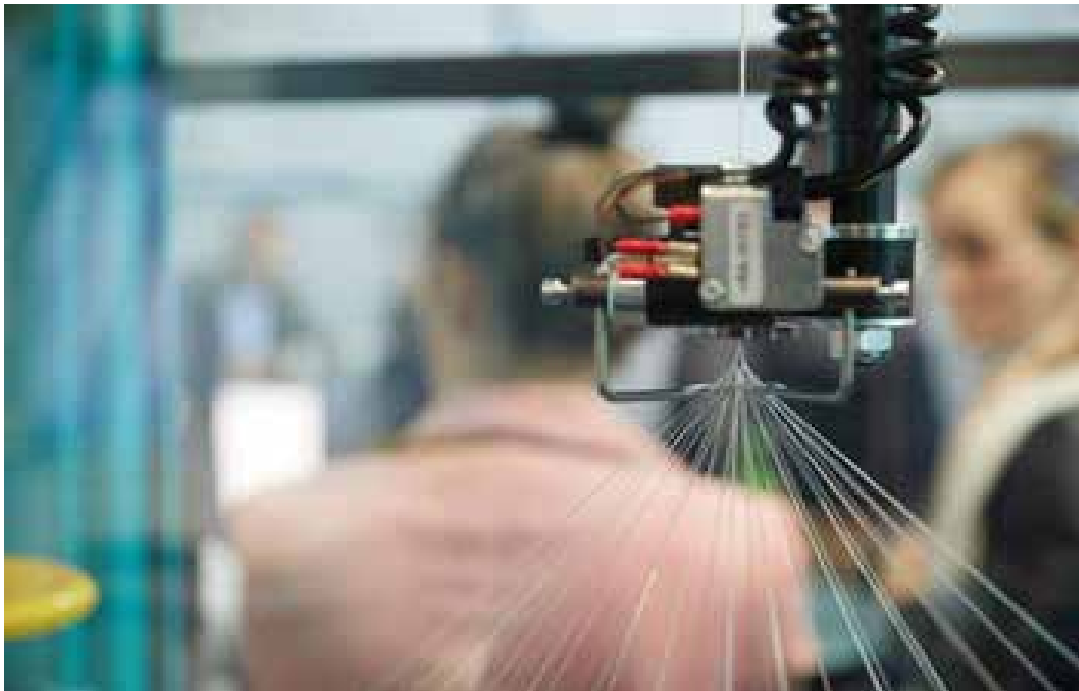
production, through processing, to the end product as a home textile or fashion product and its recycling. With the purchase of one ticket, Techtextil, Texprocess and Heimtextil can be visited at the same time.



*Braiding technology at Techtextil / Photo: Messe Frankfurt, Jean-Luc Valentin*



*Cutting machine at Texprocess / Photo: Messe Frankfurt, Pietro Sutera*



*Braiding technology at Techtextil / Photo: Messe Frankfurt, Jean-Luc Valentin*

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# WORLD TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY LEADERS ARE READY FOR THE GREAT ITM 2022 MEETING

**ITM 2022, which will be held at Istanbul Tüyap Fair and Congress Center on 14-18 June 2022, will be the first and largest international textile machinery exhibition to be held after a 3-year break. The leading brands of world textile technologies will launch their latest machines at ITM 2022.**



The textile industry, which is among the leading sectors in Turkey's exports, demonstrated its power to the whole world, especially during the pandemic outbreak period. Achieving an increase of up to 40 percent in exports of textiles and raw materials, Turkey also broke records after records in medical textile, technical textile, and indoor

textile exports.

Turkey Made A Strong Impression on with Its Production Performance During the Pandemic Process Ranking in the top three in the most important market for the European textile machinery manufacturers, Turkey also attracted attention with its production performance during the troublesome pandemic out-

break. Many European machinery manufacturers, who spoke highly of Turkey's performance, announced that their machinery sales to Turkey increased in 2020 and 2021. Turkish textile companies, which increase their production capacity because they were unable to keep up with the demands, continue their new investments and modernizations.



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## Denim Show to showcase Indian Denim industry prowess at the first Mumbai edition

Innovative, fashionable, sustainable will define the Denim Show as the industry will get together to showcase their process at its first-ever Mumbai edition from 12 – 14 May 2022 at the newly launched Jio World Convention Centre (JWCC) in BKC. As one of the fastest recovering market segments post the pandemic outbreak, the denim industry is pegged to showcase a sustainable growth rate of 12% CAGR, highlighted Denim Manufacturer Association's (DMA) Secretary General Mr Gagandeep Singh. All set for its Mumbai launch, the Denim Show aims to bring the India's denim mills and leading brands together to tap opportunities through the versatility of denim - the fashion statement of future. Leading brands such as Hyosung India, Jindal Worldwide, Arvind, Ginni International, Raymond UCO Denim, Bhaskar Denim, LNJ Denim, Oswal Denims, KG Denim, Nandan Denim, and Ashima Group among others have confirmed their participation for the Mumbai launch. The show will be jointly organised by Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd and Mex Exhibitions Pvt Ltd under the umbrella of Gartex Texprocess India, and cover the latest developments in textile, garment machinery and screen printing with the objective to encourage investments, new market development and enable India to be a globally competitive textile and denim manufacturing destination.

India is the world's second largest producer of denim fabric after China. "The Indian denim market capacity, at present, is approximately .6 BN meters P.A. and approximately 150 MN meters capacity P.A." added Mr Gagandeep Singh. The Indian denim industry has evolved significantly with ever changing fashion trends making its way into other utility-driven products. Innovative, fashionable, sustainable is what the organisers define will be the focus of the Denim Show in 2022. **Denim trends and market revamp** The last few years have redefined the textile industry with the denim sector going through a big revamp in terms of the fits and fabric constructions. While a significant portion of womenswear denim has hauled from high stretch fabrics to more of comfort stretch and rigid classic 80s denim, fits as well moving from skinny to more relaxed and flared, menswear denim on the contrary is edging towards comfort to stretch fabrics with clean & basic washes. Hand-feel plays an important role for all segments which implies the need of superior spinning techniques, finer counts and blends. Overdyed, tinted and coloured jeans are some of the key fashion products continuing from last few seasons. According to one of India's top denim fabric manufacturer LNJ Denim, the domestic market is still dominated by faux knit fabrics but with recent escalations in the cost of key ingredients, LNJ Denim expect a shift towards more classic and authentic denim but with superior hand feel and saturation. In

terms of shades, vintage & versatile pure indigos are back because of emphasis on clean and mild washes with raw look for basics while distressed and bleached denim in the high fashion product for all genders and age groups.

### Denim industry taking steps towards sustainability and circularity

Being one of the mainstream sectors in fashion industry, denim mills are now steadily implementing circularity in their production processes. Indian denim brands are taking strong steps in a direction towards creating more responsible denim fabrics that reduces the gap between fashion and sustainability. These fabrics can be crafted into a luxurious and versatile garment collection for eco-conscious consumers. Of these is the renowned Raymond UCO who is said to be reinventing excellence with its high-quality denim fabrics using recycled polyester from ocean-bound plastics and Blu 2.0: a unique indigo dyeing process. The process involves recycling the ocean-bound plastics into fibers and blending with cotton to weave sustainable denims, reducing the freshwater consumption and effluent load in the dyeing process by about 85% using BLU 2.0 process and using eco-friendly dyes like natural indigo to reduce the dependence on synthetic chemicals. The brand is working on making responsible denim and has curated a special denim collection that offers ultimate comfort, breathability, and moisture management while also being environment-friendly, which will be seen at the Denim



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Show in Mumbai. Head of Marketing at Raymond UCO, Mr Sudhir Deorukhkar explains: "These are small steps in the right direction towards creating more responsible denim fabrics that reduces the gap between fashion and sustainability. These fabrics can be crafted into a luxurious and versatile garment collection for eco-conscious consumers." Raymond UCO has curated a special denim collection that offers ultimate comfort, breathability, and

moisture management while also being environment-friendly, which will be seen at the Denim Show. Adding to this, Mr Ashish Bhatnagar, Marketing Head, LNJ Denim said: "With our commitment and responsibility towards the environment, sustainability is more of hygiene for us now with persistent developments and focuses across various functional stages of fabric process." The brand focuses on functional, sustainable and supe-

rior hand-feel denim fabrics made possible through various blends, spinning as well as finish innovations which will also be on display at the three-day Denim Show in Mumbai. Together with its focus on textile and garment machineries, fabrics & trims, screen printing and denim – Gartex Texprocess India will become one-stop creative and collaborative platform for the textile industry.

## ILO AND PAKISTAN TEXTILE EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION SIGN A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT PROMOTING DECENT WORK IN GARMENT AND TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN FAISALABAD

The ILO and the Pakistani Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) have forged a Public Private Partnership encompassing a comprehensive framework on improving productivity through training and compliance with International Labour Standards including occupational safety and health, wages, contracts of employment, discrimination and other forms of mal labour practices as well as strengthening employers' and workers' bilateral arrangements in textile industry.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) have signed a partnership agreement to promote Decent Work in Textile Industry in Faisalabad. The signing ceremony was held at Marriott Hotel Islamabad. The Partnership Agreement includes a comprehensive framework on improving productivity through training and compliance with International Labour Standards including occupational safety and health, wages, contracts

of employment, discrimination and other forms of mal labour practices as well as strengthening employers' and workers' bilateral arrangements in textile industry. The cooperation will continue for three years and will cover more than 200 industrial units (small, medium and large) that are engaged in the textile export. After successful piloting, this intervention will be replicated in other Industrial Associations across the country.

At this occasion, Mr Sikandar Ismail Khan, Secretary, Federal Ministry of Overseas Pakistani and Human Resource Development (OPHRD) said that, "GSP Plus is an opportunity for Pakistani industries and this collaboration between ILO and PTEA will help improve the image of Pakistan textile industries as responsible workplaces that are compliant with national laws, including those based on International Labour Standards". Mr Francesco d' Ovidio, Country Director, ILO remarked that, "Issues in the garment industry are systemic

and require action that helps develop effective industrial relations and promote respect of international labour standards. There is therefore an urgent need to establish strategic and comprehensive public private collaborations and the signing of today's agreement is a positive step in this direction. I hope that other institutions, inspired by PTEA, will soon join this initiative. ILO's honoured to provide its technical support".

Representatives of the Employers' and Workers' Organisations (EFP and PWF) fully supported the partnership framework and stressed on the importance of establishing a coordination mechanism between textile industries, related workers organizations and Labour Departments on compliance and reporting on labour laws.

The signing ceremony featured a presentation on the partnership framework that defined in detail outcomes and outputs envisioned as part of this collaboration.



## TEXO COMPFELT LOOMS – BUILT TO SCALE, AND BUILT TO LAST

**TEXO AB, a member of TMAS, the Swedish textile machinery association, is currently seeing a surge in demand for its Compfelt weaving looms for press felt base fabrics.**

“These are far from standard machines,” explains TEXO President Anders Svensson. “Off-the-shelf industrial weaving machines generally range in their working widths from 1.9 to 3.2 metres, with those purpose-built for technical applications such as geotextiles extending to wider widths of six metres and beyond. Meanwhile, one of the machines we have recently successfully delivered and commissioned has a working width of 23 metres and is not even the widest of the many such machines the company has engineered and delivered worldwide since its formation.”

A second recently-delivered line has a more modest working width – in relative terms – of 13 metres.

### Paper machines

The demand for such machines comes from the suppliers of paper machine clothing (PMC) to paper mills, who in turn operate colossal machines for paper manufacturing. The largest paper making machine is currently believed to be located on Hainan Island off the southern coast of China and is 428 metres long – roughly the length of four football pitches.

Naturally, such machines require equally large-scale components, which is where TEXO comes in.

All paper machines require a regular supply of PMC fabrics which are employed in three separate areas

of the paper machine – the forming section, the press section and the drying section.

### Press felts

TEXO Compfelt weaving machines are specifically employed for the production of endless (tubular) woven base fabrics for the press section of paper machines, where water is mechanically removed from the newly formed sheet of fibres. In the simplest press, the sheet is carried by the PMC fabric between two rolls, where water is squeezed out by the application of load and pressure. This can also be assisted by the use of vacuum and heat. The PMC fabrics here need to be replaced regularly, with a maximum lifespan of six months.

Press felts have become increasingly sophisticated over the years, consisting of complex woven base structures which are subsequently combined with nonwovens via needlepunching on equally huge machines. The woven base fabrics are primarily made from polyamide for its strength and hygroscopic and elastic properties.

“An endless woven fabric produced on the 23-metre-wide machine we have just delivered makes endless fabric belts of 46 metres,” Svensson explains. “The machine can be adjusted step-wise to create smaller belts as required, which also increases the production speed

and product quality. These looms operate at between 30 to 55 picks per minute with shuttles that are almost a metre long. They have a maximum warp tension of 1,500 kilograms per metre and a maximum beat-up tension of 3,000 kilograms per metre.

### Dobby harness

“A major refinement of the machine has been the ability to equip it with up to 24 dobbie harness frames to meet the demand for sophisticated structures from the PMC manufacturers. Although the PMC business represents a small proportion of the total cost of manufacturing paper, it can have a significant impact on the quality of the paper, the efficiency of a machine and machine production rates.”

Another significant development has been that of a self supporting base pre-filled with concrete, which has eliminated the need to dig out foundations in a plant to support the machine.

“This makes the machine very solid and stable and allows it to be relocated if that is ever required, but it does give it an overall weight of around 120 tons,” Svensson said.

### Retrofits

TEXO’s looms are built to last, but technology moves forward, and the company is also currently very active in the retrofitting of existing machines built as far back as



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the 1970s. “The mechanical engineering of the 1970s, 80s and 90s was perhaps a little too good,” said Svensson. “The machines out in the market are rigid and strong and we are still supporting many of them with mechanical spare parts. They can, however, also be equipped with the latest technology for automation. With new controls, drives and motors they can perform as well as the latest machines.

### Integration

TEXO has also just integrated its offices and production centre at its base in Älmhult, Sweden, to create a unified 5,000 square metre site.

“This is a big step forward for effi-

ciency and cooperation between our engineers and production workforce and is already resulting in enhanced team work and savings for us,” Svensson says in conclusion. “The new office is built with an open Scandinavian design and has all of the latest technologies required for a sustainable and environmentally-friendly work place, including a solar panelled roof. We are expecting a busy year.”

“TEXO is a company that is now benefiting from both the increased e-commerce trend and the move towards sustainable packaging solutions, as well as with its traditional and well-proven technology

foundations,” adds TMAS Secretary General Therese Premler-Andersson. “Paper is replacing plastic in many areas, and we see new as well as retrofit investments in many places. The ability to upgrade textile machinery to the latest technology using controls and drives is something I expect to see a lot more of. Swedish machinery has a proven history of quality, lasting for many years, so this is a winning concept when looking for cost-efficient and sustainable solutions in many different end-use sectors.”



*A Compfelt PMC loom under construction at TEXO.*



*TEXO has just integrated its offices and production centre at its base in Älmhult, Sweden, to create a unified 5,000 square metre site.*



# COTTON COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL ELECTS 2022 OFFICERS

February 14, 2022

Carlos C. Garcia, a cooperative official from Lubbock, Texas, was elected as president of Cotton Council International (CCI) for 2022. CCI is the National Cotton Council's (NCC) export promotion arm and carries out programs in more than 50 countries globally under the COTTON USA™ trademark.

Garcia and other CCI officers were elected at CCI's board meeting held as part of the NCC's 2022 Annual Meeting that convened in Houston, Texas. "Despite the global pandemic, CCI held 35 events – both virtually and in person – in 12 of the biggest cotton importing coun-

tries of the world in 2021," Garcia said. "I was proud to represent the U.S. industry during a COTTON USA event last year and saw firsthand how CCI's business-building programs resonate with our customers overseas. I will continue to communicate U.S. cotton's competitive advantages with CCI in 2022 with a focus on the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol® and COTTON USA SOLUTIONS™." Garcia is the export sales manager at Plains Cotton Cooperative Association (PCCA), a marketing cooperative owned by farmers in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and New Mexico dedicated to supplying sustainably-grown, high-quality cotton fiber around the world. Originally from Van Horn, Texas, Garcia attended Texas Tech University. While pursuing his degree, he worked as a marketing intern in PCCA's Traffic and Invoicing Department. In 2000 after earning a degree in multidisciplinary studies from Texas Tech, Garcia joined PCCA's export department. He became the export sales manager in 2004 and has worked at PCCA for 22 years. Garcia is past president of the Lubbock Cotton Exchange and current board member. He is also a member of the Interna-



tional Cotton Association and has served on the Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton Standards. A NCC Cotton Leadership Program graduate, he currently serves on the NCC's Public Relations and International Market Development Committee. Garcia is involved with several community organizations as well, currently serving on the Board of Managers of Lubbock County Hospital District, and as chairman in 2021. He is currently a UMC Foundation Board Member and past director as well as having served

on the Slaton Independent School District Board of Trustees. Other 2022 CCI officers elected include: chairman, Ted D. Sheely, a producer from Lemoore, California; first vice president, Steve Dyer, a merchant from Cordova, Tenn.; second vice president, J. Lee Cromley, a producer from Brooklet, Ga.; secretary, Gary Adams, also of Cordova; and assistant secretary, Bruce Athertley, from Washington, D.C. Newly elected as CCI treasurer was Carlo Bocardo, a cooperative official from Bakersfield, California.



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Elected as 2022 CCI directors were Kevin Brinkley, a Lubbock, Texas cooperative official; James (Jim) Martin, a Gastonia, N.C. manufacturer; and Beau Stephenson, a Richardson, Texas merchant. Re-elected as 2022 CCI directors were: PRODUCERS – Philip F. Edwards, III, a Smithfield, Va.; Barry W. Evans, Kress, Texas; John F. Lindamood, Tiptonville, Tenn.; Richard Gaona, Roby,

Texas; Matthew R. (Matt) Hyneman, Jonesboro, Ark.; Neal Isbell, Muscle Shoals, Ala.; and Paul (Paco) Ollerton, Casa Grande, Ariz.; GINNERS – George G. LaCour, Jr., Morganza, La., and Curtis H. Stewart, Spade, Texas; MERCHANTS – John C. King, III, Memphis, Tenn.; Tim G. North, Dallas, Texas; Ernst D. (Ernie) Schroeder, Jr., Bakersfield, California; and William A. Barksdale, Cordo-

va, Tenn.; COOPERATIVES – Frederick Barrier, Greenwood, Miss.; and Donald A. Robinson, Garner, N.C.; COTTONSEED – James (Jim) C. Massey, Harlingen, Texas; WAREHOUSEMAN – Vance C. Shoaf, Milan, Tenn.; and MANUFACTURERS – Robin Perkins, Sanford, North Carolina.

## BOOHOO GROUP PARTNERS WITH COTTONCONNECT ON SUSTAINABLE COTTON



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2022-03-21

British online fashion retailer, Boohoo Group, has announced a partnership with CottonConnect, an organization that works with farmers in Pakistan to grow cotton using more sustainable production methods. The partnership saw 2,500 farmers trained on how to grow cotton more sustainably at specially created demonstration plots, allowing Boohoo to trace it back to the hamlet where it was grown. The REEL (Responsible Environment Enhanced Livelihoods) cotton produced by Boohoo Group will result in a higher yield and net revenue for farmers, according to the company. It will also aid in the identification of Reel cotton goods that bear the 'Ready For the Future'

label. The REEL technique allows the company to trace and track cotton all the way through the supply chain, from picking the final cotton of the 2021 harvest to cleaning it before spinning it into yarn, weaving it into cloth, and dyeing it. Cotton seeds caught during the cleaning process are either replanted or used as a by-product to make cooking oil or as fuel at a local firm as part of the sustainable production process. Andrew Reaney, Director of Responsible Sourcing & Product Operations, said that they're happy to be partnering with CottonConnect and the individual farmers in Pakistan. He had firsthand experience with the project and the benefits of the CottonConnect program, which include in-depth training,

higher cotton yields, cheaper costs, and environmental benefits. They are devoted to assisting farmers, and as this is only the first year of their collaboration, they are excited to see what the future holds.

Abou Bakar, Programme Manager at CottonConnect, said that the idea is to give smallholder farmers and landless laborers, who are the backbone of rural economies, the tools they need to increase their incomes and enhance their livelihoods while also safeguarding the environment. Food safety and business continuity are achieved through sustainable strategies. They've forged a relationship with cotton growers in order to improve rural livelihoods and supply chains.

## BB ENGINEERING GMBH RECORDS ORDER INTAKE FROM THAI POLYESTER FOR FOUR VACUFIL RECYCLING SYSTEMS

March 24, 2022

BB Engineering GmbH (Germany), a subsidiary of Oerlikon Textile, is pleased to announce that Thai Polyester Co., Ltd (Thailand) has placed a major order for four VacuFil systems for recycling bottle flakes with connected direct spinning. The polyester manufacturer, established in 2001 and with an overall annual capacity of 316,800 tons, is one of Thailand's leading producers and exclusively uses German technology. To this end, the company already operates Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag systems. The BB Engineering VacuFil systems will be deployed to convert existing

spinning plant equipment from processing polyester to processing PET bottle flakes without loss of performance. BB Engineering supplies the complete recycling process – from the drying stage and extrusion, all the way through to the spinning plant-appropriate fine filtration stage. Thanks to decades of experience in spinning plant technology, the German machine constructor also provides comprehensive spinning plant know-how and is aware of how the recycling process must be designed to ensure that the product manufactured using the spinning plant ultimately has the right quality. The four new

VacuFil systems will be integrated into the existing building infrastructure and process landscape at Thai Polyester, with a total output of approx. 4,000 kg/h. The VacuFil systems will be complemented by BB Engineering 3DD mixers for directly feeding dyes into the recycled melt flow. Commissioning has been scheduled for 2023. Thai Polyester will be using the new VacuFil systems to manufacture its 'EcoT-PC' recycling-brand yarns. 100% of these polyester yarns are produced from bottle, fiber and yarn waste and are all GRS certified.



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- 50% reduction of chemical cost
- Appreciation of sales price
- Sustainable production process
- No shade variation
- No center side variation





# HIGH PRODUCTIVITY WITH DUSTY LINEN-VISCOSE BLEND

January 14, 2022

Chaohu Youngor Color Spinning Technology Co Ltd, is located in Anhui Province, China. The company processes cotton, linen, viscose and their blends. To increase productivity, Chaohu Youngor built a new spinning mill with 57 000 spindles in 2021. For this new mill, the company bought six couples of draw frames SB-D 50 and RSB-D 50 in order to continue meeting the high quality requirements in the future.

## The Challenge

China is currently the largest producer of linen fabrics. The



popularity of linen has increased in recent years and thanks to its good comfort properties, it is also highly appreciated as a garment. Linen is very breathable and dries faster than cotton, making it comfortable to wear even in hot weather. However, a major challenge for spinners is that linen fibers have a high trash content and tend to generate wood dust during processing, especially on the first draw frame passage. This can lead to deposits on various machine parts, particularly at higher speeds. These deposits cause a lot of tiring cleaning work for the operator in the drafting and coiling area. If not taken care of in time, it can result in a lower machine performance.

## The Solution

The single-head draw frame SB-D 50 without autoleveler offers high-

est flexibility. It is designed for spinning cotton and man-made fibers, but also special fibers such as linen with high productivity and dust-free running. For trouble-free processing of dirty and dusty material, the SB-D 50 is equipped with a highly efficient suction system. Trash accumulations on the cleaning lips end up directly in the suction by intermittently lifting the lips. The automatic filter cleaning system keeps the filter screen clean with the help of a wiper. The operator can set the suction intensity easily and quickly on the machine display. Four suction slots in the infeed of the drafting unit support the suction concept for an efficient trouble-free 24-hour operation. This efficient suction system at the pre-draw frame reduces dust during coiling and keeps the production efficiency

in the subsequent processes high.

## The Customer's Benefits

With the SB-D 50, Chaohu Youngor achieves a delivery speed of 800 m/min with high efficiency using a blend of linen and viscose (55/45). Operators enjoy working with the SB-D 50, and six machines can be easily handled by one operator. In addition, the workload of the operators at the following draw frame and at the roving frame is reduced due to fewer stoppages and sliver breaks. The excellent operation of the SB-D 50 thus ensures consistent sliver quality with high productivity and best yarn quality in downstream processes. Thanks to the patented drive concept ECOrized with fewer drive elements, the SB-D 50 is sustainably energy-saving even at higher delivery speeds. The frequency-controlled drive for



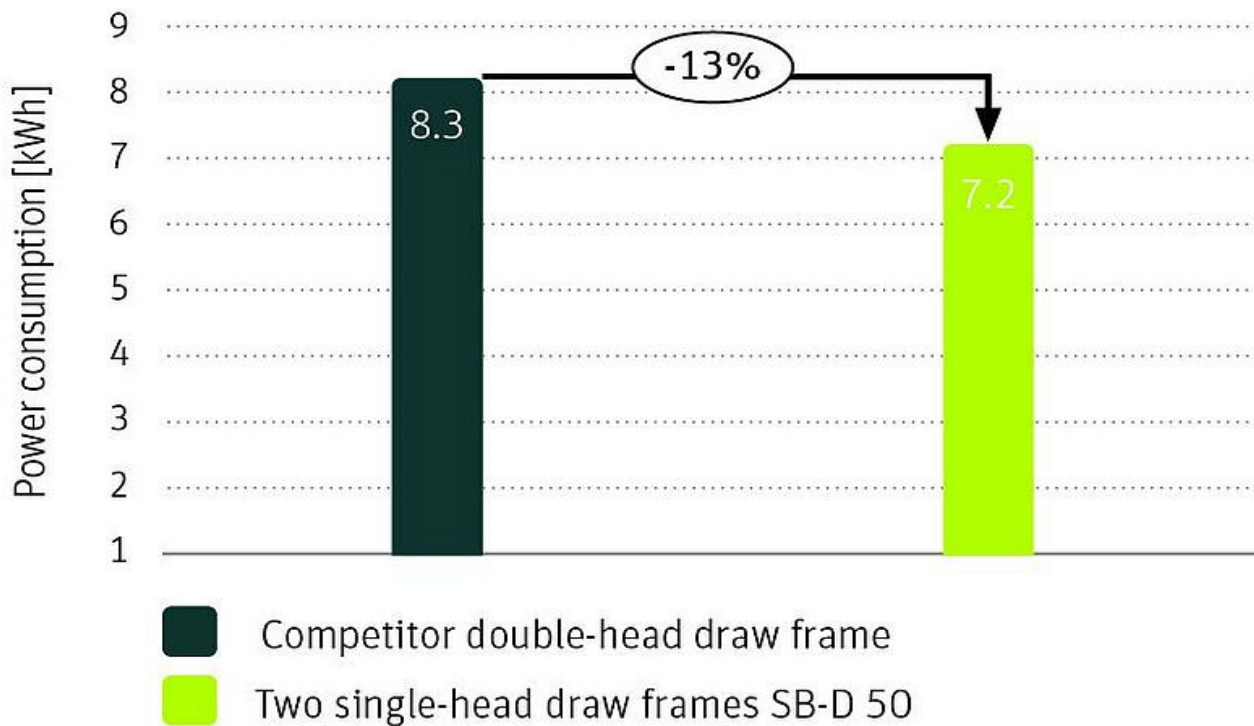
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the suction and the individual drive for the coiler are unique. As a result, Chaohu Youngor benefits from the competitor machine. energy savings of 13% compared to

## Energy-Efficiency of SB-D 50

Carded linen/viscose, 6.5 ktex, integrated fan, 800m/min

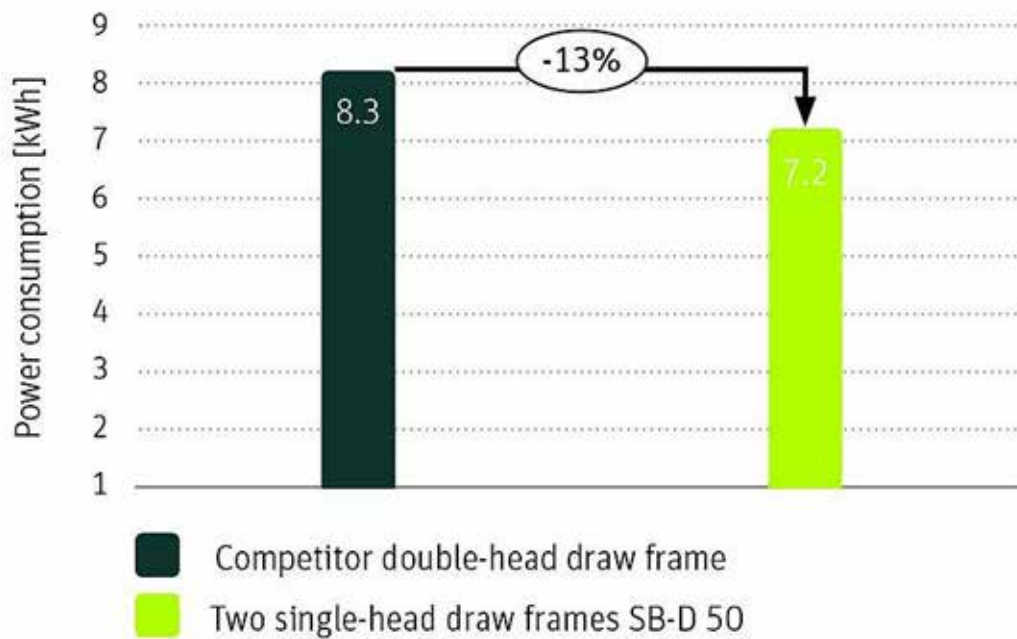


Processing dirty and dusty material like linen fibers is a challenge in spinning mills.



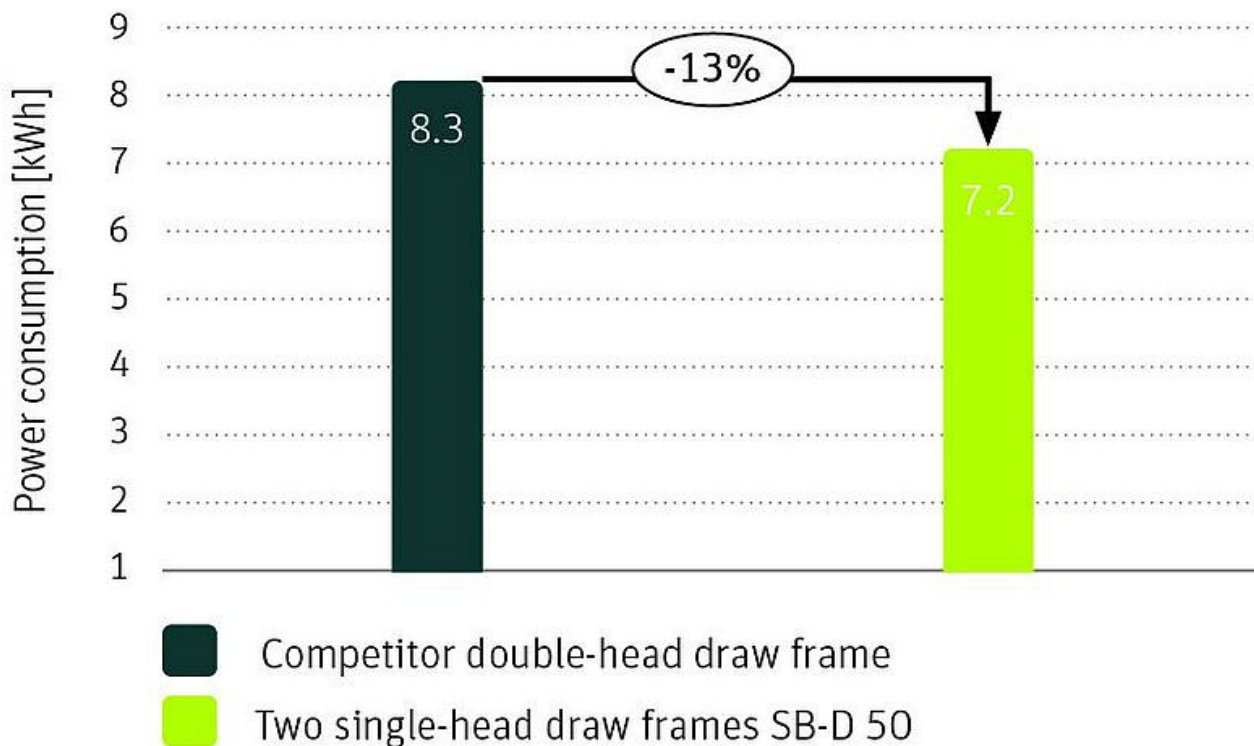
### Energy-Efficiency of SB-D 50

Carded linen/viscose, 6.5 ktex, integrated fan, 800m/min



### Energy-Efficiency of SB-D 50

Carded linen/viscose, 6.5 ktex, integrated fan, 800m/min



I am very satisfied with the operation and productivity of the SB-D 50 at high speed. The draw frame runs smoothly and trouble-free with a blend of linen and

viscose (55/45) at 800 m/min. I am thrilled with the performance! Chen Lianguang, Quality Manager

# PROCESSING COLORED RECYCLED FIBERS ON THE R 37

January 14, 2022

Cangnan Zijian Cotton Co., Ltd. is located in Cangnan County, Zhejiang Province, China, and is specialized in the production of recycled woven denim yarns Ne 7/Ne 10, which are mainly sold in domestic markets. Zijian uses a blend of recycled cotton and polyester as raw material. They categorize waste cloth according to color, open it and blend it with polyester. This blend is directly processed into colored yarn and, as a result, the downstream process of bleaching and dyeing is omitted. With the Rieter semi-automated rotor spinning machine R 37, Zijian profits from an efficient yarn



production and meets the weaving requirements of downstream customers.

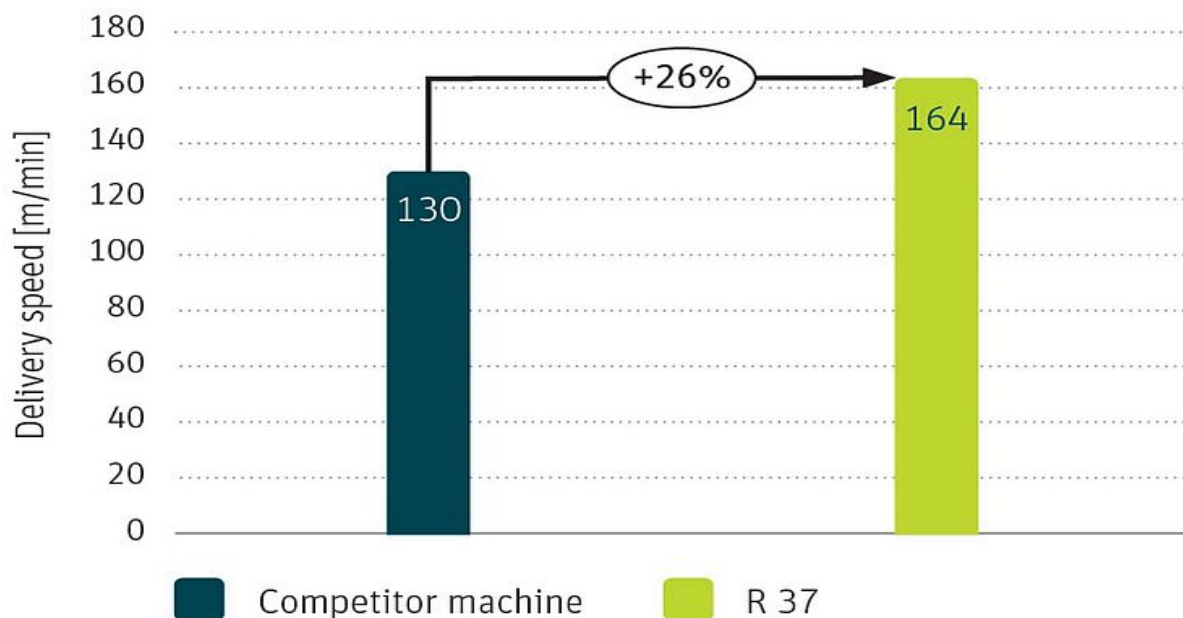
## The Challenge

The requirements for yarn quality have increased because weaving

mills and downstream customers place high demands on the fabric surface. As soon as yarn quality no

## Higher Production of R 37 at Zijian

Rotor yarn, Ne 10, blend of recycled cotton/polyester, weaving







longer meets the requirements of the weaving mill due to yarn breaks and yarn imperfections, spinning mills would have to compensate for these economically to a certain extent. As a continuously developing small spinning mill, Zijian needs to ensure yarn quality and maintain recognition among customers on the one hand. On the other hand, it needs spinning machines with high performance and good stability to ensure smooth and efficient yarn production.

#### The Solution

The semi-automated rotor spinning machine R 37 is the right choice for colored recycled fibers. It provides maximum flexibility also for smaller lots with different colors. Independent machine sides open up the possibility to spin different lots on

each side. Thanks to the new spinning box, the extraction of trash and short fibers becomes more selective. The loss of good fibers is reduced. The yarn quality is high with good tenacity and low imperfections. Low energy consumption and simple, time-saving handling by operating personnel minimize production costs.

#### The Customer's Benefits

The R 37 has a higher yarn delivery speed, better yarn quality and quality stability, and high long-term profitability compared to the competitor machine. Energy consumption per ton of yarn has been reduced at Zijian thanks to highly efficient main drives and the energy-saving design concept. The simplified design of the R 37 helps to save costs for replacing components after pro-

#### SPINNING, WINDING & YARN MAUFACTURING

longed operation. In case of high wear due to highly abrasive raw material, the fiber channel can easily be changed. Also, the trash channel can be exchanged without using tools to adapt the trash extraction to the raw material.

Due to its high quality, downstream customers prefer the yarn produced on the R 37 to that produced on the competitor's machine. Since the yarn no longer needs to be dyed in the downstream processes, Zijian achieves a higher price. The production of colored yarn is also more sustainable as water pollution and the use of chemicals is reduced. This makes the yarn even more popular with yarn traders and weavers.

# RIETER COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF THE THREE SAURER BUSINESSES

April 1, 2022

With the takeover of the automatic winding machine business at the UebachPalenberg/Germany site with effect from April 1, 2022, Rieter has completed the acquisition of the three businesses from Saurer.

The acquisition of the automatic winding technology in the premium category completes Rieter's ring and compact-spinning system and thus lays the foundation to further improve the company's strong position in the largest staple

fiber market segment. The components businesses Accotex (elastomer technology for spinning machines) at the Muenster/Germany site and Temco (technology components for filament machines) at the Hammelburg/Germany site had already been acquired by Rieter as of December 1, 2021. Rieter had announced the acquisition of the three businesses on August 16, 2021. In total, the three businesses generated sales of EUR 142 million in 2020, the year of the COVID cri-

sis. In 2019 and 2018, total sales amounted to EUR 235 million and EUR 260 million, respectively. The winding machine business with new machines will be assigned to the Business Group Machines & Systems, and the after-sales business will be assigned to the Business Group After Sales. The Accotex and Temco component businesses are managed by the Business Group Components.



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# AUTOCORO WITH SYNCHROPIECING: THE GERMANY WORLD'S NUMBER ONE FOR AUTOMATIC ROTORSPINNING MILLS

IN JUST 10 YEARS, SAURER INSTALLED ONE MILLION AUTOCORO SPINNING POSITIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL DRIVE TECHNOLOGY. THE AUTOCORO THUS REVOLUTIONISED AUTOMATIC ROTORSPINNING TECHNOLOGY AND OPENED THE DOOR TO MORE PRODUCTIVITY, FLEXIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY FOR NUMEROUS CUSTOMERS WORLDWIDE. WITH THE AUTOCORO 10, THE THIRD AUTOCORO GENERATION OF THIS SUCCESSFUL ROTOR-SPINNING MACHINE HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED ITSELF.

The spinning and winding process of each Autocoro spinning position is autonomous and automatic piecing, the key to production with a minimum number of personnel, is fully integrated in the spinning position. SynchroPiecing, the simultaneous piecing at up to 36 spinning positions on the Autocoro 10, is digitally controlled and perfectly networked in the machine. One million Autocoro spinning positions – that's around four to five billion fully automatic piecing processes that Autocoro spinning positions around the world carry out precisely and reliably every year. Precision and reliability: that's exactly what makes the Autocoro so valuable for spinning mills. All you have to do is switch it on – and the Autocoro will produce tons of yarn fully automatically and cost-effectively for many years. SynchroPiecing has ensured production increases of up to 30% worldwide. SynchroPiecing is the guarantee that yarn breaks are repaired immediately after

they occur and that they are also invisible in the finished textile. For the spinning mill, this continuity means constantly high ef-



ficiency, even with raw materials that tend to be characterised by numerous yarn breaks and for which the quality monitoring by the integrated yarn clearer Corolab has to be set particularly closely. This is often the case with inexpensive fibres and sustainable regenerated materials. At the same time, spinning mills can increase the production speed of these raw materials significantly, by up to 27% depending on the application. And the reliable piecing technology of the Autocoro also pays off during machine run-up, which is completed in less than 10 minutes even on a long Autocoro 10 with 600 spinning positions using SynchroPiecing 36. ARTICLE Saurer Spinning Solutions 52531 Übach-Palenberg Autocoro with

SynchroPiecing: the Germany world's number one for automatic rotor-spinning mills Mmachines and components for yarn production. As a company with a long tradition, we have always been an innovation leader. Today, the group is a solution provider for the textile industry consisting of two segments. Spinning Solutions offers high-quality, technologically advanced and customer-specific automated solutions for staple fibre processing from bale to yarn. Saurer Technologies specialises in intelligent and economical twisting and cabling machines for tire cord, carpet, staple fibre, glass filament and industrial yarns, which allow customers to adapt flexibly to dynamic market requirements.

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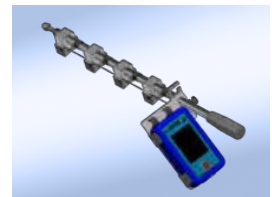
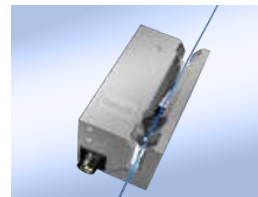
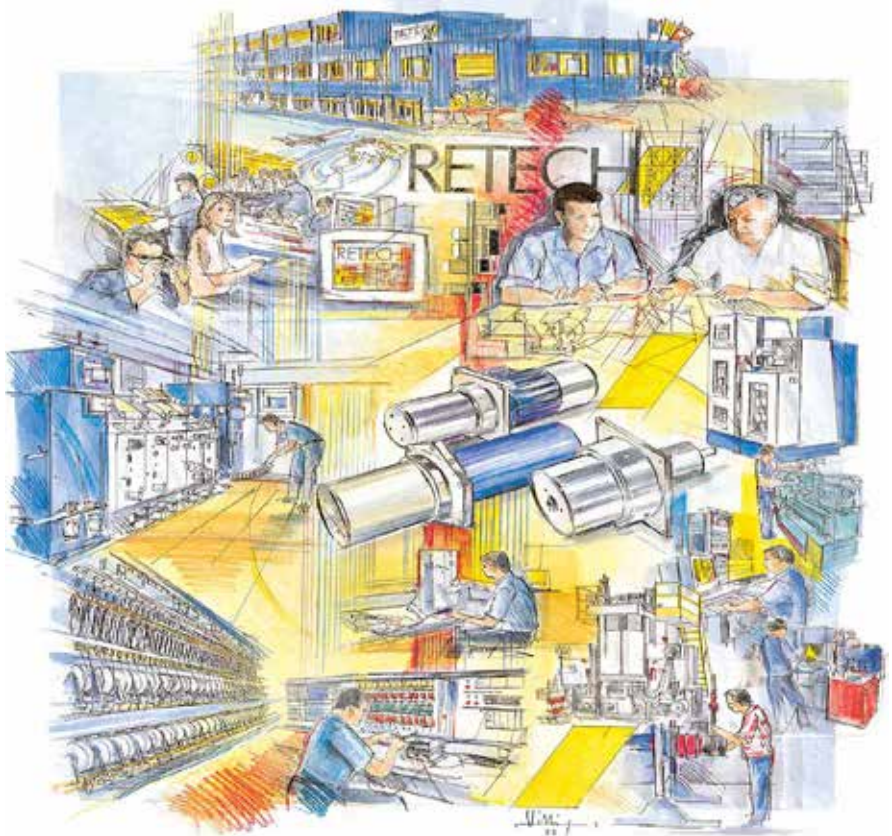
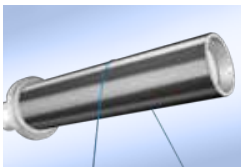
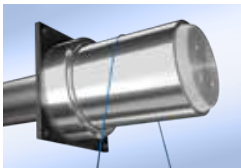
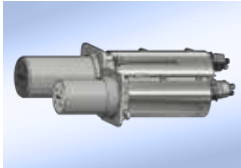
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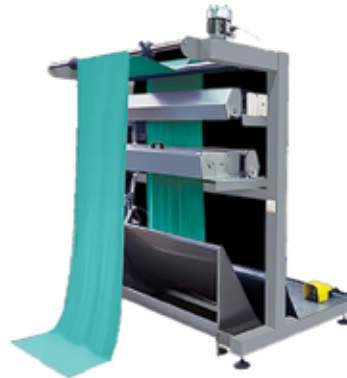
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# INAUGURATION OF GROZ-BECKERT'S FIRST WEAVING SHOWROOM IN INDIA

**ALBSTADT, GERMANY/ICHALKARANJI, INDIA: ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022, GROZ-BECKERT OPENED ITS FIRST SHOWROOM IN INDIA – IN THE EMERGING WEAVING MARKET IN ICHALKARANJI. PART OF THE OFFICIAL INAUGURATION WAS AN EVENING EVENT WITH CUSTOMERS. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEAVING SHOWROOM IS THE NEW FULLY AUTOMATIC WARPMASTERPLUS DRAWING-IN MACHINE. KNOTMASTER SERIES KNOTTING MACHINES AND ACCESSORIES FROM THE WEAVING PREPARATION PORTFOLIO ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR TRAINING, TESTING AND DEMONSTRATIONS.**

07-04-2022

The WarpMasterPlus is the latest generation of fully automatic drawing-in machines. The system of the WarpMasterPlus was completely redeveloped from the ground up. The latest technologies were consistently used to bring a machine to the market that is already equipped today for future requirements with regard to increased automation in view of Industry 4.0. With this machine generation, Groz-Beckert continues to rely on the globally proven drawing-in concept, where drawing-in takes place via a single bobbin. Further advantages of the WarpMasterPlus include optimal flexibility combined with maximum performance and minimal setup requirements, as well as problem-free drawing in of critical warp yarns. In addition, the number of cycles has been increased and sophisticated functions such as pre-setting drop-wire maga-

zines and CNC axes for adjusting the heald length have been added. The WarpMasterPlus combines all properties offered by the established WarpMaster concept to date: This includes the minimal training requirements for operating and maintenance personnel and the extremely easy operation thanks to sensors and video support. Video support in particular is a feature that has been appreci-

ated by customers for years. It enables people without prior knowledge of drawing-in to operate the machine quickly and reliably. Groz-Beckert is thus countering the increasing shortage of skilled workers in the industry. The company presented the WarpMasterPlus for the first time at ITMA 2019 in Barcelona, Spain.



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# MAYER & CIE. LOOKS BACK ON A SUCCESSFUL 2021

Digitisation, sustainability and modernisation are the topics for 2022. Albstadt, 23 March 2022 – Looking back, 2021 was a positive year for the Albstadt-based circular knitting machine and braiding machine manufacturer Mayer & Cie. After two tough years, sales exceeded Euro 100 million again last year, and the outlook for this year is promising, with production working at long-term full capacity in the circular knitting machine sector. In order to maintain its market edge Mayer & Cie. continues to rely on digitisation of both its processes and its products. Substantial investment at its headquarters location, especially in machinery, is on the Mayer & Cie. agenda for 2022. The company passes an energy upgrade milestone these days with launching its new CHP cogeneration units.

## Sales back to pre-crisis level

“Compared with 2020, our Group sales were up by about 40 per cent in 2021,” said Mayer & Cie. Managing Director Benjamin Mayer. After two difficult years in 2019 and 2020 the circular knitting machine manufacturer was able last year to restore sales to a stable level of about 103 million Euro. And it could have achieved an even better result. “Supply chain problems hampered production perceptibly,” the company’s managing director said. “In view of the order situation up to five per cent more might

have been possible.” The Albstadt textile machinery manufacturer’s order position has stayed at a sound, high level since the fourth quarter of 2020, and orders in hand will already keep the circular knitting machine division busy until the end of the year, with orders coming in from all over the world, but especially, and with no change, from the company’s core markets Turkey, China and India. The Management views with concern, however, the conflict in the Ukraine, which at first glance may not affect the sales market directly but might lead to general purchasing restraint in the capital goods sector that like the trade war between the United States and China, which began in 2018, would also affect Mayer & Cie. In addition, effects of the conflict such as high energy prices and interruptions in material supplies and logistics pose a genuine challenge in the further course of the year. In the braiding machine division, the order position recovered in 2021. Sales of new machines and, especially, spare parts exceeded the 2020 figures significantly. “In the braider business,” Benjamin Mayer said, “we regained ground to some extent, although our sales are still not where we would our performance for your profit like to see them. We aim to expand in this area in the years ahead with further developments to existing machines

and plans for new machines.” Award-winning digitisation Production and machine data bundled and available to access worldwide in real time is part of the vision of Sebastian Mayer, a member of the Mayer & Cie. management and its development supremo. He and his team have in recent years created a digital backbone that connects the entire company. Product Lifecycle Management, or PLM, is part of it and has standardised and streamlined historical processes in production and development. What customers will see are the online spare parts Web shop, the remote maintenance options for machines and the bundling of production and machine data on the knitlink platform. Mayer & Cie. has once more won an award for its in-house and external digitisation measures as one of the most innovative German SMEs. The textile machinery manufacturer won a 2022 Top 100 award for its innovative processes in particular. “Even in difficult years,” says Sebastian Mayer, “we have deliberately focussed on optimising core processes in order to be able to hit the ground running when the market recovers. We are naturally pleased to have been able to set a benchmark with this approach.”

## Investing in the location

“To operate successfully in the long term, investing in the location is absolutely essential,” Benjamin





Mayer says. "That is quite clear in the policy of modernising machinery that we are pursuing." In the years ahead a range of production machinery – lathes, gear cutting and grinding machines – is to be replaced at a scheduled cost run-

ning into low double-digit millions. Last year saw an investment in a robot-controlled laser hardening system for heat-treating machine components. The company has also completed its on-site energy upgrade. The CHP cogeneration plant

that will supply much of the energy consumed by Mayer & Cie.'s main production facility in Albstadt is to be inaugurated shortly.

# STOLL FROM THE KARL MAYER GROUP LAUNCHES ITS NEW "WONDERFUL" TREND COLLECTION WONDERFUL SUCCESS!

31 March 2022

Flat knitting is one of the most versatile textile forming technologies. What is possible here is shown by STOLL's regular trend collections. The latest compilation of inspiring designer pieces is entitled "WONDERFUL". On display are wonderful products designed to make the viewer pause and marvel. "WONDERFUL" shows what it means to create wonderful knitted articles. In today's world, moments of true wonder seem rare, but with the right technology, creative visions

become products that inspire and amaze. With STOLL's technological solutions, wonderful product ideas can be realized for everything that is important to us: our children, our home, our appearance and our well-being. Accordingly, the new trend collection serves different areas of application: Extraordinary STOLL-knit and wear® products in the new gauge of E 10.2 and in established gauges, such as E 7.2, inspire the market for seamless articles. Extravagant combinations of intar-

sia, STOLL-weave-in® and STOLL-ikat plating® techniques create novel pattern possibilities, material usages and color impressions. The possibility of individualization is supported by selected products via STOLL-autocreate®. The trend collection causes amazement, but also stands for responsibility and environmental awareness. One chapter presents a sustainable footwear fabric solution that was created in collaboration with renowned players in textile value creation.

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“WONDERFUL” was launched in March 2022. The first presentations took place in front of customers in Italy and were a great success. “Our “WONDERFUL” designs were very well received. Some customers have adopted the new pattern options contained there directly into their current collection, and ordered the necessary technical kits to convert their machines,” explains Jörg Hartmann, Head of Fashion & Technology at STOLL with satisfaction



4 April 2022

After being postponed in March due to the pandemic, the upcoming JEC World 2022 will now take place from 3 to 5 May at Paris Nord Villepinte as an in-person event. What's more, the JEC World Connect digital platform will also provide an online presence. The industry-leading international exhibition regularly brings together the entire value chain of the composites industry and is eagerly awaited this year since it was cancelled in 2020 and then held as

## SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR COMPOSITE REINFORCEMENTS AND EXHIBITION LAUNCH FOR STOLL – KARL MAYER WITH TWO HIGHLIGHTS AT JEC WORLD, 3 – 5 MAY 2022 IN PARIS, HALL 5 Q 64

an online-only event in 2021. As an exhibitor, KARL MAYER Technische Textilien is also looking forward to exchanging ideas with its customers at stand Q 64 in Hall 5. Presentation highlights will include solutions for composites made of natural fibres. KARL MAYER Technische Textilien will also be exhibiting reinforcement solutions made from tried-and-tested high-performance fibres at JEC World 2022, including high-quality carbon non-crimp fabrics manufactured on a COP MAX

5 for aircraft and automotive construction, and warp-knitted fabrics with weft insertion from the WEFTTRONIC® II G, which is currently setting trends with its products – particularly in the construction industry. KARL MAYER Technische Textilien will also be exhibiting reinforcement solutions made from tried-and-tested high-performance fibres at JEC World 2022, including high-quality carbon non-crimp fabrics manufactured on a COP MAX 5 for aircraft and automotive

construction, and warp-knitted fabrics with weft insertion from the WEFTTRONIC® II G, which is currently setting trends with its products – particularly in the construction industry. The SIM.PLY UD is another exhibition highlight. The unit efficiently produces fibre composite tapes with continuous fibre reinforcement and thermoplastic matrix systems while operating with uninterrupted process control, thereby offering extremely high production speeds.



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# INSIGHTS: AIR PERMEABILITY TESTING

THE WAY CLOTHING INTERACTS WITH THE BODY, PARTICULARLY REGARDING THE DISSIPATION OF HEAT AND MOISTURE, PLAYS A LARGE ROLE IN THE WEARER'S PERCEIVED COMFORT. TODAY, TEXTILE FABRICS USED FOR CLOTHING HAVE NEW FUNCTIONAL PROPERTIES TO IMPROVE THE WEARER'S SENSORY COMFORT AND THERMAL COMFORT, MEANING THAT AIR AND WATER VAPOUR PERMEABILITY TO ACHIEVE CLOTHING COMFORT IS CRUCIAL - PARTICULARLY FOR PERFORMANCE APPAREL SUCH AS SPORTSWEAR AND OUTDOOR CLOTHING.

In this application insight, Technical Specialist Peter Goodwin at James Heal, explores the topic of air permeability testing further, looking specifically at the role of comfort in the air permeability of fabrics.

## Full contents for quick access:

- What is air permeability in textiles?
- Factors which affect the air permeability of fabric
- Air permeability of clothing and comfort
- Air permeability vs Breathability: what's the difference?
- How to perform an Air Permeability test
- Learn more about AirPro

## What is air permeability in textiles?

Air permeability is a widely used test which measures how easily air is passed through fabric and helps to indicate the fabric's breathability, particularly for wind-resistant, weather-resistant and waterproof fabrics. Air permeability is defined by the ASTM as the rate of air flow passing perpendicularly through a known area under a prescribed air pressure differential between the two surfaces of a material and is assessed by the volume of air in cubic centimetres (cm<sup>3</sup>) which is passed through 100cm<sup>2</sup> of the fabric in



one second at a pressure difference of 10cm head of water." It is an important factor in measuring both the porosity and density of fabric, and assessing the performance of materials like industrial curtains, sails, airbags, and parachutes for a variety of end uses such as military, industrial, medical, automotive and sports/outdoor apparel. In outdoor clothing, it is especially important for the material's air permeability to be as low as possible because it should function as protection from wind. Moreover, the performance of nonwoven materials which are used as breathable liners, PPE and filters, is impacted by their permeability to air.

## What influences the air permeability of a material?

The main influences on air perme-

ability are the density of the material (shape/value of the fabric/yarn's pores) and its structure, e.g. the fabric weave, the raw material of the yarns, the set of yarns etc. In addition, air permeability is influenced by the chemicals and coatings used on the outer layers of clothing, which can modify and/or restrict the flow of air through the material.

## The role of comfort in air permeability testing

"We can't discuss air permeability without referencing comfort", says Peter. "Air permeability can be an indicator of thermal loss in windproof garments, a measure of breathability for face coverings and can prevent infection in medical products. It is a contributing factor to the comfort of a fabric."



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It has been increasingly recognised that comfort testing, which tests the water vapour, liquid moisture transmission and thermal transfer, plays an important role in the development of technical textiles and clothing with a wide range of performance end uses such as professional sports and protective wear. Many different measurement techniques are being used whose results are not comparable, adds Peter: "Testing for comfort is challenging because ultimately, comfort is subjective to the person wearing the garment. Air permeability is a suitable test for comfort because the breathability of a material is very important. That includes the flow of air through the garment and its sensorial impact on the skin. For example, items such as raincoats, hiking trousers and tents require low air and water permeability to provide resistance to wind and moisture (water and water vapours), which would impact not only the wearer's comfort, but also the safety and performance of the garment."

#### **Air Permeability vs Breathability: what's the difference?**

The breathability of a garment is impacted by the material's air permeability, but they are not the same thing, says Peter. "The two terms are often used interchangeably but they have different meanings. The way a material dissipates the wearer's body heat is breathability. It's subjective to the person wearing the garment, but if something is 'breathable' then heat is dissi-



pated and water vapour (sweat) is prevented from building up - thus providing more perceived wearer 'comfort'.

"On the other hand, as explained above, how well air can pass through a fabric is not subjective - it's measurable, and it can be tested with an air permeability test. This is why we recommend using an air permeability tester, such as the James Heal AirPro when looking to assess a material's breathability and comfort."

#### **Testing for air permeability**

The following test methods are used to measure air permeability:

- EN ISO 9237
- ASTM D737
- GB/T 5453
- JIS L 1096:2010 – test 8.26 Method C
- BS 3424-16
- NWSP 70.1
- BS EN ISO 9073-15

Using a James Heal AirPro air permeability tester, you can conduct an air permeability test following

any of the above test methods in just a few simple steps:

"Testing on AirPro requires minimal training, so laboratory technicians can quickly use the instrument with confidence."

- The airflow through an area of fabric is measured at a constant pressure drop across the fabric of 10cm head of water
- The specimen is clamped over the air inlet using rubber gaskets and air is sucked through it by a pump
- The air valve is adjusted to give a pressure drop across the fabric of 10cm head of water, then the airflow is measured with a flow meter
- The mean airflow in cm<sup>3</sup> per second is calculated from the results of five test specimens
- The air permeability is then calculated in cm<sup>3</sup> per second per cm

**Contact us to learn more about AirPro**



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### Discover AirPro

The new AirPro Air Permeability Tester, is designed to test the resistance of the flow of air through woven, knitted and nonwoven textile materials. This includes a variety of applications, including performance apparel, medical textiles, PPE, infant products such as bedding, nonwovens, geotextiles and more.

## DATACOLOR AUTOLAB AUTOMATED RECIPE DISPENSING SYSTEM

Datacolor automated dispensing system dispenses a wide range of solutions for textile exhaust and continuous dyeing, textile printing, floor covering, pigment industries and more. Datacolor AUTOLAB® Laboratory Dispenser Series gives you the speed, precision and flexibility to provide accurate and repeatable recipes. Autolab SPS – An invaluable companion product to the AUTOLAB dispenser for ensuring solution



accuracy. Autolab TF – Accurate dye recipes dispensed quickly, providing optimized lab productivity & elimina-

tion of costly re-dyes resulting from operator errors. Designed for: Essential for the color labora-

tory where speed, accuracy, and repeatability are the primary focus.

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# ROLL OUT OF THE FIRST CONNECT WEAVING MACHINES

April 21, 2022

This month, Picanol realized another milestone with the first weaving machines of the Connect generation rolling off the production line at its plant in Ieper, Belgium. This marks a new step for Picanol and its customers with an even greater focus on data and connectivity. The OmniPlus-i Connect weaving machine in the picture will be shipped to the Vietnamese branch of our Chinese customer Tex-



hong Textile Group Ltd. "This new Connect generation of weaving machines provide the correct data and are loaded with new functionalities, such as Climate control, Shed angle measurement, and fully inte-

grated Power monitoring. For the OptiMax-i Connect and TerryMax-i Connect machines, a digitalized Gripper stroke setting and Gripper tape monitoring have also been introduced. With this new Connect

generation, our customers get all the possibilities to be at the top of their market and they will be prepared for every new opportunity," comments Kurt Lamkowski, Manager Worldwide Sales.

## A BIG ORDER FROM A SMALL COUNTRY

### KARL MAYER WARP PREPARATION UNITS SUPPORT A HOME TEXTILES PROJECT IN THE GLO-DJIGBE INDUSTRIAL ZONE IN BENIN

21 April 2022

Benin is a small West African country with bright prospects. Only 45 km from Benin's capital Cotonou in the commune of Abomey-Calavi, the Glo-Djigbé Industrial Zone (GDIZ) is currently being built on an area covering 1,640 hectares, where locally grown agricultural products are to be processed. Local products mainly include cotton, cashew nuts, pineapples, shea nuts

and soybeans. The broadening of national value creation is expected to create a total of 300,000 jobs, while also fighting poverty and strengthening the competitiveness of the "Made in Benin" brand. Construction on the industrial zone began in June 2021, and the project is due to be inaugurated on 31st July 2022. A joint venture between Arise Integrated Industrial Platforms (Arise IIP), Africa Finance

Corporation (AFC) and the Republic of Benin was founded to establish the push economy. Arise IIP alone plans to invest 1.5 billion dollars./1/ As of March 2022, a total of ten companies had already relocated to the GDIZ, including representatives from the textile industry. As part of a special project, home textiles production is set to be a particular focus in the GDIZ. The project involves building up capacity in



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the spinning, circular knitting and weaving sectors, thus investing in textile machinery from renowned manufacturers. Contracts were signed with the KARL MAYER Group for warp preparation machinery. The innovative world market leader is to deliver several direct warpers and sizing machines, as well as a sectional warping machine to West Africa – no ordinary order for the company. “For the most part, we serve customers in typical textile regions. Benin is almost brand new territory for us from a business perspective. We are looking forward to sharing in this exciting project that will positively affect the country’s economic development,” said Peter Obrist, Senior Sales Manager at

KARL MAYER Warp Preparation. The PROSIZE® sizing machine guarantees the highest efficiency in the weaving mill with its produced premium warp beams and is part of the scope of delivery for the home textile project in the Glo-Djigbé industrial zone in Benin. The KARL MAYER Group machines are scheduled for delivery in spring 2023. The warp beams are intended for processing into terry cloth and bed linen.

### **WATER JET LOOM**

#### **ZW8200 WATER JET LOOM**

Enhanced while maintaining the basis of the best-selling ZW8100 Dream Navigator leading synthetic fabric weaving  
Higher speed 10% improvement in loom RPM\* Water savings 10% re-

duction in water consumption\*  
Clean 70% reduction in grease entry into drainage\* Compared with the existing models.

### **Products WATER JET LOOM**

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# ZW8200 <sup>Professional</sup> WATER JET LOOM



## UH type nozzle

The UH type nozzle achieves stable weft insertion and significantly reduces water jet blowing into the air. By firmly holding the weft tip with the advanced part of the jetted water and adjusting to a small amount of jetted water, it is possible to reduce water consumption.

By shortening the pitch between the nozzles, the difference in weft insertion for each nozzle can be reduced. Weft insertion time can be increased, achieving stable weft insertion during high speed operation.

For the stabilizer inside the nozzle,

more rectifying fins are provided, compared with the existing models. Water jetting convergence is improved, increasing the weft feeding force. Provided with the cut surfaces, the needle can be attached and detached easily using the dedicated tool. **FDP-A IV W Measuring and Storage device** A new motor is used. The FDP-A IV W has an outstanding higher following performance during high-speed operation. It is provided with the feeding mechanism that positively separates yarns. It is easy to adjust to store and release even thick yarns for any weft. The measuring

amount of weft (FDP drum diameter) is simple to adjust, one-touch type.

## Yarn storage sensor

During operation, weft storage is monitored and automatically supplied. **Grease spill reduction mechanism** By collecting old grease discharged during lubrication in the dedicated container, grease is not exposed to water, significantly reducing grease entry into drainage.

## 1. Beating section

The water to feed weft spilled on the beating section is discharged without being exposed to grease, reducing oil in drainage.

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## 2. Shedding section

By preventing grease from dropping on the UNDER PAN, it is possible to reduce oil in drainage.

### 6-link beating

(Selectable for 2-color or more weft selections) By shortening the beating stroke and positioning the 1st heald frame closer to the cloth fell compared with the existing models, both high quality fabric and high speed operation are offered.

- Optimizing the beating stroke graph ensures reduced friction between warp and the reed and long weft insertion time.
- By positioning the heald frame closer to the cloth fell, the shedding amount can be small, reducing warp load.



- It is possible to use a less-high reed.
- Warp fluff and warp breakage can be reduced.

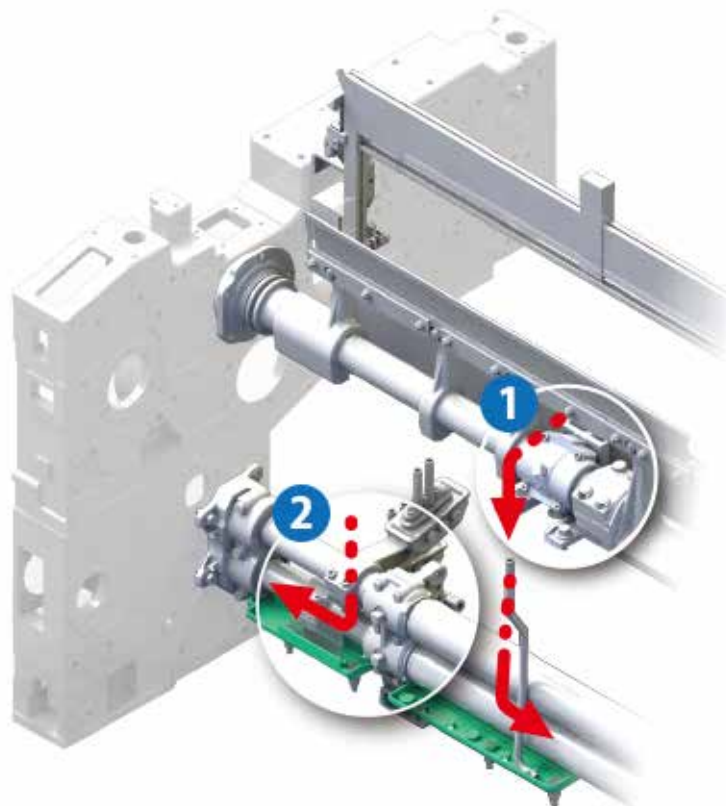
### Standard/Stretch yarn simple replacement.

It is possible to prevent stretch yarn from exiting the nozzle due to shrinkage after cutting it. Mechanical adjustment time required for yarn replacement is significantly shortened compared with the existing models, ensuring simple mechanical setting change for yarn replacement.

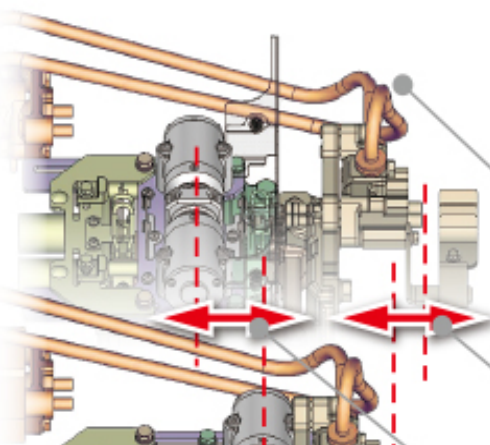
### Let-off beam brake (Mechanical mark reduction)

Mechanical marks caused by a backlash of the beam gear are reduced, providing more stability and higher fabric quality.





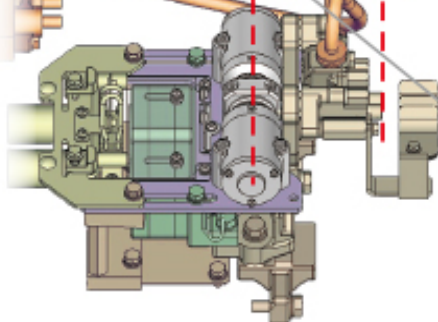
Standard



No need to replace the outlet tube.

The nozzle can be positioned separately from the fabric end. (Yarn tip length coming from the nozzle can be adjusted.)

Stretch



The clammer can be positioned closer to the nozzle. (Yarn holding position can be adjusted.)

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## WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT CONCERNING WOOLLEN FABRICS?

There are several new trends arising that make good use of advanced technologies which help to create woollen fabrics with amazing designs. Like coats and oversize cardigans with different weights.

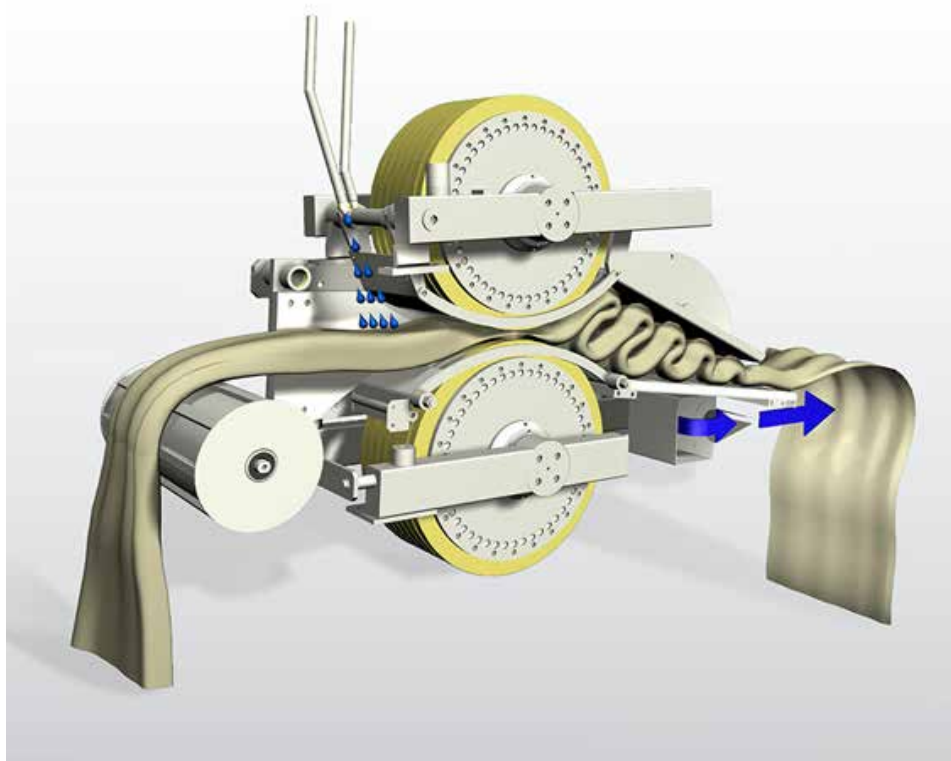
While diverse weight of woollen fabrics can cause difficulties during the textile finishing process, there are two machines made by Biancalani which offer new solutions.

One is called IDRA which is a combined modular washing and milling machine. This textile finishing machine with independent channels is designed to independently wash and mill woollen fabrics of different compositions. In the different IDRA channels it is possible to load fabrics of varying composition, width and weight because the parameters used in each individual channel do not influence those of the others.

The greatest innovation is that each channel is completely independent, so each will complete its pre-programmed cycle automatically, while the others will continue to operate until their own milling cycle reaches its conclusion, allowing the milling of woollen fabrics with different weights independently.

The other machinery is MILLA a combined washing and milling machine. Both machineries created by Biancalani Textile Machinery are milestones of woollen fabric manufacturing. In this short video we show and explain you how our combined washing and milling machine

**Each IDRA channel is completely independent, so each will complete its pre-programmed cycle automatically.**



MILLA works.

IDRA and MILLA are equipped with an air-jet device – patented and constantly innovated by Biancalani

– that ensures the absence of creases and permanent strains in the fabric. In addition to this, milling time has been significantly reduced with spe-







cial attention to limit consumption and thus preserving the environment. Furthermore, IDRA & MILLA can be used both for heavy fabrics and lightweight articles manufacturing, ensuring a deep milling action on the first and a safe one on delicate fabrics. Obviously, the milling step is at the core of wool manufacturing and thus of what we see in big brand stores. Nowadays, brands are attentive to details and their motto is “always demand the best and never settle for anything less”. That’s because end customers are well informed, they read labels and know what they want from a brand.

In order to meet their requests, everyday more manufacturers are choosing Biancalani Textile Machinery. Amazing results, best quality, sustainability. Those are the characteristics of woollen fabrics manufactured with IDRA and MILLA. Want to know more about these combined milling and washing machines of remarkable versatility? Here you can find further information: We take the opportunity to announce the opening of our Instagram page where you can find out more about us and our company.



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# CATERING FOR DIVERSITY – MONFORTS AT TECHTEXTIL NORTH AMERICA

**MONFORTS WILL HIGHLIGHT ITS ADVANCED FINISHING AND COATING TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TECHNICAL TEXTILES AT TECHTEXTIL NORTH AMERICA, WHICH TAKES PLACE AT THE GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER IN ATLANTA FROM MAY 17-19.**

The company and its US representative PSP Marketing, of Charlotte, North Carolina, will be part of the centrepiece VDMA German Pavilion at the show (Stand 1936 in Hall B3). European-built Montex stenters have earned their leading position on the market for fabric finishing due to their robustness, reliability and economy. Existing technical textiles customers include manufacturers in the fields of home textiles, geotextiles, automotive fabrics, as well as functional materials. Dedicated Montex lines have also been supplied to producers of airbags, flame retardant barrier fabrics and spacer fabrics, as well as high-temperature filter materials. "Technical textiles are extremely diverse in their end-use applications but the needs of the manufacturers of very different materials are still uniform in many respects," says Monforts Managing Director Stefan Flöth. "Montex stenters provide maximum efficiency, the ultimate in flexibility and the ability to switch quickly from one fabric formula to the next. Many of our customers need to operate 24 hours a day over seamless shift systems."

Energy prices With energy prices continuing to go through the roof, an emphasis at Techtextil North America will be on the energy and heat recovery that can be achieved with Montex stenters, through features such as the MonforClean system, in which waste heat from the drying process is used to pre-heat the drying air. This results in a radical reduction in the conventional heat supply required. A range of further resource-saving and energy recovery options can be specified per individual line installation.

## **Advanced machine operation**

With the highly intuitive Qualitex 800 visualization software, all article-specific settings can be stored and the formulations for thousands of treatment processes called up again at any time. Individual operators can also personalise their dashboards with the most important machine functions and process parameters "The easy to use HMI makes the operation of the line much simpler and cuts down the necessary training periods, while at the same time reducing the chance of human error," observes PSP vice-president Alex Franco. The

Qualitex 800 system is available for the automatic and continuous operation of the company's Montex stenters, as well as its Thermex continuous dyeing ranges, Monfortex shrinking systems and Montex®Coat coating units.

## **Versatility is the key**

Monforts Montex®Coat coating units serve an equally diverse number of markets, including tents, tarpaulins and awnings, black-out roller blinds and sail cloth, automotive interior fabrics and medical disposables. Full PVC coatings, pigment dyeing or minimal application surface and low penetration treatments and solvent coatings (in explosion-proof conditions) with knife coating, roller coating or screen printing can all be accommodated with this system.

"Technical textiles are a key pillar of our production programme and North America is one of our major markets, which makes Techtextil North America a very important show for us," Flöth concludes. "We are looking forward to reconnecting with customers old and new at this always-vibrant show."



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*A wide width Monforts Montex line for the production of technical textiles.*



*Monforts Montex® Coat coating units serve a diverse number of markets.*



# SPOTLIGHT ON THE MONFORTS STENTER AT ITM

**MONFORTS AND ITS TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE NEOTEK ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING CUSTOMERS OLD AND NEW AT THE FORTHCOMING ITM 22 INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE MACHINERY SHOW WHICH IS TAKING PLACE FROM JUNE 14-18 AT THE TYAP FAIR AND CONGRESS CENTRE IN ISTANBUL, AFTER A THREE-YEAR BREAK.**



*The Monforts and Neotek teams will be pleased to welcome you at ITM 22 in Istanbul.*



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"We will be emphasising the robustness and versatility of the Montex stenter for essential processes such as drying, stretching, heatsetting and coating at the Istanbul show," said Monforts Area Sales Manager Thomas Päßgen. "The Montex has become the industry standard for the fabric finishing industry, providing a number of advantages in terms of production throughput and especially in energy efficiency and savings." "With energy prices rising steeply everywhere, features such as the MonforClean system, or the EcoBooster, in which waste heat from the drying process is used to

pre-heat the drying air, are proving more invaluable than ever," added Ahmet Kilic of Neotek. "Monforts can provide a range of further resource-saving and energy recovery options tailored to each individual line installation. We expect fruitful discussions on how we can meet the needs of our many mill partners during this key Istanbul event." With the TwinAir heating chamber system within a Montex stenter, top and bottom airflows can be regulated completely independently of each other, ensuring heat is only applied when and where it is required. The Optiscan balancing sys-

tem ensures continuous automatic evaluation of the distance between the nozzles and the fabric for highly economical and contact-free drying. The resulting constant evaporation rate within the stenter ensures optimum energy utilisation and also avoids markings on the fabric. With the latest Montex stenters, overall energy savings of up to 40% can now be achieved compared to a conventional stenter with no heat recovery or energy optimisation measures like high-quality chamber insulation. The Montex stenter also benefits from full digital control, with the Qualitex 800 PLC control



*A recent Montex line installation in Turkey.*



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system providing ease of operation and rapid access to line and management data, including full operating cost overviews, as well as maintenance monitoring. Advances in digital technology mean that there

are also now significant gains to be made in the retrofitting of existing Monforts machines with the latest automatic drives and control systems, going far beyond the basic replacement of spare parts. "We will

be very happy to welcome you on our booth 1209B in hall 12 during ITM," said Ahmet Kilic and Thomas Päßgen.



*Turkey's first Montex® Coat coating system has recently been commissioned at Altun Tekstil in Bursa.*



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# CRESCENT BAHUMAN INTRODUCES INFINITE AND SUSTAINABLE BLUE SHADES WITHOUT INDIGO

The vertical denim supplier's proprietary dyeing technology, Blue Infinity, will launch at Kingpins Amsterdam. Blue Infinity – by Crescent Bahūmán will change everything. When acid wash was invented in 1986, it changed our industry entirely. It was like an empty fridge being refilled with food. Almost everyone wanted their product to be acid washed. When the Japanese invented slub denim, like acid wash, it changed the industry and made everyone wanting to replace what they had with new yarn shapes. The third game changer in my career is Blue Infinity which is not indigo but looks and acts like it, actually taking blue denim to a new dimension, beyond Indigo, opening new ways for innovative shades, looks and effects. Congratulations CBL. – Andrew Olah LAHORE, PAKISTAN | April 8, 2022 – Crescent Bahūmán Ltd. (CBL), an innovative, sustainability focused, vertical denim supplier, has engineered Blue Infinity, a game-changing technology that creates an endless variety of blue shades without

using indigo. Blue Infinity provides the global denim industry with a low-impact solution for warp dyeing on all product categories, ranging from mass retail to boutique luxury styles. It is a revolutionary way to produce new shades, looks and effects. From brilliant blues to greener and greyer shades; from vintage to luxury looks; and from classical to contemporary effects.

This innovation allows CBL to become an active agent of positive change within the supply chain and offer added value to the denim market. The Blue Infinity concept is based on a proprietary dyeing technology that reduces environmental stress, both on required resources and generated outputs. The gains are across environmental impact categories such as water, energy and chemicals. Garment wash downs can be performed mechanically, with smart chemicals, and with energy-based systems such as lasers – or any combinations thereof. The environmental benefits also extend through the entire laundry process. All chemicals used in the process are

GOTS 6.0 approved. Blue Infinity also meets RSL requirements from major brands and retailers. "The ability of this technology is tremendous, especially because it creates an infinite number of shades of blue while reducing environmental stress," said Crescent Bahūmán Vice President of Strategy Zaki Saleemi. "CBL has had to think, work and execute this technology in a totally unconventional manner compared with traditional manufacturing processes." Crescent Bahūmán's Blue Infinity collection will officially launch at the April 20-21 run of the Kingpins Show at SugarCity in Amsterdam and is available for review by appointment. About Crescent Bahūmán Limited (CBL) CBL, a 25-year-old denim fabric and garment manufacturer from Pakistan, is focused on developing new projects while staying true to its belief that man, nature, and industry can coexist. CBL is the first vertically integrated denim jeans operation in Pakistan. CBL is also the first denim mill in Pakistan to extract locally grown, rain-fed hemp fiber.

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TEXTILE

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# ARTISTIC MILLINERS' \$60 MILLION FACTORY BOOSTS EFFICIENCY

April 8, 2022

Artistic Milliners Courtesy

Artistic Milliners is expanding its presence in Pakistan with a new \$60 million state-of-the-art facility that follows through on its values. At full capacity, the 500,000-square-foot facility will employ 3,500 workers—70 percent of which will be women—and boost production capacity by 30 percent. Already in operation and shipping product, the factory will be able to produce 600,000 pieces per month, totaling 43.2 million pieces per year. It's expected to reach full capacity by the first quarter of 2023. With digitized processes, the factory is aligned with supply chain 4.0 principles that keep it at the forefront of innovation. The facility is part of the company's nine-acre AM-4 apparel park in Karachi, which employs more than 10,500 workers.

"The opening of this facility is an opportunity to put into practice our vision for the future of apparel production," said Murtaza Ahmed, Artistic Milliners managing director. "We see this as a model factory, one where the latest technological innovations in efficiency and sustainability meet the best employment practices in terms of women's empowerment and well-being." With this kind of scale, the company's commitment to sustainability is more important than ever. The facility is LEED Platinum certified, the



highest level currently attainable, and features 850KW solar panels. Advanced membrane bioreactor (MBR) water recycling technology increases the company's daily water recycling capacity to 1.5 million gallons, helping it achieve its water recycling goal of 90 percent. It also uses ZDHC-certified chemicals and has achieved Higg FEM 3.0, ISO 14001:2015 and Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) certifications. With this facility, Artistic Milliners is putting a spotlight on women workers. It's equipped with on-site daycare and employee training facilities in line with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Family Friendly Program, an initiative for increasing the number of women in the workforce. The company plans to employ women in non-traditional roles such as dry

processing and pressing. Artistic Milliners has a legacy of elevating women, with Ahmed named of one Financial Times' "50 Global Male Champions of Women in Business" list in 2018 for providing benefits like literacy programs and employee training for women. At the time, half of Artistic Milliners' top management was female. Last year, the company partnered with fashion brand partner Bestseller to roll out HERessentials, a pilot program from global nonprofit BSR, the organization behind HERproject, a collaborative initiative that strives to empower low-income women working in global supply chains. The program aimed to help women within Artistic Milliners' factories develop "adaptive capacity," or the social and technical skills needed to respond to environmental and so-



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cioeconomic changes, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. With a workforce of 3,500, the new facility follows the highest safety standards, and features a fully automated fire protection and detection system. It was designed in accordance with seismic standards to protect the workers and prevent structure damage in event of an earthquake. Added benefits include free on-site lunch and transportation, as well as

a 100 percent digital wage system making payment more efficient and eliminating the physical exchange of money. The factory is another part of the company's expansion plans, which included the acquisition of a Los Angeles wash facility, Star Fades International, at the beginning of 2021. The facility provides U.S. customers with 360-degree design capabilities and has already launched a number of sustainably made den-

im collections, including Yeezy Gap Engineered by Balenciaga. Earlier this year, the company opened Art-mill to offer retailers, manufacturers and brands turnkey solutions for their casualwear programs and tailor custom offerings for startup and premium labels. The first LEED Platinum certified piece-dye mill in the region, the facility will have an annual vertical capacity of 6 million garments.

## FOUNDER'S LETTER: A NEW CHAPTER FOR UZBEK COTTON AND THEIR NATIONAL TEXTILE INDUSTRY

I recently returned from a trip to Uzbekistan, where I had a chance to tour cotton farms, spinning mills and denim mills and jean factories. It was an eye-opening experience and I want to share what I learned with all of you. But first, some perspective. Back in late 2019, I was approached by an Uzbekistani denim mill I had never heard of asking if they could exhibit at Kingpins. Thoughtlessly and by rote, I responded negatively, telling them that due to forced labor in Uzbekistan's cotton industry, no fabric buyers at Kingpins could buy their products. The factory contacted me again in early 2020. But before replying, I thought I should educate myself first. At the time, I was working a lot from home and I had time to read about Uzbekistan and its history of forced labor and the changes that had been going



on in the country. In 2016, Uzbekistan elected its second president, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who won the

election with 88.6 percent of the vote. After he was sworn into office, Mirziyoyev removed most of



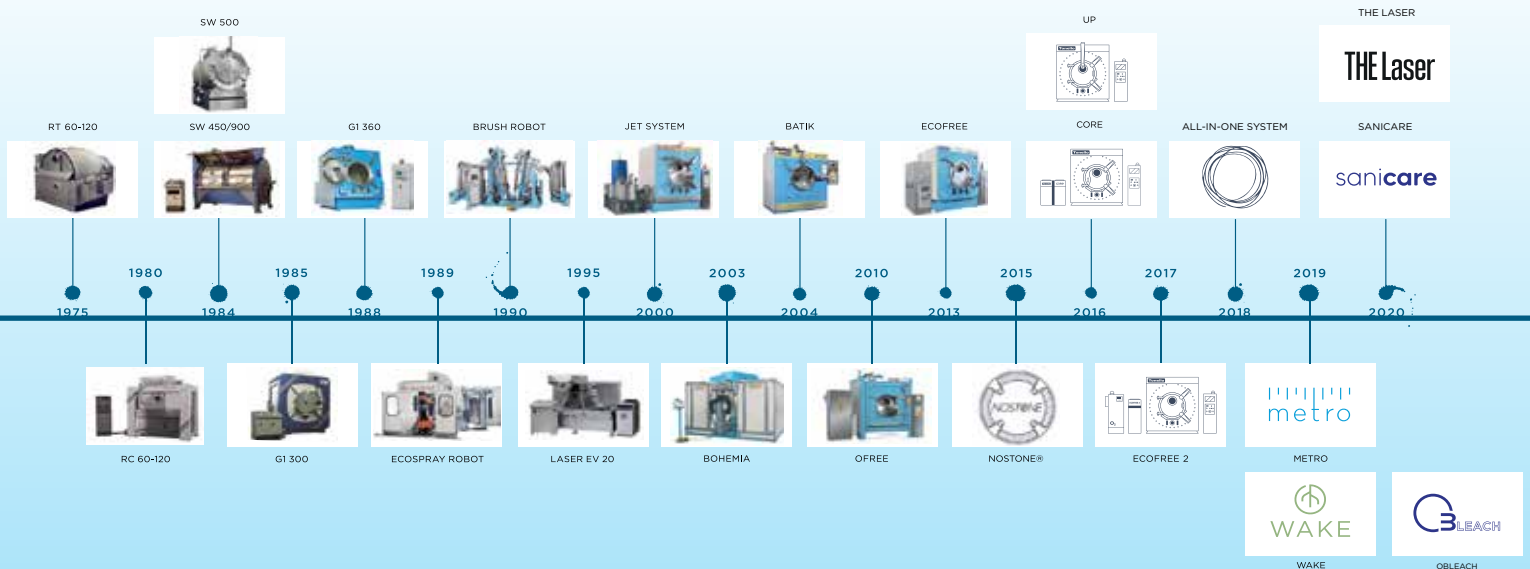
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**20-21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL**

# AN EDGE TO THE **NATURAL STRETCH**

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I recently returned from a trip to Uzbekistan, where I had a chance to tour cotton farms, spinning mills and denim mills and jean factories. It was an eye-opening experience and I want to share what I learned with all of you. But first, some perspective. Back in late 2019, I was approached by an Uzbekistani denim mill I had never heard of asking if they could exhibit at Kingpins. Thoughtlessly and by rote, I responded negatively, telling them that due to forced labor in Uzbekistan's cotton industry, no fabric buyers at Kingpins could buy their products. The factory contacted me again in early 2020. But before replying, I thought I should educate myself first. At the time, I was working a lot from home and I had time to read about Uzbekistan and its history of forced labor and the changes that had been going on in the country. In 2016, Uzbekistan elected its second president, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who won the election with 88.6 percent of the vote. After he was sworn into office, Mirziyoyev removed most of the previous president's officials and urged the government to employ "new, young people who love their country." After a year in office, Mirziyoyev moved away from many of his predecessor's policies. For textiles, that meant new labor practices and a shift from just being a cotton grower to mechanizing the industry and beginning to export yarn and full-package products. During my March 7-12 trip, I spent the majority of my time in and around the nation's capital, Tash-



kent, as well as a day in Bukhara. Much of my time was spent driving around from garment factories to textile mills and cotton farms, which provided a great chance for me to learn about this seriously important cotton-growing nation. Where else can you drive a short distance from a major city to cotton farms, spinning factories and jean factories? The highlight of the trip was a press conference hosted by the Ministry of Labor, where it was announced that the international boycott of Uzbek cotton was over. Reports of forced labor in the Uzbek cotton industry had led the Cotton Campaign to enlist support from 331 brands and retailers who pledged to boycott Uzbek cotton until the practice of using forced labor ended. And now, 12 years later, the Cotton Campaign — joined by the Responsible Sourcing Network and other NGOs — are now encouraging everyone to buy Uzbek products made from cotton. It's a wonderful story where the protagonists are committed advocates who diligently work on what

they believe is the right thing to do. Their efforts helped change a nation's policies concerning the treatment of their children and labor force. Anyone who thinks a few people cannot change a nation should read more about what has gone on in Uzbekistan over the last 12 years. Congratulations to everyone involved. Today, Uzbekistan is the seventh-largest cotton producer in the world, putting it on par with the crop-size of Pakistan and larger than that of Australia and Turkey. The country employs between 2.5 million and 3 million farmers and makes almost 1 million metric tons of cotton. For those bad at math, that's about 2 billion pounds — or enough for 4 billion T-shirts or 1.3 billion jeans. But what's amazing is that Uzbekistan's spinning capacity now exceeds its cotton production and in 2023, they will begin importing cotton. From what I could tell, we are seeing the very beginning of the Uzbek denim story. The country currently has only three denim mills and four jeans factories but I was told both Jeanologia and Ton-



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ello have sold equipment to one factory. And for those that love organic cotton, Uzbekistan's cotton farms do not use GMO seeds at all. Although the country currently produces no organic cotton, it is on track to become a huge producer over the next few years. I am sure in 2023 Kingpins will have Uzbek exhibitors and I am confident that Uzbekistan is on the threshold of being an important jeans supplier to the textile industry. RadiciGroup establishes a network of Italian textile excellence to create a spacesuit for analogue Mars missions. The Space Economy is launched in Bergamo. Mars Planet analogue astronauts to take part in the SMOPS Mars mission simulation wearing

suits made of RadiciGroup yarn. 5 April 2022 - A group of companies in the Italian textile industry, headed by RadiciGroup, has created the first spacesuit for analogue simulation fully designed and engineered in Italy for the Space Medicine Operations (SMOPS) Mars mission. This endeavour was promoted and organized by Mars Planet – the Italian chapter of the Mars Society headquartered in the province of Bergamo – under the patronage of the Italian Space Agency. The SMOPS analogue mission is mainly focused on space medicine: health monitoring of future astronauts and development of support technologies for the simulation of life in space and planet environments.

RadiciGroup teamed up with major Italian textile companies, such as Eurojersey, Vagotex and DEFRA, to realize the spacesuit project. The Group supplied the materials to make the suits for the six analogue astronauts participating in the mission and coordinated the development of the technologies needed to realize technicalwear for extreme environmental conditions. From 10 to 23 April, the spacesuits will be used in a series of experiments carried out at the Mars Desert Research Station in the state of Utah, USA, that will simulate the life and work conditions mission crews will face on the Martian surface. "By participating in the SMOPS mission, RadiciGroup and the other

## LEVI'S \$5.8 BILLION IN REVENUE HIGHEST IN 24 YEARS

March 17, 2022

Levi Strauss & Co. CEO Chip Bergh says the denim giant is at its strongest point "in decades" after it steered through the pandemic's worst. The San Francisco company overcame supply chain problems, steep logistics costs and labor shortages to beat its internal recovery projections last year. It slightly outperformed 2019 revenues, reaching over \$5.8 billion—a 29 percent improvement from 2020 and its highest revenue since 1998, Bergh said in the firm's annual report. Levi's achieved record adjusted gross margins of 57.9 percent by revising its cost structure and refo-

cusing on digital during Covid-19's early days. Adjusted EBIT margins reached \$713 million, up from \$181 million in 2020 and \$611 million in 2019. "We accomplished this despite the impact of COVID-related store closures and soft retail traffic," Bergh wrote. "Our structural economics are stronger, the Levi's brand has grown share globally, and our strategic focus on driving DTC and continuing to diversify the business have driven our results." With \$737 million in operating cash flow generated during 2021, Levi's is continuing to invest in technology and infrastructure. It also cashed in on the activewear trend—which

is five times larger than denim, and growing more quickly—by shelving out for Los Angeles activewear brand Beyond Yoga. These investments are already delivering the highest return on invested capital in 10 years, allowing Levi's to return almost \$200 million to shareholders in dividends and share buybacks, Bergh said. The denim business continues to drive the company's revenue, and Levi's remains the No. 1 men's and women's denim brand worldwide. In the U.S., the largest denim market, Levi's ranks No. 1 with men and No. 2 with women, and it is gaining wallet-share from consumers ages 18-30—the only



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brand among the top five to do so. Bergh believes looser silhouettes, mirroring the overall shift in apparel toward more relaxed, casual fits, to rising Gen Z and millennial interest. Doubling down on sustainable messaging, Levi's launched an advertising campaign around the concept of "Buy Better, Wear Longer," and elevated its SecondHand offering to attract consumers interest in planet-friendlier purchasing.

### **Stretch yourself: Denim of the future, designed by Gen Z**

A denim design exploration by the House of Denim Foundation x Jean School students in collaboration with The LYCRA Company and 7 of the most progressive denim mills in the world.

April 13, 2022

"Which denim would generation Z design for its generation?" was the question the House of Denim team asked when thinking about the future of stretch denim with The LYCRA Company. Being the co-founder of Jean School, the first and only denim educational institution in the world, the House of Denim collaborated with 30 students of Jean School, Amsterdam, seven of the most progressive mills in the world and The LYCRA Company to answer this question. The most innovative and sustainable stretch denim fabrics of today were the medium. The result: A perspective on the future of denim and an exhibition with 14 designs titled "Stretch Yourself" that will be launched at the denim trade show Kingpins, Amsterdam,

on April 20-21.

### **Education by industry leaders and unrestricted creativity: couture meets casual**

All participating students got lectures by The LYCRA Company team and live online presentations by the participating denim mills. The mills sent out their most premium fabrics to the House of Denim and students were free to choose which fabrics they wanted to work with. Mariette Hoitink, co-founder of the House of Denim, says, "What excited me about this project with Jean School, Lycra, and these seven mills is that we started with an educational segment on sustainability and innovation involving all mills and that we kept it open for the students to design whatever they felt like. The mills provided the students with super special fabrics. The end result ranges from well designed tight and baggy pants to dresses that question gender. Couture meets casual. The title of the exhibition, "Stretch Yourself", really applies; the students worked day and night to come up with the final results and took a totally unexpected take on stretch denim. The whole project reflects diversity and inclusion and supports creativity." Amongst the most innovative and sustainable denim mills in the world Participating mills in "Stretch Yourself" are Calik Denim, Bossa Denim, Orta from Turkey; Naveena Denim Mills and Soorty Enterprises, Pakistan; DNM Denim, Egypt; and Advance Denim, China.

### **Innovative technologies by The LYCRA Company**

Any close-fitting style of jeans or any body-positive garment will need to use a stretch fabric because otherwise, the garment would be uncomfortable and restrict movement. The new generation of innovative, premium stretch denim is redefining comfort and quality. It's more durable and more sustainable. The supplied fabrics contained three innovative technologies from The LYCRA Company:

LYCRA® dualFX® technology is a patented fabric construction that boosts the recovery power of stretch denim fabrics so that body-hugging styles retain their shape. It involves two stretch fibers: LYCRA® elastane fiber and LYCRA® T400® fiber to boost that recovery power.

LYCRA® FREEFIT® technology offers easy stretch with high flexibility for flattering, figure-hugging jeans with soft and stretchy comfort. This technology allows for comfort in motion across a wider fit window.

Helen Latham, Sr. Strategic Accounts Manager of The LYCRA Company says, "It is our goal to collaborate with jeans designers of the future in our industry, supporting them to share our innovative technologies. Their inspiration and intellectually fresh ideas inspire us."

All of the fabrics used in the Stretch Yourself project are available at Denim City for design and sample purposes. After Kingpins, Stretch Yourself will find a home at Denim City, Amsterdam until June 31st.



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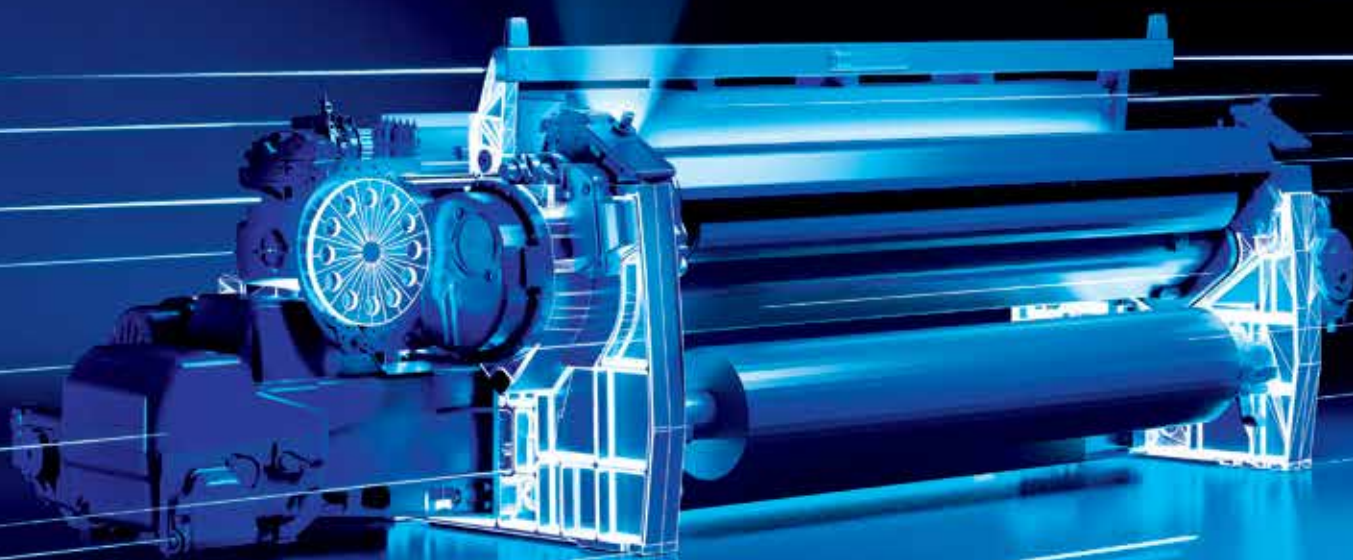


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# EASTMAN ACCELERATES THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY BY REVOLUTIONIZING RECYCLING

## Cutting-edge technology produces Naia™ Renew, sustainable fiber for today's marketplace

20 March 2022

Through cutting-edge patented technology, Eastman is taking its partners in the home textiles industry on a journey that begins with reclaimed carpet waste and ends with truly sustainable—and high quality —Naia™ Renew fiber.

Innovative and trailblazing, Eastman's advances have taken its position as a thought leader in sustainability to an unprecedented new level, driven by a commitment to educate the industry while improving the health of consumers and

the planet. Several significant developments tell the story.

### A CLOSER LOOK

Eastman's new molecular recycling process breaks down waste otherwise destined for landfills, incineration, or other undesirable end-of-life options and uses them as feedstock to create acetic acid, a biodegradable organic acid. This acetic acid is then used to produce Eastman Naia™ Renew cellulosic fiber for spun and filament yarns. Because waste is broken down to its molecular level, material such as post-consumer carpets can be recycled infinitely without compromising on comfort, quality

and appearance of new materials made. "Through molecular recycling, we are helping to solve the global waste problem and reduce our carbon footprint," says Dnyanada Satam, global market segment manager for home textiles at Eastman. "We're not just talking about plastic bottles; we're taking a more comprehensive approach to recycling because we can use a wide variety of waste materials from different industries to produce Naia™ Renew."

### WASTE CRISIS A TOP-TIER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

Today's consumers are just as con-



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cerned about waste as they are about climate change, air quality, and water quality. They understand how molecular recycling benefits them and the planet. As a result, brands that are first to offer solutions via molecular recycling have a tremendous—and so far untapped—opportunity to drive sales, brand equity, and consumer loyalty. These interesting findings come from a recent Eastman survey of 2,000 U.S. and European consumers conducted to help its industry partners accelerate consumer understanding of molecular recycling. “They demand sustainable materials. And with Naia™ Renew, they now have that option in the home textiles market. This season, fashion

icon H&M is featuring a pioneering new fashion collection that incorporates Naia™ Renew. As H&M’s most circular collection ever, the Innovation Stories series spotlights new approaches to recyclability and circularity by showcasing new material innovations and cutting-edge waste-conscious techniques.

#### TRANSLATING SUSTAINABILITY INTO BETTER SLEEP

Naia™ Renew is an ideal solution for textile brands dedicated to meeting the growing consumer demand for sustainable solutions.

Getting a restful night’s sleep is vital for our overall health and well-being; and bedding made with Naia™

Renew cellulosic fiber can help us get there with three key benefits to ensure we wake up refreshed, restored, and at ease. “We want consumers who purchase Naia™ Renew-based products to wake up to a better tomorrow—confident they are doing their part to make a positive impact on their household and reducing the impact on our shared home, Earth,” Satam concludes. “We invite our partners in the home textiles arena to explore the important value-added solution Naia™ Renew represents.” Naia™ Renew recycled content is achieved by allocation of recycled waste material using an ISCC-certified mass balance process.



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# OCEANTEX COLLECTION – EVERTRU FABRICS



**Detroit, MI** – Outdoor Fabric Manufacturer EverTru Fabrics, a division of Arden Companies and a member of the Central Garden & Pet family, launched its Oceantex Collection in 2021. Oceantex is a sustainable fabric offering for outdoor cushions and pillows with plans for substantial growth in 2022 and beyond. EverTru's flagship textile offering is its 100% Solution Dyed Acrylic performance fabric and is now adding multiple sustainable fabric options to its lineup.

Every yard of Oceantex fabric produced is made from ocean-bound plastics such as bottles and discarded fishing nets. In the past year alone, over three million pounds of



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plastic waste have been diverted from entering the ocean to be recycled into OceanTex fabric. Experts say that an astounding eight million tons of plastic enters our waterways each year and that number is expected to triple by 2040 without drastic action. EverTru has teamed up with OceanCycle, an organization committed to stopping ocean

plastic pollution and one of the world's largest certification providers of ocean-bound plastic material. OceanTex has been featured by some of the largest retail stores in the USA since its debut last February. OceanTex offers a conscientious approach to comfort and the environment. The EverTru team believes we all play an important

part in ensuring our planet is livable for future generations and are committed to making a change. EverTru Vice President of Operations Kyle Sharpe noted that its commitment to sustainability has never been greater than it is now. "During the OceanTex development phase, I was floored by the statistics and the amount of ocean plastic pollution

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occurring, and that only amplified our commitment as an organization to do our part in the prevention and clean-up efforts. We are proud to launch Oceantex, but it's only the beginning of where we will be taking sustainable textiles in the future." EverTru's Acrylic Collection entered the market in 2018 and

has experienced consistent growth with some of the largest specialty and mass retailers in the outdoor and indoor furniture industry. Sharpe adds, "We are bringing the same service, value and performance that we have established with our Acrylic operation and branching out with more sustain-

able offerings. We have a tremendous textile design team and a robust global supply chain network in place to support growth in multiple fabric categories. We're excited to continue delivering to our customer's needs.

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# EU STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE AND CIRCULAR TEXTILES – AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ORGANIC TEXTILES?

13 April 2022

The EU Commission has recently published the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles. This offers the ambitious vision that in only eight years, by 2030, textile products on the EU market will be long-lived, free of hazardous substances and produced respecting the environment and social rights. The vision is for consumers to benefit from high quality affordable textiles; for fast fashion to be out of fashion; and for producers to take responsibility for their products along the value chain. GOTS welcomes the vision and believes that organic textile products are a natural fit for the Strategy. However, the organic opportunity is overlooked. The strategy reveals that 39% of sustainability claims could be false or deceptive, and proposes that claims such as 'green', 'eco-friendly' and 'good for the environment' should be underpinned by rec-

ognised excellence in environmental performance. It also states that voluntary sustainability labels covering environmental or social criteria must be based on third party verification. Organic textiles are good for the environment being a well justified eco-friendly and green claim based on excellence in environmental performance.

So, what is the scope for ensuring that organic textiles will take their place within the EU strategy for sustainable textiles? GOTS provides a robust sustainability standard for organic textiles, based on the use of organically farmed natural fibres. Synthetic pesticides, fertilisers and genetically modified seeds are prohibited on organic farms, which are sustainable by definition. In the manufacturing of textile products, GOTS ensures sustainability by prohibiting the use of hazardous dyes and chemicals, requiring water treatment, and including clear so-

cial criteria based on the ILO norms. Organic textiles are underpinned by excellence in environmental and social performance based on third party verification. Organic textiles certified to GOTS clearly meet the strategic vision and the recommendations of the EU Strategy. GOTS looks forward to the review of the EU Textile Labelling Regulation by the EU Commission foreseen in the strategy. GOTS calls for reference to 'organic textiles' as a clearly defined term in this Regulation. We have repeatedly suggested this way forward to the Commission, with the publication of the EU Textile Strategy there is a real impetus to do this. The inclusion of the organic textile label in the Textile Labelling Regulation will support the delivery of the Strategy and provide the basis for further development of the market for organic textiles.

## MANDATORY SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR ECO PASSPORT BY OEKO-TEX IN 2023

01/04/2022

As of the 1st of April 2023, the Self-Assessment will become mandatory for ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certification. OEKO-TEX® is continuously working to improve its products. A mandatory Self-Assessment will ensure the quality and traceability of manufactured products, proper wastewater, and emission management as well as

worker safety. Up until now, the ECO PASSPORT has had a mandatory CAS-number screening and laboratory analysis with voluntary options for Self-Assessment and On-Site Visit. While the On-Site Visit will remain optional for the time being, the Self-Assessment will become a mandatory requirement for every customer who has not yet passed it for their production sites

as of April 2023. In the Self-Assessment, the applicant must describe what measures are taken in their business regarding health, safety, and the environment. A questionnaire with minimum criteria has to be filled out and is evaluated by an OEKO-TEX® institute. Thereupon, the result of the Self-Assessment is valid for three years.



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# 30 YEARS OF EXPERTISE AS A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

03/03/2022

The vision of the OEKO-TEX® Association, which was founded in March 1992 through a partnership between the Hohenstein Research Institute and the Austrian Textile Research Institute (OETI), is still reflected today in the organization's core values: trust, safety, and sustainability. For three decades, OEKO-TEX® has pursued the goal of building trust for companies and consumers and enabling them to make responsible decisions to protect people and the planet. "Our services bring transparency to the international textile and leather industry supply chains," says OEKO-TEX® Secretary General Georg Dieners. "They enable all stakeholders to make mindful decisions that help preserve our planet for future generations."

## OEKO-TEX® market leadership

In 1992, 20 years before the United Nations announced the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), OEKO-TEX® launched STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®, now one of the best-known labels for product safety. "It emerged from the Schadstoffgeprüft nach ÖTN 100 (tested for harmful substances according to ÖTN 100), developed by OETI in 1989 to address increasing public interest in textile ecology and health," the Austrian Textile Research Institute reminds us. The limit values and test methods on which STAN-

DARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® is based were internationally standardized and are adapted to the latest scientific findings and legislation at least once a year - a principle that is applied to all OEKO-TEX® standards. Prof. Dr. Stefan Mecheels, the owner of the textile testing service provider Hohenstein, adds: "From the very beginning, we have considered the needs of all players in the textile value chain and continue to create solutions for current and future market requirements." At least seven SDGs are firmly integrated into the OEKO-TEX® product portfolio. For example, Good Health & Well-Being (SDG 3) and Clean Water & Sanitation (SDG 6) are reflected in the STeP by OEKO-TEX® factory certification, and Responsible Consumption & Production (SDG 12) and Climate Action (SDG 13) are implemented through the comprehensive MADE IN GREEN by OEKO-TEX® product label. Today, the international association consists of 17 independent research and testing institutes focused on textile and leather, with contact offices in over 60 countries. They are responsible for the joint development of the test methods and limit values in the OEKO-TEX® Standards and carry out laboratory tests and factory audits according to globally uniform specifications. These comprehensive product and process audits to ensure appropriate risk management,

consumer and environmental protection, and legal compliance. With their wide-ranging research and development, the accredited OEKO-TEX® test institutes provide important insight for innovations within the textile and leather industry. They work in close cooperation with manufacturers and make a significant contribution to the development of high-quality textile and leather products at all stages of the value chain.

## Mirror of social and political development

Being close to the market, and ideally, one step ahead is essential to supporting companies who are adapting to constantly changing conditions and meeting consumer expectations. Therefore, the development of OEKO-TEX® is not only a reflection of scientific knowledge but also of social and political trends. The focus is always on standardizing sustainable action and measures and making it easier for the industry to quickly and comprehensively implement sustainability goals. Exchange with third parties is particularly valuable for this purpose. OEKO-TEX® participates in various international multi-stakeholder initiatives such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles, the ZHDC (Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals), and Greenpeace. In ad-



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dition to cooperation with external multi-stakeholder initiatives, the OEKO-TEX® International Advisory Board (IAB) meets annually. The core function of the IAB is to help review consistent and market-oriented Standards development proposals by the OEKO-TEX® Working Groups. In addition, OEKO-TEX® is conducting a public stakeholder consultation to gain further insights from all interest groups, which it will integrate into further development of the Standards. **Using three**

**decades of experience for the future** The founding goal of enabling responsible choices that preserve our planet for future generations has become increasingly urgent over the past 30 years. So, OEKO-TEX® is even more resolute than ever in developing comprehensive solutions. We stand by industry and consumers as a trusted partner for the challenges ahead. In addition to the IMPACT CALCULATOR launched in January 2022, which helps STeP by OEKO-TEX® certified production

facilities reduce their carbon emissions and water consumption, this summer, the association will launch a service to help companies transition to the upcoming Due Diligence Laws. Prof. Dr. Stefan Mecheels articulates the outlook: "As a community, we have a comprehensive view of the industry and this is a great added value for brands, manufacturers, retailers, and ultimately consumers, in view of the growing importance of sustainable action, worldwide."

## INTERTEK ITALIA IS THE FIRST AND ONLY CERTIFICATION BODY TO BE ACCREDITED FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF LEARNING SERVICES ACCORDING TO ISO 29991, ISO 29993, ISO 29994

March 28, 2022

Milan: Intertek, a leading Total Quality Assurance provider to industries worldwide, is pleased to announce that it is the first Italian body to obtain Accredia accreditation for the certification of training services outside of formal education according to ISO 29991 - Language learning services, ISO 29993 - Learning services outside formal education, and ISO 29994 - Distance learning services. Many current frameworks and guidelines reference non-formal training, for example, in the European Union document "Recognition of informal and non-formal learning" it is stated that, "obtaining good working conditions and participation requires a good level of education and quali-

fication." In addition, in 2013, Italy stressed the emphasis of non-formal training as a crucial tool for lifelong learning with the Legislative Decree 13:2013, with a section titled, "Definition of the general rules and essential levels of performance for the identification and validation of non-formal and informal learning and of the minimum service standards of the national competence certification system". Intertek can now offer certification of training services that are not part of formal education under Accredia accreditation. The certification verifies the requirements for training services that are not covered by formal education, including all types of continuing training, such as professional and in-company

training, provided by external or internal providers. Training can be provided in-person, remote, or via a combination of both. Franco Fontana, Southern Europe Person Certification Manager at Intertek said "We are pleased to be the first to obtain this important accreditation, because non-formal training really begins to be a distinctive factor in workers' curricula. In addition, because of the pandemic, we have seen an increase in online training. Offering a non-formal certified distance training service can be a distinctive factor for the many operators who compete for the market and at the same time a tool to allow the market a more conscious choice."

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# MAKING SHADE ON DEMAND



Greece is a tourist magnet, which in no small part is due to its subtropical climate and plenty of sunshine. But so much sun also calls for a good deal of sun protection. And that translates into good business for Remi SA, manufacturer of sun protection systems. The company recently underwent a digital transformation of their cutting room by investing in a Zünd G3 Cutter.

With its countless picturesque islands, Greece is a dream destination for vacationers and a paradise for sun worshipers. But with so many hours of sunshine every day also comes a great need for shade. So it is hardly surprising that this "Land of Gods" is also home to developers and suppliers of sun protection systems. Like Remi SA, for example. For 50 years, this small family en-

terprise has been busy producing parasols both for private and professional use – for the beach and for backyards, as well as for hotels and resorts. Products that make for an eye-catching addition to outdoor spaces of restaurants and cafés. Remi products are well made and therefore very durable. And above all, Remi products are made individually, sometimes as one-offs, but always to order.

## **The right combination of technology, know-how and experience**

Remi is based in Kalyvia Attica, around 50km south of Athens. Occupying a total space of 6,500m<sup>2</sup> and 18 employees, the company manufactures shade systems primarily for the Greek market but also for customers in a number of other European countries.

While making sun protection systems may sound easier than it is, Remi SA has become firmly established in this marketplace and has managed to continually grow its customer base for very good reasons: exceptionally high-quality standards combined with the use of the latest manufacturing technologies and many years of experience. Recently, the company's cutting room underwent a complete digital transformation with the acquisition of a Zünd G3 L-2500 cutting system. Nowadays Christos Rentoumis is in charge of running the business, while his son Giannis, the "techie", oversees cutting operations, so it's literally all in the family: "Working with your dad at the same company is the most efficient way to learn the job," says Giannis. When asked



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what makes Remi umbrellas unique, he says: "First and foremost, it's our highly trained and experienced staff that makes all the difference. We have the expertise, experience, and technology to produce umbrellas in every imaginable shape, color, and size – individually and tailor-made. This is what sets us apart from other suppliers." "Even though we are now relying on a single-ply system, we can actually cut faster because of the digital technology involved. Not only that – we have also managed to significantly improve cutting precision and are producing much more economically" **The new Zünd Cutter is a gamechanger**

Remi produces 300 umbrellas for a large hotel in the same high quality, and just as cost-effectively, as they do a couple of them for e.g. a small café. Each umbrella is developed from the ground up, designed and manufactured to customer specifications. "The time for development and production, but also delivery times – all have become shorter and shorter in recent years. Because of that, the need for technology to increase cutting speed and precision has grown tremendously. The new Zünd G3 cutter constitutes a real game changer. The G3 is the perfect solution for our cutting room. With the Zünd Cutter, we can guarantee a high degree of customization, yet produce efficiently and economically, without compromising cut quality, even at high speeds." For professional parasols, which can shade over 35m<sup>2</sup>, multiple parts need to be cut in many



different sizes. Manual cutting is no longer an option at this point, and the multi-ply cutter previously in use just could not keep up. "The multi-ply cutter was too slow and just couldn't handle the materials we were using anymore, specifically Sattler technical textiles that consist of spinneret-dyed branded acrylic, developed specifically for outdoor sun protection systems. Not to mention that the multi-ply cutter had simply become too small for our application." **Requirements more than met** With the G3 L-2500, Remi now has the capability to process cutting widths up to 180cm (70 in): "Even though we are now relying on a single-ply system, we can actually cut faster because of the digital technology involved. Not only that – we have also managed to significantly improve cutting precision and are producing much more economically," he wants

to give credit where credit is due: "Even though I acted as adviser to my father, he is the one who made the decision and could foresee how such an investment would be sustainable and profitable, and generally make great business sense for our company." Giannis is the one involved in day-to-day operations, overseeing digital cutting. And when it comes to the balance sheet on the new cutting system, he couldn't be more pleased: which is a very short training period. This means it took very little time for us to be fully up and running with the new cutting system. Our expectations for the Zünd – faster cutting speed, greater productivity, and consistently high output quality – were more than fulfilled."

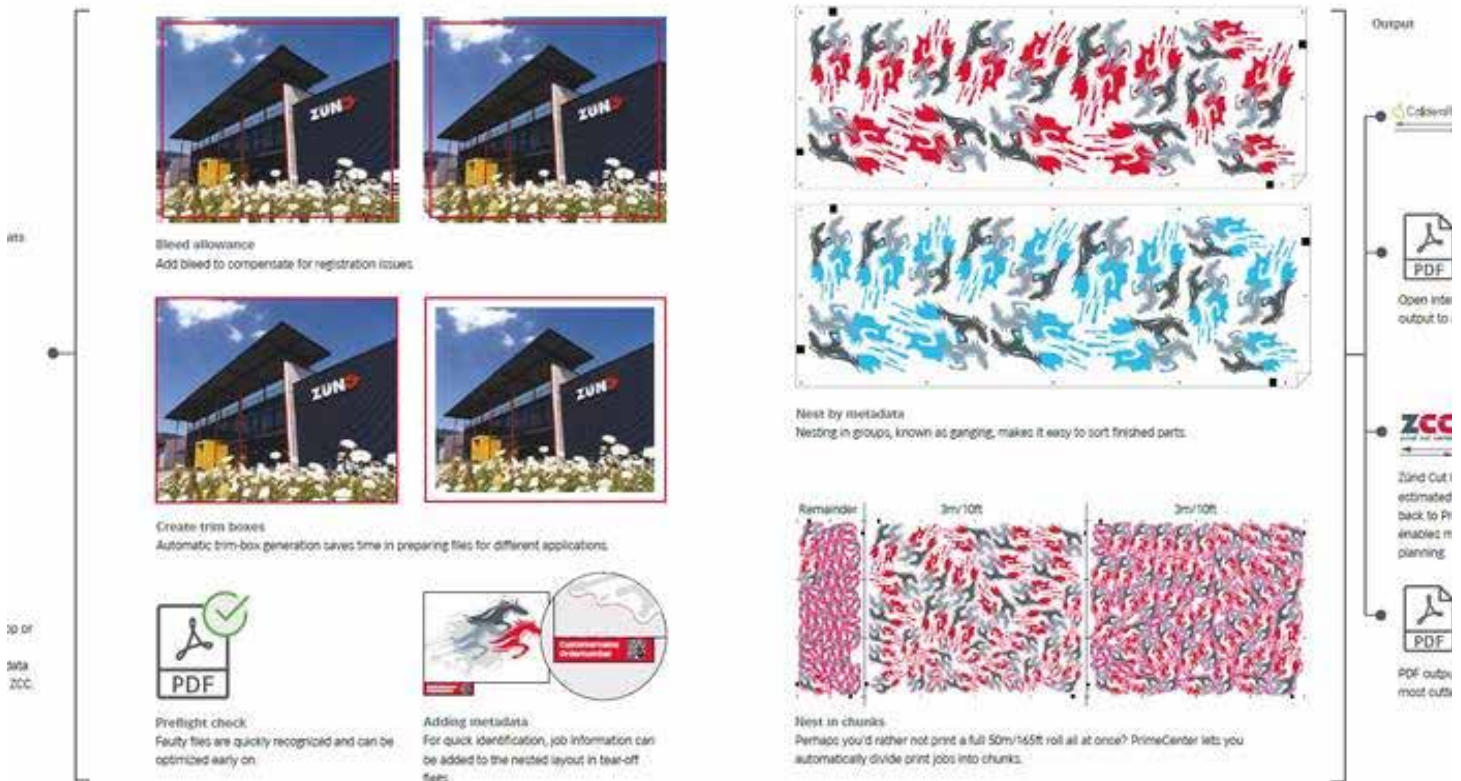


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# PACKAGING PRODUCTION



Zünd offers the perfect solution for all your packaging needs – from sample-making and prototyping to fully automated industrial production. Intelligent automation with PrimeCenter Acting as control center for generating print & cut files, PrimeCenter helps create an efficient and productive prepress workflow. Create nested print & cut layouts in just a few clicks.

- saves time
- maximizes material yield
- eliminates errors
- optimizes your workflow
- simplifies file preparation

Turnkey systems for packaging production

## The Top of Automation

To realize the full potential of automated digital cutting, a Zünd D3 with the automated Board Handling System BHS150 is a must. A maximum stack height of 1.5 m, combined with dual-beam processing speeds

and quick setup times, enable maximum productivity and profitability. Turnkey systems for packaging production.

## Zünd D3 Cutter with BHS - for maximum output

For producers of packaging and displays in need of greater levels of capacity and automation, a Zünd cutter with BHS Board Handling is the perfect solution. Fully automated board loading and advancing enable unattended production of large jobs – even during off hours or overnight. Turnkey systems for packaging production.

## Nonstop production in tandem operation

In a tandem workflow, loading and unloading materials happen without interrupting the production process. By keeping idle time to a minimum, you save time and increase productivity.





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