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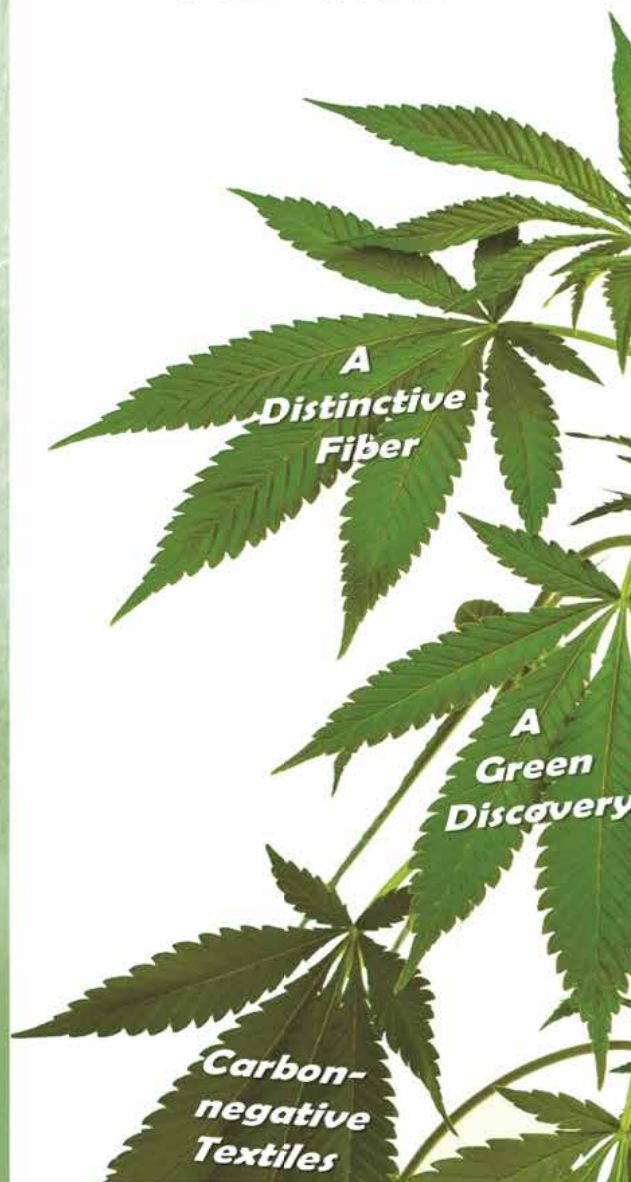
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1

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2

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3

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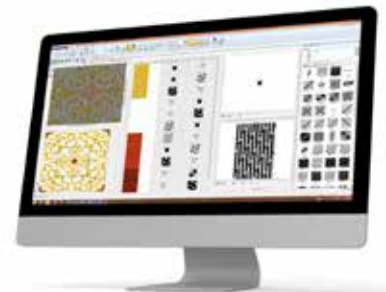
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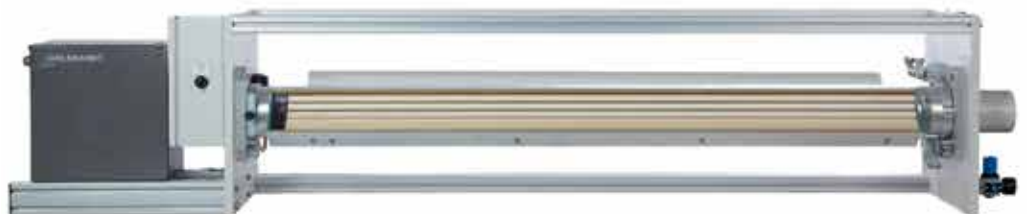
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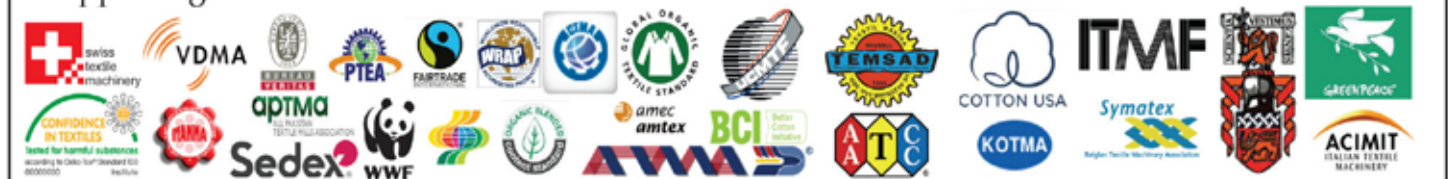
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## Title Story



Kingdom was founded in 1999, with total asset of RMB2.5 billion, 4,000 employees and five production factories. Kingdom Holdings Limited was listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (HKEx) on 12 December 2006. As the world's largest manufacture of Linen yarn and Hemp yarn, key backbone enterprise in China's flax industry, and one of the major stockholders of Jiaying Bank, Kingdom has been committed to becoming an exemplar worldwide related to sustainable development; at the same time, Kingdom also continues to move forward on the road of social responsibilities and humanistic care.

Subscription:- Textile Times is Published-monthly by TEX MACH publishing. The Annual Subscription costs US \$ 200 / Euro 180 ( Air mail ). For Local Clients Pak Rs. 6000/-

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## editorial

*Dear Readers,*

The average China Containerized Freight Index (CCFI) dropped by 0.2 per cent to 3,504.56 in February 2022, according to official data by the Shanghai Shipping Exchange. The sub-reading for the South America service dipped by 9.3 per cent from the previous month, while that of the Southeast Asia service went down 8.9 per cent month-on-month in February.

On the other hand, the sub-reading for the Europe service gained 4.2 per cent month-on-month, as per the Shanghai Shipping Exchange. The CCFI tracks spot and contractual freight rates from Chinese container ports for 12 shipping routes across the globe, based on data from 22 international carriers, said Chinese media reports.

The value-added industrial output of China increased by 7.5 per cent in January and February this year, compared to the previous year, according to official data released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The high-tech manufacturing sector posted a high growth rate of 14.4 per cent year on year in the first two months of 2022.

The China Cotton Association (CCA) recently unveiled the industry standard for sustainable production that focuses on the management and use of agricultural chemicals in cotton planting, ecological and environmental protection, cotton quality and other core issues related to sustainable agriculture. The standard will be effective from April 1.

The standard aims to help cotton producers adopt sustainable production and operation methods, meet the demands for high-quality cotton products, and increase cotton farmers' income, said the association.

The Turkish textile and apparel industry will have to pay higher prices for electricity and natural gas in the New Year. This too at a time when Western countries, especially those in Europe, are actively considering sourcing more of their textile and apparel from Turkey under their near-shoring strategy, and the country's inflation is at a 19-year high. Citing the increase in global energy prices, the Energy Market Regulatory Authority of Turkey has raised power consumption charges by over 100 per cent for high-demand commercial users.

The textile export industry of Pakistan has entered the phase of sustainable growth and businessmen from the sector are aiming to fetch over \$21 billion in fiscal year 2021-22 however, few hurdles have slowed down the pace of expansion and they might restrain the segment from achieving its goal.

Stakeholders from the sector have urged upon the government to take immediate remedial measures because any delay in taking action will

reverse all the efforts of the businessmen and halt the growth momentum.

The Russia-Ukraine war's impact on trade and development shows a rapidly worsening outlook for the world economy, with the situation especially alarming for African and least developed countries. The report shows heightened financial volatility, sustainable development divestment, complex global supply chain reconfigurations and mounting trade costs.

The war is causing freight rate hikes as restrictive measures on airspace, contractor uncertainty and security concerns are complicating all trade routes going through Russia and Ukraine, the report says. The two countries are a key geographical component of the Eurasian Land Bridge.

In 2021, 1.5 million containers of cargo were shipped by rail west from China to Europe. If the volumes currently going by container rail were added to the Asia-Europe ocean freight demand, this would mean a 5 to 8 per cent increase in an already congested trade route.

With China fighting a COVID resurgence, waiting container ships at several ports there like Qingdao are rising, putting further pressure on a strained global supply chain. The Russia-Ukraine war is also severely disrupting shipping and air freight. As Russian forces cut off shipping routes, logistics firms are suspending services and air freight rates are skyrocketing.

In South Korea too, government data showed outbound container shipping costs shot up in February from a year earlier, posing a big burden to exporters.

There is usually a build-up of vessels seeking to enter China following the Lunar New Year holidays, but volumes this year are being exacerbated by lockdowns aimed at curbing outbreaks of the novel coronavirus.

There's also a growing backlog of vessels off the ports of Shanghai, Ningbo and Zhoushan. The situation off Shenzhen and Hong Kong, however, has reportedly eased a bit.

WASEEM J. KHAN  
Editor-in-Chief

# GLOBAL TEXTILE AND CLOTHING NEWS

## EU EXTENDS THE SCOPE OF SANCTIONS ON RUSSIA AND BELARUS

11 Mar '22

Building on the wide-ranging and unprecedented packages of measures the EU has been taking in response to Russia's acts of aggression on Ukraine's territorial integrity, the Member States of the European Commission



have agreed to adopt further targeted sanctions in view of the situation in Ukraine and in response to Belarus's involvement in the aggression.

In particular, the new measures amend Regulation (EC) 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Belarus and Regulation (EU) 833/2014 concerning Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine. "These amendments create a closer alignment of EU sanctions regarding Russia and Belarus and will help to ensure even more effectively that Russian sanctions cannot be circumvented, including through Belarus," the European Commission said in a press release.

For Belarus, the measures introduce SWIFT prohibitions similar to those in the Russia regime, clarify that crypto assets fall under the scope of "transferable securities" and further expand the existing financial restrictions by mirroring the

measures already in place regarding Russia sanctions. In particular, the agreed measures will:

- Restrict the provision of SWIFT services to Belagroprombank, Bank Dabrabyt, and the Development Bank of the Republic of Belarus, as well as their Belarusian subsidiaries.
- Prohibit transactions with the Central Bank of Belarus related to the management of reserves or assets, and the provision of public financing for trade with and investment in Belarus.
- Prohibit the listing and provision of services in relation to shares of Belarus state-owned entities on EU trading venues as of 12 April 2022.
- Significantly limit the financial inflows from Belarus to the EU, by prohibiting the acceptance of deposits exceeding €100.000 from Belarusian nationals or residents,

the holding of accounts of Belarusian clients by the EU central securities depositories, as well as the selling of euro-denominated securities to Belarusian clients.

- Prohibit the provision of euro denominated banknotes to Belarus.

For Russia, the amendment introduces new restrictions on the export of maritime navigation and radio communication technology, adds Russian Maritime Register of Shipping to the list of state-owned enterprises subject to financing limitations and introduces a prior information sharing provision for exports of maritime safety equipment.

In addition, it also extends the exemption relating to the acceptance of deposits exceeding €100.000 in EU banks to Swiss and EEA nationals.



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## OPERATING PROFITS OF MID AND LARGE 4CHINESE TEXTILE FACTORIES UP 25% IN 2021!

01-March-2022

China clocked US \$ 315.46 billion revenues from its textile and garment exports, according to recently released statistics of General Administration of Customs, China (GACC).

The country noted growth of over 8 per cent in its textile and garment exports in 2021 over 2020; however, textile exports alone declined by 5 per cent. The drop was recorded majorly in small-scale textile factories' revenues, as the textile factories with annual operating revenue of at least RMB 20 million (US \$

3.16 million) hit profits of RMB 267.70 billion (US \$ 42.44 billion) in 2021, surging 25.4 per cent year-on-year, according to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT).

The growth is attributed to Chinese textile factories' robust expansion last year to cater to rising global demand.

The official data further showed that the operating revenue of the above-mentioned firms totalled RMB 5.17 trillion, expanding 12.30 percent from a year earlier.

It is with extreme sadness that

we announce the passing away of Fiorenzo Biancalani, on Tuesday February 22nd, at the age of 91.

Fiorenzo is survived by his three great loves: the wife Linda, who has been at his side every single day of his life, sharing good moments and difficult decisions; the three children Rossano, Rossana and Massimo, who have been his pride and inspiration and to whom he devoted each and every heartbeat of his existence; and the company, which he built with his bare hands, turning a dream into solid real-



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Mr. Yameen Asghar  
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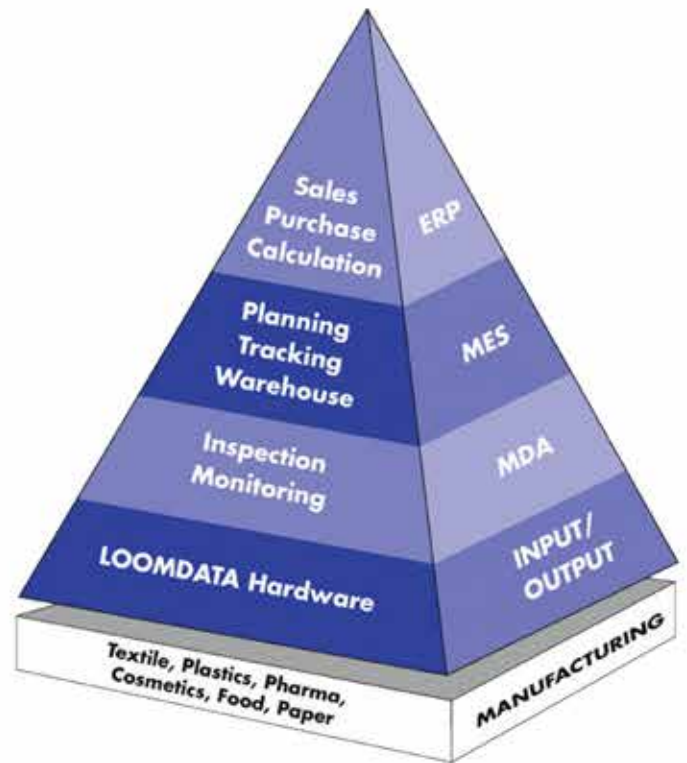
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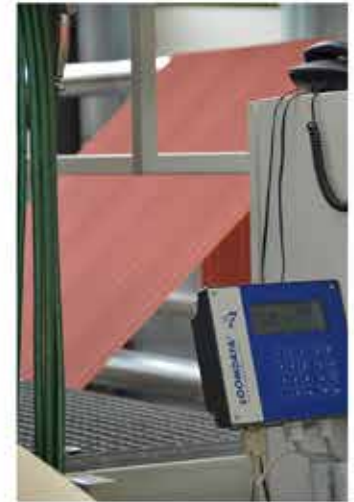
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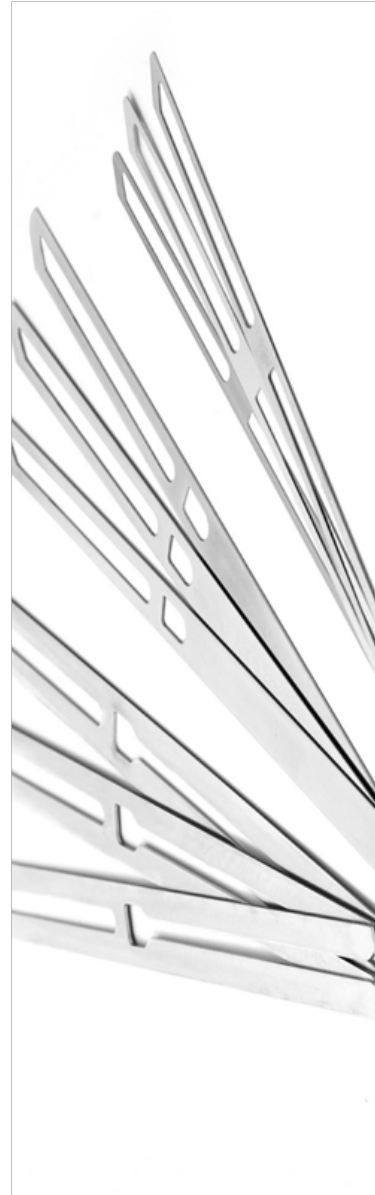
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## RISING ENERGY COSTS ARE PUSHING TEXTILE AND APPAREL COMPANIES TO SHUT PRODUCTION, SAYS EURATEX



04-March-2022

Russia-Ukraine war is already showing the adverse effect on the industries across Europe and the other parts of the world.

The energy and gas prices are again skyrocketing, and EURATEX – the European Apparel and Textile Confederation – has highlighted that the companies are at risk of stopping their production if energy and gas prices continue to rise.

Though EURATEX supports the measures taken by the EU in the Ukrainian-Russian conflict, it asks the European Union and Member States to compensate the situation

by supporting their industries.

“Companies need access to energy at reasonable prices, may those be subsidies, removing environmental levies or VAT from bills and price caps,” says EURATEX.

The energy crisis that started at the end of last year has been worsening in the last week, as per EURATEX. According to Reuters’ report, benchmark European gas prices at the Dutch TTF hub rose by 330 per cent last year, while benchmark German and French power contracts have more than doubled.

EURATEX further mentions that the textile and clothing industry is

facing an unprecedented situation due to this price hike and many companies are considering shutting down production because of energy costs.

“The transfer to renewable and cleaner sources of energy needs to speed up, so to guarantee less dependency. But it is a long process that cannot be achieved in the forthcoming months. That’s why Europe should urgently look at the available options to control such market shocks,” concludes EURATEX.

## EURATEX ASKS THE EU TO CONTROL THE RISE IN OIL AND GAS PRICES

**Brussels 2 March 2022 – Notwithstanding the industry support to the sanctions in place against Russia, EURATEX highlights that companies are at risk of stopping their production if energy and gas prices continue to rise.**



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	H-10	H-17	H-30	H-50	H-100	H-120	H-200
Height / Altura (mm)	586	665	860	910	1030	1150	1360
Depth / Profundidad (mm)	831	950	1580	1780	2220	2330	2680
Width / Anchura (mm)	586	665	1230	1310	1550	1700	2025
Drum / Tambor AISI 304	included						
Drum automatic break Frenado automático tambor	included						
Timer / Temporizador	Included						
Capacity dry / Capacidad seco kg	10	17	30	50	100	120	200
Motor power / Potencia motor (kw)	0,6	1,1	3,7	5,6	10	15	20
Speed / Velocidad (rpm)	1.500	1.500	1.300	1.150	850	800	650
Net Weight/ Peso neto (kg)	72	102	750	970	1650	2000	4400

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The energy crisis that started at the end of last year has been worsening in the last week. Prices of energy, gas and oil has been skyrocketing. According to Reuters, Benchmark European gas prices at the Dutch TTF hub rose by 330% last year, while benchmark German and French power contracts have more than doubled.

The textile and clothing industry is facing an unprecedented situation. Many companies are considering

shutting down production because of energy costs.

EURATEX supports the measures taken by the EU in the Ukrainian-Russian conflict, but asks the European Union and Member States to compensate the situation by supporting their industries. Companies need access to energy at reasonable prices, may those be subsidies, removing environmental levies or VAT from bills and price caps.

The transfer to renewable and cleaner sources of energy needs to speed up, so to guarantee less dependency. But it is a long process that cannot be achieved in the forthcoming months. That's why Europe should urgently look at the available options to control such market shocks.



## EURATEX ASKS THE EU TO CONTROL THE RISE IN OIL AND GAS PRICES

Russia-Ukraine war has created chaos in the global political and business landscape and the industries aren't impressed with whatever is happening in the Eastern Europe.

Businesses, including the ones in

fashion industry, are wanting this war to stop as soon as it can and, at the same time, are standing with the people of Ukraine with solidarity.

Some global business firms have even announced to shut/suspend

the operations in Russia so as to make an impact.

Germany's event organising company Messe Frankfurt has recently announced to suspend its events in Russia.

According to Messe Frankfurt, the



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Russian invasion of Ukraine is an unprecedented threat to peaceful coexistence in Europe.

“Messe Frankfurt supports all of the Federal Government’s sanctions. Against this background, the management of Messe Frankfurt decided today to suspend events of its subsidiary Messe Frankfurt RUS until further notice,” reads the statement of the company shared with Apparel Resources.

## Piece of the future: global lingerie market to reach €43 billion by 2028

1 March 2022

The global lingerie market is expected to continuously rise over the next decade, reaching figures of around €43 billion (\$48 billion) by 2028. A new report has outlined the promising future of the global lingerie market over the next decade. Research from Valuates Reports has indicated that the global

lingerie market size is estimated to be valued at around €25 billion (\$28.6 billion) in 2022. This is expected to reach a value of around €43 billion (\$48 billion) by 2028, with a reported compound annual growth rate of 9.2%.

### Drivers of the international lingerie market

Researchers at Valuates Reports have claimed that the rising success in the lingerie market is due to an increase in working women. It is said that an increase in consumer income is driving investment in lingerie. This runs in tandem with a rise in “discretionary spending” across fashion items, which has subsequently led to an increase in lingerie demand. Market growth is expected to rise in the years ahead, thanks to the work done by online channels, along with the pervading influence of social media and marketing strategies.

### Trends to watch in the

## lingerie market

Researchers outline the growing working women population as being a driver for an increase in consumer spending, as well as an increase in per capita disposable income.

Lingerie sales have reportedly been increasing around the world, due to the growing number of working women across the globe. The growing purchasing power of women has reportedly directly influenced the boosted sales in luxury lingerie. Market research has indicated that speciality stores are preferred by consumers as they offer necessary discretion, along with a range of options for customers to choose from. It has been said that the use of bold, colourful backgrounds and imagery in retail stores, along with using mannequins to showcase lingerie items, has been effective to attract customers.



## Market drivers in the future

There are a variety of market drivers for future growth in the lingerie market. Perhaps most notably is the work done by online channels. Companies are actively partnering with digital agencies to boost their online channels, and to showcase their products to the best level.

It has been reported that e-commerce sites have risen in popularity among women consumers, see-

ing as they offer a range of helpful product information, along with sizing details, a large range of brands, designs and colourways. Researchers state that return policies in online channels are also influential in driving growth for online channels.

## Lingerie market share analysis

The report names the Asia-Pacific as the most lucrative region in the world. It has been noted that changing customer attitudes have

provided new opportunities for the market, with more lingerie types being considered by customers. Low-cost products that are exported from countries like China and Turkey are speculated to have a big impact in the market for the years ahead.

Sports lingerie was found to be the most lucrative type of product, with items like sports bras rising in demand. Based on the channel, specialty stores are predicted to be the most lucrative in the future.



## GERMAN FAIR DOMOTEX TO TAKE PLACE IN JANUARY 2023

Domotex, the world's leading trade show for carpets and floor coverings, is scheduled to take place from January 12-15, 2023. By retaining the established date right

at the beginning of the year, organiser Deutsche Messe is responding to the wishes of the majority of the market and creating planning security for exhibiting companies

and trade show attendees.

The decision on the date in January 2023 was taken following intensive market discussions. Domotex will be a face-to-face event



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with additional digital offerings. This means that all participants will once again have the platform they have been longing for, for networking and to exchange ideas on a personal level. Exhibiting companies and trade show guests from all over the world will be able to exchange information on new products and current trends in the industry - both onsite and virtually, Deutsche Messe said in a press release.

“With the new date of Domotex in January 2023, we want to give the players in the carpet and floor coverings industry the greatest possible long-term planning security. We want to give our customers the opportunity to finally meet in person again, to be inspired and to forge new business relation-

ships,” said Sonia Wedell-Castellano, global director Domotex, Deutsche Messe AG, Hannover. “Having already had to cancel Domotex twice due to the pandemic, we would have liked to give the industry its platform again this year. However, after intensive discussions with exhibiting companies, unfortunately a majority couldn’t be found for a late summer edition of Domotex in September 2022. The preferred option of the entire market is to keep the usual date right at the beginning of the year.” “It is particularly pleasing to see the approval already given by market-relevant exhibitors and global brands, who are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to finally meet the industry again,” explained Castellano. “Exhibiting companies and

visitors can look forward to an extensive program with innovative ideas and digital offerings. To be able to see the world of carpets and floor coverings live in Hannover again in January 2023 is a real highlight after all this time! We are looking forward to finally getting back on track with Domotex in Hannover.”

Domotex Turkey, the leading trade show for carpets and floor coverings in Turkey and the Middle East, will take place in Gaziantep from May 14-17, 2022. Domotex asia/CHINAFLOOR, the international trade show for carpets and floor coverings in the Asia-Pacific region, will take place from May 25-27, 2022 in Shanghai, at the NECC site, the release added.



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## COTTON AREA IN INDIA TO RISE BY 20-25% IN NEXT PLANTING SEASON: CAI

Austrian fiber producer, Lenzing, is pleased to announce the successful completion of its new lyocell plant in Thailand, which is part of the Lenzing Group, has a capacity of 100,000 tonnes, and will help meet the growing demand for sustainably produced fibers.

The Austrian cellulosic fiber manufacturer has finished its lyocell expansion project in Thailand, – which it claims is the world's largest of its kind, and started production

on time.

The facility, according to the company, will help it better fulfill growing customer demand for Tencel branded lyocell fibers, as well as enhance its leadership position in the specialized fiber industry and move toward a carbon-free future.

Despite the hurdles posed by the Covid-19 outbreak, the construction of the factory in Prachinburi, about 150 kilometers northeast of Bangkok, began in the second half

of 2019 and went mostly according to schedule, according to the group. Cord Prinzhorn, CEO of Lenzing Group, said that they're quite proud of this accomplishment. Their heartfelt gratitude goes out to the whole Lenzing team, particularly their Thai employees, as well as many external stakeholders who came together in the midst of a global epidemic to make this critical initiative a reality. Given the obstacles of the global pandemic, completing such a



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large project on time and on budget is an outstanding achievement.

Robert van de Kerkhof, member of the managing board, said that demand for their wood-based, biodegradable specialty fibers under the Tencel, Lenzing Ecovero, and Veocel brands is developing very well. They see significant development potential for their brands in Asia, based on sustainable innovation. Lenzing has hit a significant milestone in its expansion journey with the start of production at the lyocell plant in

Thailand, supporting our ambitious goal of making the textile and non-woven industries more sustainable.” Lenzing also stated that it will continue to grow its lyocell fiber manufacturing capacity as part of its sCore Ten strategies, which aims to generate 75% of its fiber income from environmentally responsible specialty fibers by 2024. It notes the Thailand site, has room for many production lines, with the first phase’s investment already comprising general infrastructure that will

help with future expansion.

However, the business claims that it will continue to explore ways to grow lyocell production in other parts of the world as well.

Prinzhorn adds that investments in Thailand and other Lenzing locations across the world assist them not only in their transformation to become a supplier of environmentally friendly specialty fibers but also in achieving their ambitious climate targets, thereby enhancing their company value.

## LENZING STARTS WORLD’S LARGEST LYOCELL PLANT

03-March-2022

Companies in textile supply chain are expanding across the globe!

The Lenzing Group, the leading

supplier of wood-based specialty fibres, has now successfully completed its key lyocell expansion project in Thailand.

In a statement, the company said that the new plant, the largest of its kind in the world with a nameplate capacity of 100,000 tonnes per year,



has started production on schedule and will help to even better meet the increasing customer demands for TENCEL™-branded lyocell fibres. Notably, the recruiting and onboarding of new employees have been successful. Investments (CAPEX) amounted to approximately € 400 million for this initiative.

“We are very proud of this achievement. Our sincere thanks go to the

entire Lenzing team and especially to our staff in Thailand, and also to many external stakeholders, who joined forces in times of a global pandemic to make this key project reality. To deliver such a huge project in time and at budget is an outstanding achievement given the challenges of the global pandemic,” said Cord Prinzhorn, CEO, Lenzing Group.

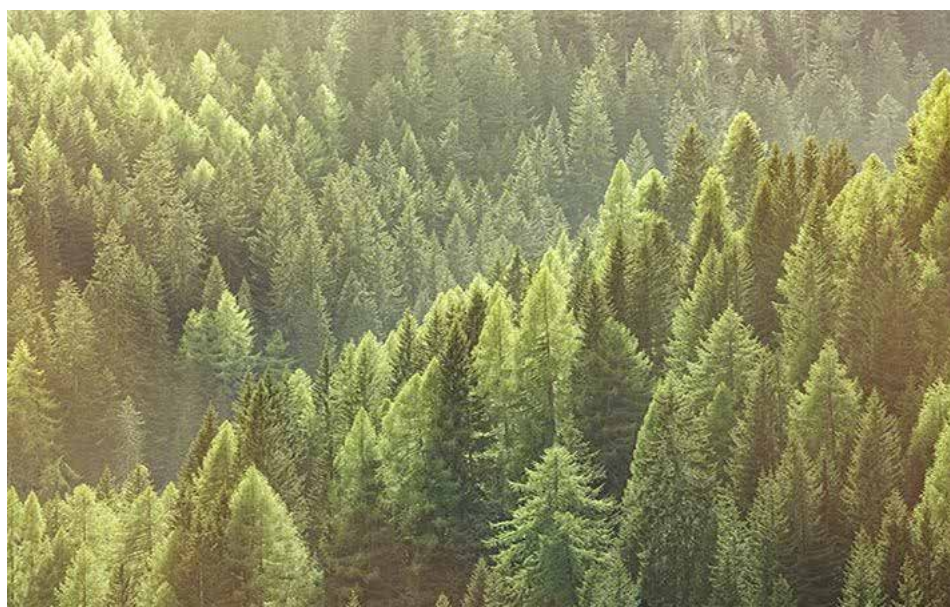
The company said that it will continue to expand its production capacity for lyocell fibres in line with its sCore TEN strategy, which aims to generate 75 percent of its fibre revenue from eco-responsible specialty fibres such as TENCEL™, LENZING™ ECOVERO™ and VEOCEL™ by 2024.

## SWEDEN'S DIAB REDUCES CARBON FOOTPRINT BY 46%

02 Mar '22

Sweden's Diab reduces carbon footprint by 46 per cent between 2016-2021. In 2016, Diab started to reduce its carbon footprint as part of its commitment to meeting the global reduction goals. Diab's targets were approved by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), making it the first company for high-tech sandwich composite solutions to do so.

Between 2016 and 2021, Diab reduced its carbon footprint from 11 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/ kg of material produced to 5.9 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/ kg, a reduction of 46 per cent. Among other factors, this reduction was driven by changes in material, reduced waste, more efficient use of waste generated, changed production methodologies, and changed energy sources, the company said in a press release. Diab's carbon-reduction activities encompass Diab's full carbon footprint, including Scope 1 and 2 (internal activities, energy, internal transport) and Scope 3



(external activities, sourced raw materials, product use). 82 per cent of Diab's carbon footprint is in Scope 3. For 2021, Diab is reporting in accordance with the EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities, and 49 per cent of Diab's turnover is eligible and aligned with the Taxonomy.

“It has become increasingly important for our customers that we not only focus on delivering the best solutions, but also

long-term sustainable solutions. I am very pleased with this development and with the fact that Diab, which started its work back in 2016, is at the forefront of delivering high quality while reducing our climate footprint. There is no contradiction here – on the contrary. Not only is this commercially sound, but it's also the right thing to do,” Tobias Hahn, CEO of Diab, said.



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# CHILDREN'S BRAND COTTON ON KIDS BECOMES NEWEST BRAND PARTNER FOR COTTON AUSTRALIA

Children's clothing brand Cotton On Kids has launched its first range of Australian cotton garments both here in Australia and across the globe – with more to come.

Cotton Australia is excited to announce this new partnership with Cotton On Kids, who has added sustainable Australian grown cotton to the brand's raw materials portfolio. In launching the new garments, Cotton On Kids is also telling the stories of two cotton farmers from Emerald, in Queensland's Central Highlands region who were filmed in the field earlier in the season.

Cotton farmers Aaron and Carly Kiely along with Laine and Lucy Thompson, and their children, will feature in a series of in-store and online promotional material connecting consumers with where their cotton clothing started out in the field.

Cotton On Kids Head of Customer Marina Berber said of the range "We couldn't be more excited about the launch of this new range, it's something we have been dreaming about and planning for some time



now and we can't wait to bring it to our customers.

"Cotton On Kids is all about making a positive difference in the lives of not only our customers, but the people around us and we know that this new range featuring cotton grown right here in our backyard is going to be something they love."

Cotton Australia's Cotton to Market Supply Chain Consultant Brooke Summers was proud to welcome Cotton On Kids to the team.

"We are thrilled to be working with Cotton On Kids to source sustain-

able cotton for their kids' collection. We've been working with the group since Cotton to Market began on a range of issues like Better Cotton and circularity and the time is now right to make the partnership official with a strong commitment to Australian cotton fibres," Brooke said.

"The Cotton On brand is a perfect fit because they see this as a long-term proposition – they want yarns and fabrics that are sustainably grown by trusted farmers – and Australian cotton farmers certainly tick those boxes," she said.



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## AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN COTTON HIGHLIGHTED IN A SPECIAL EDITION OF GLOBAL PUBLICATION “THE RECORDER”

A special edition of International Cotton Advisory Committee's publication, The Recorder, has highlighted two leading women in Australian Cotton.

Cotton farmer Renee Anderson and Agri Direct Australia Director, Eimear McDonagh, both feature in the magazine, sharing their roles in the Australian cotton industry.

Eimear started her journey in the cotton industry based at Goondiwindi, and for the past 25 years has paved her way through as an export manager for various cotton merchants.

In Central Queensland, Renee has multiple roles in her family farming



International Cotton Advisory Committee



operation – from day-to-day field operations, irrigation activities, and cotton picking – as well as working

for Cotton Australia as a Regional Manager.

## POWERFUL COMPONENTS BY TEMCO FOR FILAMENT PROCESSING

January 17, 2022

Efficiency, stability and high quality are decisive factors in the production of filament yarns and synthetic fibers like polyester, polyacryl, nylon and glass fibers. The secret to success lies in choosing the right components. The latest generation rollers, for example, are 85% faster than previous designs. But this is only one must-have

in a powerful family of components that makes all the difference in melt spinning, texturing, twisting and re-winding.

Temco has been developing and producing separator rollers for more than half a century. The demand for filament yarns in apparel, sportswear or upholstery fabrics, industrial yarns for car tires or bulked continu-

ous filament (BCF) yarns for carpet production is skyrocketing. To meet the market demand, Temco has launched a new generation separator roller through continuous development of the proven separator rollers with different roller diameters and various dimensions.

Originally, separator rollers were used for yarn guidance, drawing and thread-path



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## COTTON, FIBER, NON-WOVEN & TECHNICAL TEXTILES

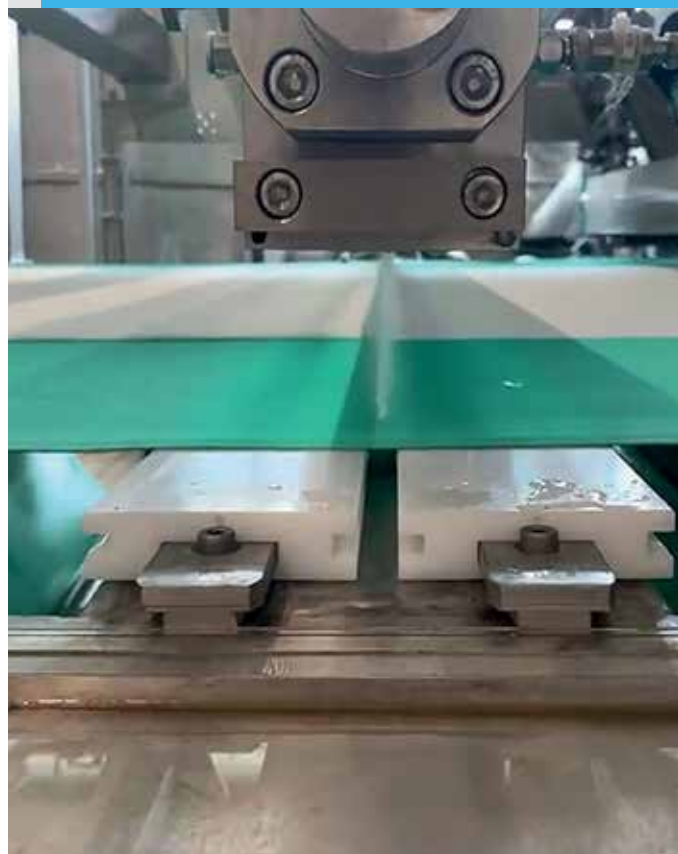
wrap angles on draw-twisting machines. Today, the separator roller series VR are deployed in a broad range of applications, and in some of the most diverse processes. Put simply, separator rollers are used to support the production process without influencing the yarn quality. The bearings must be of the highest quality to ensure low frictional torque, durability and stable running. High-quality bearings, yarn gentle roller shells, and corrosion resistance are what guarantee stable running as well as maximum service life thanks to optimized bearing load capacity.

The latest generation of separator rollers features lifetime lubrication which has already been tried and tested for years and ensures smooth running even at very high speeds. The bearing is equipped with clearance seals and lids which securely prevent any air flow from occurring and dirt from entering. Through the newly developed bearing damping with pre-stressed integrated bearing following characteristics will be achieved: up to 85% higher speeds in comparison to the previous designs, resonance free running, applicable for up to 50% higher yarn tension forces in comparison to the previous designs and lower bearing friction and therefore less slippage of the yarn. The series VR50 and V60 are produced for speeds up to 4 500 m/min and as special design for speeds up to 6 000 m/min. The separator rollers, which can be used for yarn temperatures up to 160°C, have been developed to spin technical and non-technical yarns like partially oriented yarn (POY), fully drawn yarn (FDY), spin drawn yarn (SDY), and to spin draw texturing BCF yarns for carpets. Separator rollers are a must have when it's about achieving top quality filament yarns. But Temco offers a complete end-to-end solution of components for yarn production, which includes air jets, texturing discs, texturing cots and aprons, twist stoppers and bearings. With a comprehensive portfolio, the company supplies Made in Germany products needed to improve quality in melt spinning, texturing, twisting and rewinding.

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Los Angeles-based materials science company, Everywhere Apparel, has recently launched the world's first 100% recycled and closed-loop apparel line made entirely of GRS-certified recycled cotton.

Circot yarn and fabric, which are free of microplastics, are intended to be a fully recyclable alternative to recycled polyester (rPET), which has been shown to shed even more microplastics than virgin polyester. Everywhere Apparel has launched its private label-friendly, printable clothes collection to the B2B market and offered its distinctive fiber technology and closed-loop system infrastructure as an open-source to reach as many brands and other partners as possible.

Irys Kornbluth, co-CEO at Everywhere Apparel, said that Every-

where Apparel was founded with the goal of having the greatest possible good influence on the environment, which is why they choose to open source their closed-loop system and make the technology available to anyone who is interested. They assure that this new approach to sustainability has the greatest possible impact by launching with a focus on the blank apparel business.

Circot yarn is spun out of shredded recycled cotton fibers and knitted into a soft, durable fabric that is cut and sewed into Everywhere clothing. Other brands can then utilize these to create their own printed products.

A user just scans the in-built tag with a QR-code to order an envelope to return the shirt (or even scraps) for

recycling at the end of its life, which according to Everywhere Apparel is a few years. The shirts and remnants are gathered and color-sorted before being mechanically shredded into spinnable fibers, where the cycle starts again.

According to Everywhere Apparel, there are four different advantages to wearing apparel made with Circot fabric: To begin with, no water is utilized in the manufacture, bleaching, or dyeing of the fiber. Second, closed-loop clothing keeps trash out of landfills. Finally, they lower a company's carbon footprint and, most importantly, do not contaminate the environment with microplastics.

Everywhere Apparel said that when compared to conventional or or-



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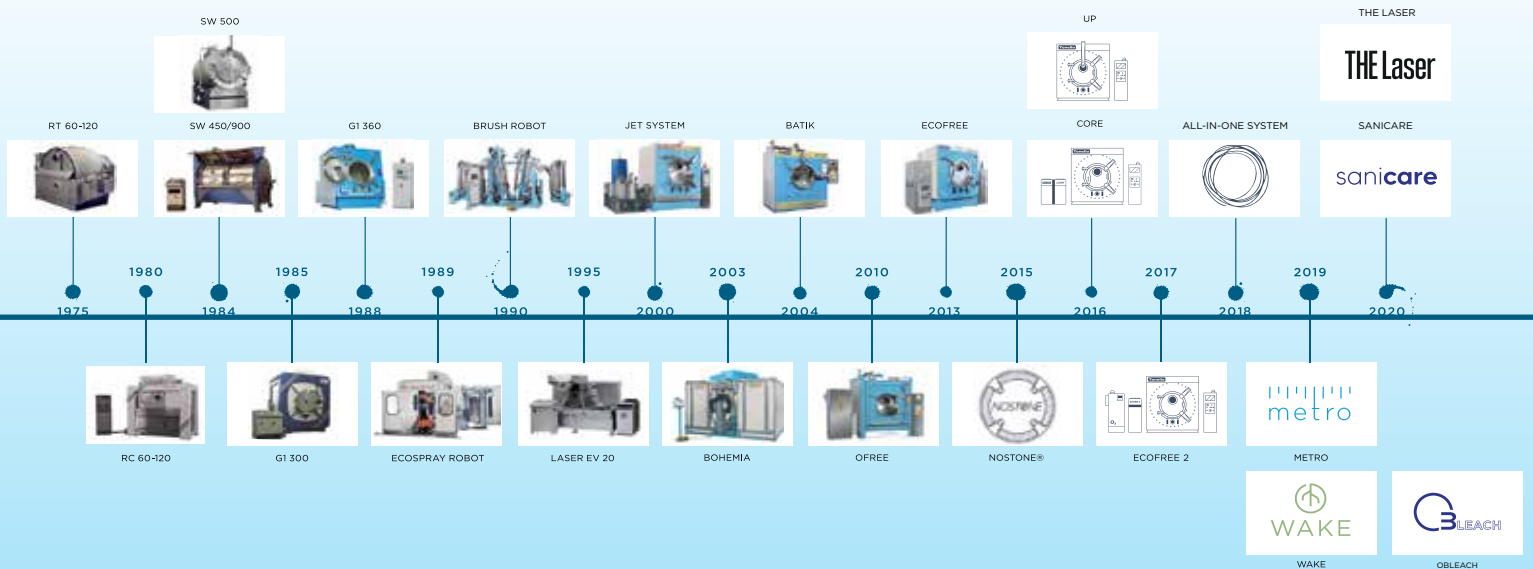
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# BY DR. BETTINA TEMATH TC 19I OUTPERFORMS SWISS COMPETITOR CARD IN HEAD-TO-HEAD TRIALS

March 17, 2022

TC 19i offers high production and more constant quality with less waste compared to latest high- performance card from Swiss competitor, says leading Turkish yarn manufacturer Iskur. This is the final evaluation after several months of intensive head-to-head testing.

“We facilitated the comparison of TC 19i with the Swiss competitor card at our premises because we wanted to make an informed decision for our next project”, says Hakan Karagöl, General Manager Iskur Group (second from right in the cover picture). The aim was to achieve the maximum possible production with best possible



quality and operating costs. On the basis of a cost-comparison and quality analysis from yarn to fabric, Iskur is now in favor of Trützschler regarding the spinning preparation line.

After months of comparative testing during which TC 19i showed better performance and quality, while the Swiss competitor card had to be continuously overhauled and reconfigured, the final trials took place beginning of 2022. In the first trial both cards ran

TC 19i outperforms Swiss competitor card in head-to-head trials (from left to right): Ahmet Kapuçam, Technical Director Iskur, Muhammad Yousuf, Technologist Trützschler, Mehmet Açı, Mill Manager Iskur, Hakan Karagöl, General Manager Iskur, Mehmet Dogan, Technologist Trützschler.

at 180 kg/h in the production of a rotor yarn Ne 6,5 made of a cotton and cotton recycle blend. Both competitors achieved comparable quality (IPI) now, and the final fabrics both matched the customer's expectation. However, TC 19i showed significantly less unnecessary

fiber waste – more than 4 %! The cost savings of operating TC 19i compared to the competitor amount to 160.000 \$ per year, which include other aspects like energy consumption and maintenance expenses.



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# 67% MORE OUTPUT AT REMARKABLE SPEED WITH THE E 86

March 02, 2022

Xiajin Ruixin Textile Co. (Ruixin), based in Xiajin, Shandong, China, serves the high-quality market segment for combed compact twin cotton yarns. The family-run company has optimized its spinning process over its nearly 20 years in the business, and now produces 8 000 tons of yarn per year. And Ruixin continues to strive for excellence every day. To ensure that the high-quality requirements are also met in the future, Ruixin invested in six combers E 86 ROBO, including one combing preparation system OMEGAlap E 36.

The Challenge Ruixin was impressed by the quality of the Rieter comber. Our goal was to prove that the E 86 is able to run at 525 nips/minute while maintaining an excellent fleece appearance. However, when running at such high speeds, the tendency for yarn faults increases – and so does the one for clearer cuts. The challenge was to prove to the customer that he could speed up his production without any compromise in quality. We were determined to show that our comber E 86 can overcome the challenges and deliver the quality Rieter stands



for.

The Solution We conducted a trial to prove that the comber could produce a sliver of an excellent quality at a significantly higher output than the competitor's machines. For this reason, we made a comparison between six of our combers E 86 and six combers of the competitors producing high quality combed compact twin yarn. The competitor's comber ran at 380 npm, while our machine could run at 525 npm with the optimal settings. Furthermore, the precise settings of the distance between circular comb and nipper together with the stable running

behavior of the E 86 results in a high productivity without compromising in quality. This resulted in an excellent output of 70 kg per hour which is 67% more than the competitor's comber delivered. The Customer's Benefits The E 86 can achieve better quality at this high production volume with 2% lower noil extraction than the competitor. In addition, the customer's high-quality standards could be exceeded: The Uster clearer results have shown that the E 86 produces 60% fewer A0 and A1 yarn faults in comparison. The low number of clearer cuts was particularly positive; the E 86



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had 12% fewer cuts than the competition. Moreover, Ruixin was able to reduce the cost for energy consumption and those for manual labor drastically. All in all, the comber E 86 brings a financial benefit over USD 220

000 per set and year. The company is greatly pleased with the continuous support provided by Rieter experts throughout the project. With their support, Ruixin has managed to exceed the initial target and is now able

to produce even more economically than expected. Due to the reliability of E 86 and the stable running behavior further increase of production is feasible and will be topic for future trials.



## GRAF CARD CLOTHING – RECYCLE AND REGAIN VALUE

January 19, 2022

Fashion made from recycled clothing are in huge demand, but the quality has been the challenge. Graf now offers

three dedicated innovative card clothing packages which are specially designed for processing recycled fibers. These sets enable spinning mills to

transform recycled cotton, cotton blends and man-made clothing into high-value yarn up to Ne 20, opening a lucrative new market. Challenges



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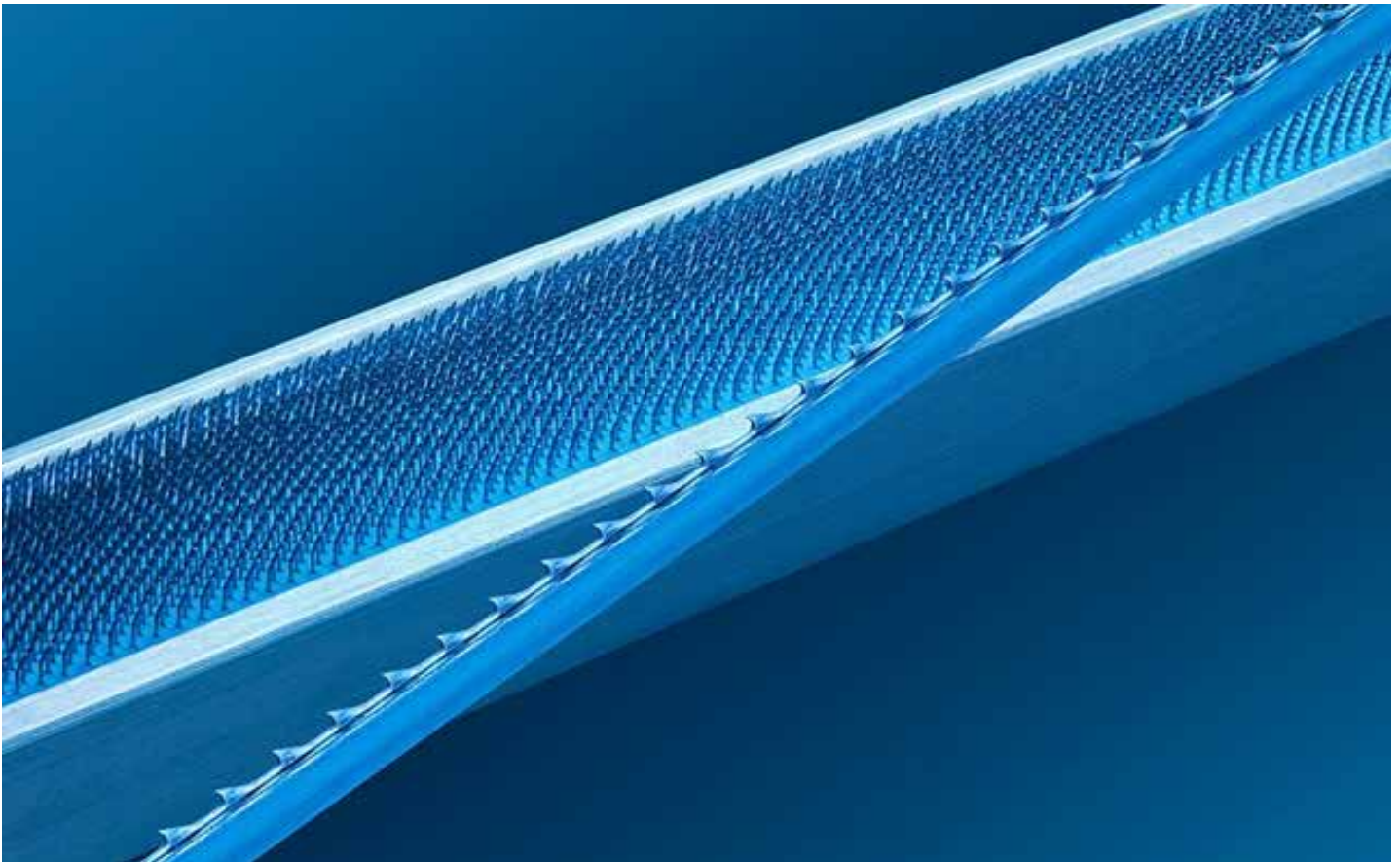
and Solutions Ahead Consumers all around the world are actively looking for more sustainable fashion items made from recycled garments. Compared to virgin fibers, recycled fibers have the challenge that the short fiber content is much higher, the elongation possibilities are more limited and the contamination with foreign fibers is more intensive.

Graf has now optimized the

combination of card clothings for licker-in, cylinders, doffer rollers and flats suitable for medium and high production lines to increase the raw material utilization more effectively and to cope with the characteristics of various types of recycled fibers.

The ability to achieve values of up to Ne 20 opens up the opportunity to make quality fabrics suitable for a wider range

of recycled lines. It is a market set to significantly grow in the near future. One Graf customer, Alkan Textile in Egypt, is already achieving great success. We find the Graf packages for recycling raw material to high-quality yarn excellent for transforming trash into treasure. With the help of Graf's technical consultants, it's been easy to implement.



# SSM: THE SECRETS BEHIND THE SCIENCE OF WINDING

January 17, 2022

SSM's preciforce offers the ability to regulate backpressure so that each and every bobbin achieves the same density.

Every yarn manufacturer's dream is to achieve a perfectly wound package so that the yarn can be processed easily in downstream processes, like dyeing or weaving. What does it take to achieve a perfectly wound package and what makes this an amazing engineering feat that helps save energy and resources?

Winding is a small but crucial step in the textile value chain. This is when yarns are wound tightly onto a bobbin to prepare them for the next manufacturing stage. Every yarn manufacturer's dream is to achieve a perfectly wound package so that the yarn can be processed easily in downstream processes, like dyeing or weaving.

**preciforce Sets New Standards**  
The secret behind getting a perfectly wound package is achieving regular density across the entire package which is especially important for dyeing. But what looks easy on the surface is nothing less than a carefully designed engineering feat built on decades of expertise.

Until now, winding systems were limited to merely monitoring density without the ability to adjust pressure levels. SSM's preciforce changes all this with the ability to regulate backpressure so that each and every bobbin reaches the same density. The perfectly

even package densities make the dyeing process easier, thus optimizing results. Even better, dye houses save energy and



water as they no longer need to repeat the dyeing process which is necessary when packages are wound unevenly.

**A Winning Team:** preciforce and DIGICONE 2 Perfect density is great, but costs also play a role. At SSM, the company's mission is to help customers manufacture at the lowest possible cost and with the least amount of waste. Winding is a repetitive action so SSM engineers found that what was working for Google searches and algorithmic trading – which are based on recurring, sequential actions – was good for winding, too. They developed an algorithm that ensures the winding machines apply a step-by-step procedure to achieve a tightly wound package in the most

economical way. DIGICONE 2 was developed with this advanced winding algorithm that ensures optimal accuracy in

yarn laying. Together preciforce and DIGICONE 2 make an unbeatable team to manufacture a superior package in the most economical way.

In addition, preciforce helps to save roughly 20% energy compared to standard automatic backpressure systems.

To round it off, the reliability of SSM machines is unmatched, with the longest lifetime for machines and spare parts. SSM also provides a world-class service network with over 10 local service stations and 80 agencies worldwide. This translates into short journeys and fast response times for customers.



## THE CAMOZZI GROUP TO TAKE OVER THE TIMKEN PLANT IN VILLA CARCINA (BS)

Reindustrialisation Plan and Social and Employment Protection Milan.



02.02.22

Camozzi Group S.p.A. and Timken Italia S.r.l. announce that they have reached a final agreement for the acquisition, by the Camozzi Group, of the ownership of the entire real estate complex housing the Timken industrial site located in Villa Carcina (BS) and for the start-up, at the same site, of a reindustrialisation project that will be carried out by the Camozzi Group over a pe-

riod of 24 months.

The reindustrialisation plan of the Villa Carcina site was conceived by the Camozzi Group with two objectives in mind: restoring an important industrial engineering activity for the local community, comparable in size to that previously carried out by Timken at the site; and at the same time, contributing to solving social issues related to the definitive winding-up of the activ-

ities previously carried out at the site, ensuring the full protection of personnel.

The Camozzi Group will be developing high-tech mechanical manufacturing activities at the Villa Carcina site in line with the Group's strategic development guidelines according to innovative, digital and sustainable industrial standards.

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# GROZ-BECKERT TO PRESENT A SERIES OF PRODUCTS FOR NON-WOVEN INDUSTRY AT IDEA EXHIBITION IN MIAMI (USA)

**Groz-Beckert has announced to showcase its product range for Felting and Carding at IDEA in Miami, USA, from 28 to 31 March 2022.**

05-March-2022

IDEA takes place every three years and is one of the most important trade fairs for non-wovens and technical textiles for the international non-wovens industry.

For spunlace customers, Groz-Beckert will present its HyTec P jet strips, which are characterised by a significantly higher hardness compared with conventional jet strips and, therefore, also offer excellent scratch resistance, as informs company in a press release shared with Apparel Resources.

In the area of traditional needling, the patented GEBECON felting needle is one of Groz-Beckert's highlight products. With its unique geometry, it offers optimised bending resistance with high flexibility.

By using Augmented Reality, GEBECON felting needle can be viewed in detail at the booth. According to Groz-Beckert, know-how protection and im-



proved needle logistics are just two of the many benefits of the customer products that the Felting product group will highlight for customers at the booth.

In addition, visitors can take a virtual tour through the technology facility in the Groz-Beckert Technology and Development Center (TEZ) in Albstadt, Germany.

"This way, they experience the staple fibre needle punch

line (SVL) up close and learn how Groz-Beckert can assist in product development as well as product and process optimisation," shares Groz-Beckert.

Further, at IDEA, the Groz-Beckert InLine card clothing series will also be the main focus of the product group Carding. The series comes with a new and patented production method and Groz-Beckert has developed a new range of metallic card clothing, which offers im-



Graph 1: How do you describe your current business situation?



## KNITTING SECTOR OPTIMISTIC ON COVID RECOVERY TREND

proved process reliability and increased up-time of the card for the non-wovens industry. At the same time, the new production method also reflects the corporate principles of environment-friendly and resource-saving production.

Zurich - The global knitting sector is continuing to see a good business situation in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic with the latest data generally indicating a strong and broad recovery, according to a new

ITMF report.

The ITMF conducted the 12th ITMF Corona-Survey among more than 270 companies around the world in all segments along the textile value chain in the second half of January.

For the fifth time since May 2021, companies were asked the same set of questions about their 1) business situation, 2) business expectation, 3) order intake, 4) order backlog, and 5) capacity utilization rate.

The latest data shows that on average across all regions and all segments, the business situation is still very favourable with +23 percentage points (pp), albeit lower than compared to November 2021 (+28pp). This high level is remarkable, says the ITMF, given the fast-rising infection number of the Corona-variant Omicron since the 11th ITMF Corona-Survey (see above graph). The fact that a rising number of companies find themselves

in a satisfactory business situation (48 per cent) is an indication for a strong and broad recovery.

When it comes to the business expectations in six months, the global textile value chain still remains very optimistic. While the balance between more favourable and less favourable has fallen from +33pp to +25pp, it needs to be considered that these expectations are built on a very favorable business situation (see Graph below). Or to put it differently, only 14 per cent of companies are anticipating a less favourable business by July 2022.

A look at the different regions reveals that the business situation is in positive territory in all regions except for East Asia and Africa where the balance between good and bad business situation is negative. The expectations are very positive except for East Asia.

As for the different segments the downstream segments – knitters, as well as weavers, finishers/printers, and garment producers – are catching up with the upstream segments – fibre producers, spinners, and textile machinery producers. The order intake has fallen from

a high level of +40pp in November 2021 to +30pp in January 2022. This is in line with the slightly weaker business situation. Order intake expectations in January remained practically on the same level as in November (+40pp and +41pp, respectively).

Since May 2021 order the backlog is hovering between 2.4 and 2.9 months with expectations showing that the industry does not indicate a change in the next six months. The capacity utilization rate continues to increase slowly but continuously since May 2021, indicating that the supply chain disruption is still a big – but hopefully a diminishing – concern.

## Strong growth for Bangladesh knitwear

22 February 2022

Dhaka - Knitwear exports from Bangladesh leapt by nearly a third in the first seven months of the current 2021-22 fiscal. Figures for the first seven months of the July 2021-June 2022 year show that knitwear garments export rose 32.9 per

### WARP & CIRCULAR KNITTING - EMBROIDERY

cent year on year to \$13.27 billion with woven garment exports registering an increase of 27.2 percent to 10.71 billion dollars.

The latest figures from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) show that Bangladesh earned \$29.55 billion dollars from exports in the July-January period, compared to \$22.67 million a year earlier.

Of this, earnings from ready-made knitwear and woven garment items surged 30.3 per cent to account for \$24 billion of the total.

Bangladesh has set its total export goal for the 2021-22 fiscal year at \$43.5 billion, including \$35.1 billion dollars from ready-made garment sector.

Elsewhere, the government has revised the maximum wastage rate for the knitwear sector in producing apparel products – from yarns to fabrics and fabrics to garments – to up to 32 per cent as per the readymade garment makers' demand.

The commerce ministry has opted to revise the wastage rate just two months after setting the depreciation rate up to 30 per cent.



# SAURER'S EMBROIDERY BUSINESS SOLD TO LÄSSER HOLDING AG

03-March-2022

Saurer Intelligent Technology AG has sold its embroidery business to Lässer Holding AG – a shuttle embroidery machine manufacturer based in Switzerland– and all assets and contracts allocated to the embroidery business of Saurer will now be transferred to Lässer Holding AG.

As per Saurer, the transfer of operations will be completed by the end of May 2022.

The acquisition represents a consolidation of the two market leaders in the production of shuttle embroidery machines. It's worth noting here that Lässer is a family-owned company and was founded in 1954, while Saurer developed the first shuttle embroidery machine in 1878. "We are confident that with the newly combined knowledge, Lässer will lead the industry to



sustainable success. We believe we have found the best solution for both our customers and employees with this measure," explained Anton Kehl of Saurer Intelligent Technology AG, adding, "While this decision was not easy for us, we are positive about the future of the shuttle embroidery market in this new configuration."

Lässer has its headquarters and production facility in Diepoldsau along with a further 12 sites worldwide, including in Turkey,

India and Thailand.

Franz Lässer, Co-owner and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lässer Holding AG, commented, "As a proud Swiss company, it made sense for us to join forces with another well-known name in the industry. With this step, we are pooling more than two centuries of knowledge and look forward to continuing to inspire our customers around the world with innovative developments."



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# POSITIVE RESULTS FOR SHIMA SEIKI IN Q3 OF FY '21



01-March-2022

Shima Seiki – a leading Japanese flat knitting technology juggernaut – has reported an increase of 41.40 per cent on yearly basis in October to December (Q3) period of its ongoing fiscal year.

The company recently released its financial results of Q3 '21 and stated that it earned 22,506-million-yen revenues from worldwide sales of its technologies such as flat knitting machines, design system, gloves and sock knitting machines, amongst others.

Of total sales, flat knitting machines constituted around 65 per cent and

clocked 14,713-million-yen revenues with 55 per cent Y-o-Y; design system contributed 2,113 million yen (9.38 per cent of total value; and up 21.70 per cent Y-o-Y); glove and sock knitting machine shared 1,931 million yen with 8.58 per cent sales composition ratio and noted 33.10 per cent yearly growth.

All other technologies of Shima Seiki collectively accounted for 3,748-million-yen revenues, noting 15.80 per cent annual growth.

Shima Seiki further unveiled that Asia remained the top market for its products in Q3 '21 that helped the company fetch 8,792-million-yen revenues, noting 30.10 per cent Y-o-Y growth.

Europe was the second top market for the Japanese company that imported 6,390-million-yen worth of products from Shima Seiki in Q3 '21 and grew by around 96.70 per cent on yearly note.

Japan and Middle-East followed Asian and Europe as the sales revenues of Shima Seiki in these countries valued 5,214 million yen (up 27.10 per cent) and 967 million yen (up 13 per cent), respectively. Rest of the world contributed around 1,142-million-yen sales revenues for Shima Seiki, witnessing 20.60 per cent Y-o-Y increase.

The company further released fore-



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cast for FY '21, ending 31 March the year with 29,500-million-yen Y-o-Y growth.

2022, and shared it may conclude sales revenues, with 20.50 per cent

## KARL MAYER'S NEW HKS 2-SE PLUS OPENS UP NEW APPLICATION POSSIBILITIES WITH ITS ADDITIONAL RANGE OF LAPPING OPTIONS

15 February 2022

Simple, lightweight, plain fabrics with elasticity have become indispensable in the underwear and sportswear sector. KARL MAYER's two-bar, high-performance tricot machines have long set the standard in terms of quality and productivity. The portfolio of the established machines has so far included the HKS 2-SE – a high-speed model designed exclusively for the production of elastic articles using locknit and double tricot lapping – and the HKS 2-S, which offers greater flexibility in terms of yarns and lapping options, with lower production speeds. The manufacturing repertoire also includes qualities with two-needle-overlap, and non-elastic fabrics such as embroidery grounds and tulle are also possible.

In order to combine both product variety and speed, KARL MAYER has now added another machine to its range of elastane-processing machines – the HKS 2-SE PLUS. This builds on the proven basic concept of the



HKS 2-SE and, thanks to a modified knitting motion, can be used for both elastic locknit and double tricot, as well as two-needle overlap. The two needles overlap is carried out by the GB 2 ground guide bar, which processes elastane. This results in fabrics with a higher modulus, making swimwear, sportswear and shaping corsets just as much a part of the HKS 2-SE PLUS range as fine lingerie qualities.

In terms of speed, the new machine is almost in the same per-

formance range as the HKS 2-SE, and it achieves higher production speeds than the HKS 2-S. Just like the HKS 2-SE, the PLUS variant is offered in gauges E 32, E 36 and E 40. The available stitch density is also the same. The working width is 130", and can be extended by 4". With its special focus, the new HKS 2-SE PLUS is a high-performance all-rounder that puts KARL MAYER's elastic customers one step ahead in their respective markets.



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# ADVANCED EDITING IN SPYDER PRINT

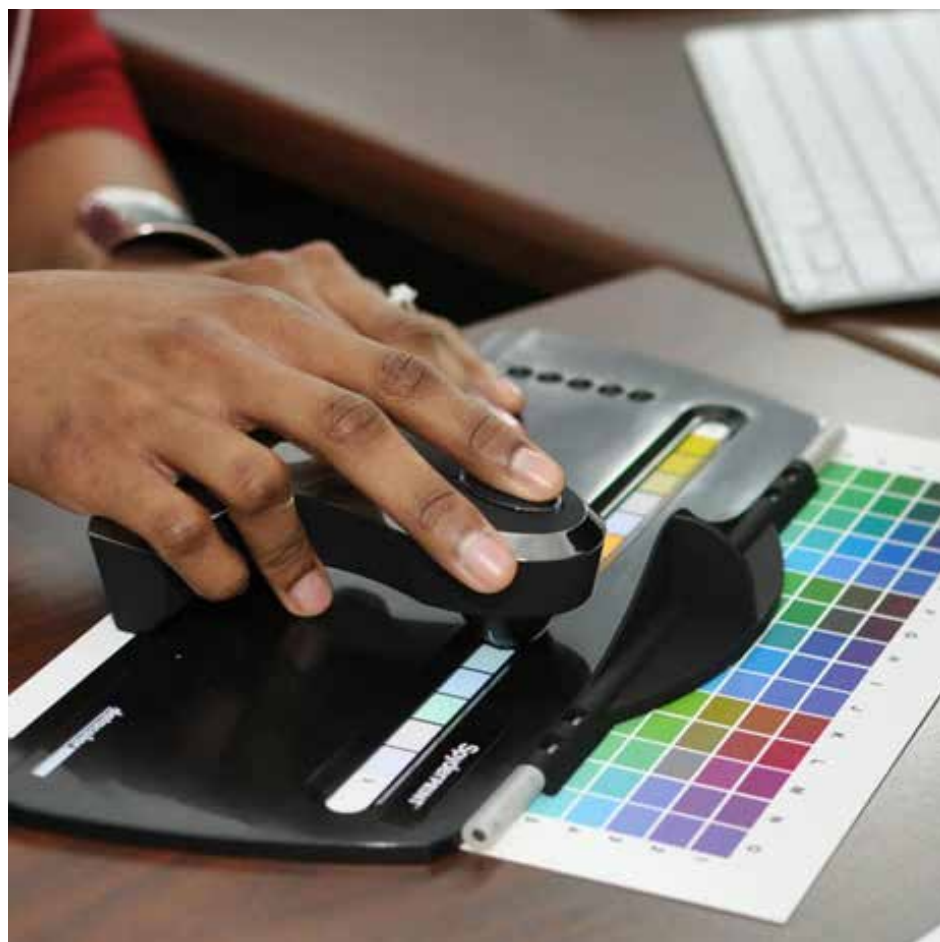
We all know the importance of creating a calibrated display for an accurate view of your digital world. But a Color Managed Workflow includes more than display calibration – input and output steps can be Color Managed as well. Datacolor's solution for output calibration is Spyder Print.

## The Problem

One of the characteristics of a Color Managed workflow is consistent and accurate communication between devices. These devices (cameras, printer and displays to name a few), have their own characteristics and will change over time.

Spyder Print offers an affordable, easy-to-use and precise way to manage output calibration. To build a profile, characteristics of your printer and paper such as black and white points, color temperature of the paper and color accuracy are evaluated. A high-quality profile will yield a better separated tonal range and more faithful color agreement with a calibrated display.

Not every printer in the same model line prints the same, plus a printer's color output will change over time. A custom profile can be made multiple times to account for these changes for the best possible results. Having a profile made for your specific printer also ensures



that its unique ability will always produce optimal results.

## A Flexible Solution

One of the great advantages of using Spyder Print is the flexibility to edit a profile. These features are found on the Spyder Proof screen under Advanced Editing. Advanced Editing allows for infinite control over the look and feel of a profile. Features that are included in Advanced Editing are ones that are familiar to photographers and printmakers, including basic adjustments for Brightness, Contrast,

Saturation and various color edits for the overall profile or targeted to Highlights. However, there are a few others to note that are pretty unique:

## Soft Proof White and Black Compensation Adjustment

The White and Black compensation allow for a more natural soft proof. White Compensation reduces the artificial blue tone that can occur when artificial paper whiteners (which look blue to colorimet-

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ric reading devices) are present in paper. This makes the paper color viewed on screen in a print preview mode more natural and more similar to what the eye sees viewing the printed image.

Black Compensation darkens the preview black to account for the less than perfect black of the monitor. This makes the ink black viewed on screen in a print preview mode more natural, and more similar to what the eye sees viewing the printed image.

PreciseLight™ Brightness & PreciseLight™ Color Temperature

For proper display, a print should be illuminated with full spectrum light, generally in a color temperature between 5000K and 6500K. While this is not always possible, PreciseLight™ adjustments will allow you to compensate for difficult lighting.

For instance, if a print is going to be displayed in a dim or overly bright environment, PreciseLight™ Brightness can be used to compensate for these lighting variations. And, if a print is displayed in an overly warm or cool environment outside the normal 5000K and 6500K, PreciseLight™ Color Temperature will improve results.

### Absolute Grays

Are you serious about black and white printing? The Absolute Grays control is a very handy adjustment



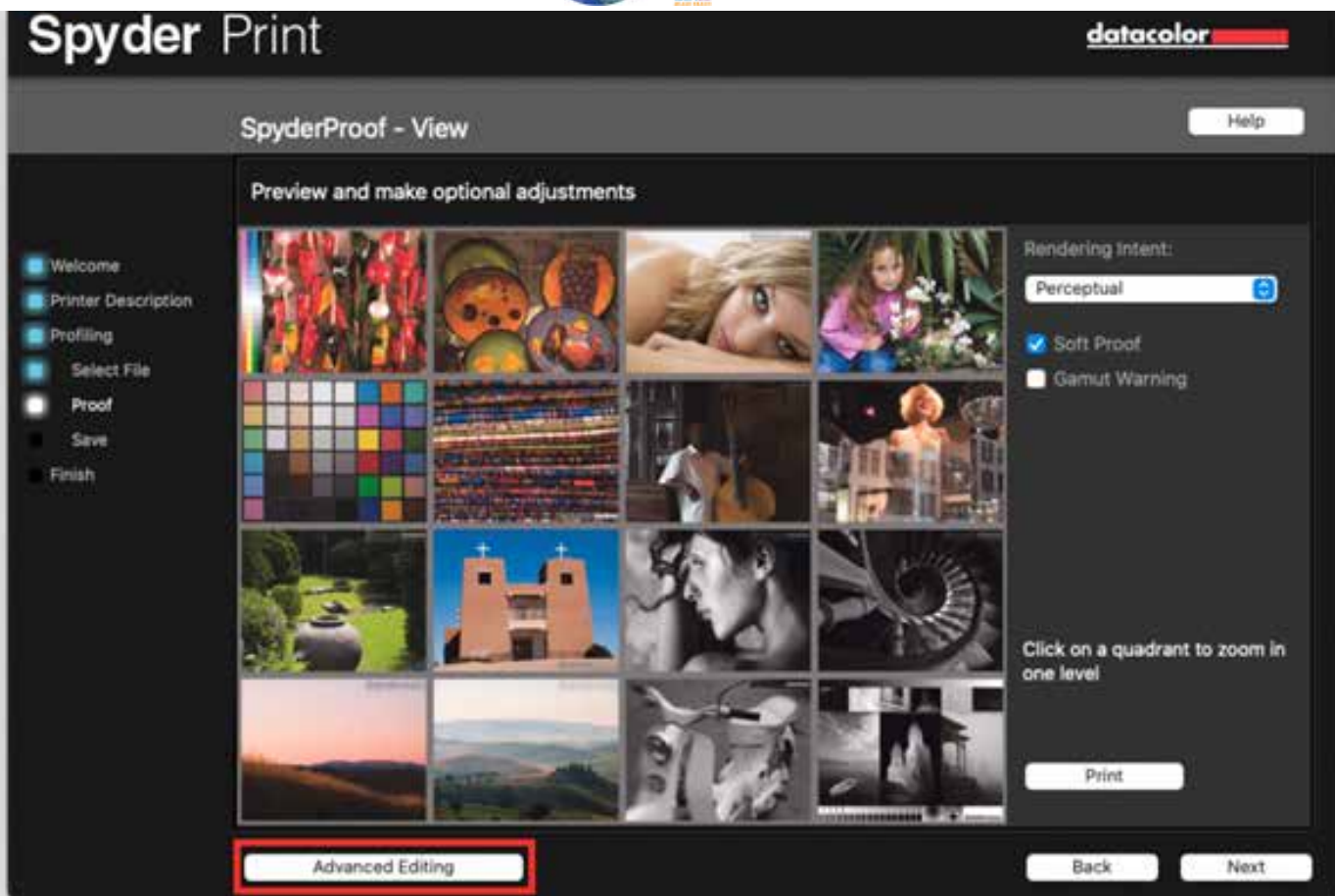
for black and white printing. This control is used to improve tonal transitions. Using Absolute Grays should offer more literal gray values and better ramping to white on media that use optical brighteners.

There are many ways to consume images in today's digital world – print is perhaps the most impactful. Printmakers deserve the tools that will allow them to fully express their vision, and Spyder Print is the tool that brings more flexibility and precision to this pursuit.

QC Tailored for the Apparel Industry Today's educated consumer is focused on finding apparel with

the best balance of style, quality, and price, manufactured under the highest possible ethical standards. Increased consumer awareness is making apparel quality control more important than ever.

At QIMA, we offer quality control and assurance services for every stage of your apparel supply chain – from source to shelf. QIMA has over 1,000 off-the-shelf customizable product-specific inspection checklists. Our expertise in softline testing will help your brand ensure the safety and quality of your apparel. Apparel & Garment Testing: Assess the quality of your apparel's materials and workmanship, using a number of quality control checks



and tests, including:

- Color shading
- Colorfastness check (Rub test)
- Symmetry check
- Size fitting test
- Adhesive check (logos, printings, markings fastness)
- Fabric weight test (for knitted garments)
- Fasteners fatigue and zip quality test
- Waterproof test
- Down feather leakage testing
- Seam slippage test (for woven garments)
- Care labeling
- Needle damage check (for knitted garment)
- Barcode scanning test

- Burn test (for 100% cotton garment)
- Mold contamination prevention
- Metal contamination prevention
- Ventilation test

**Textile Testing:** Evaluate the materials used in your textiles against your quality standards and the regulations of your destination countries. QIMA testing includes:

- Fiber identification
- Performance testing
- Flammability testing
- Eco textile testing (banned azo colorants, heavy metals, etc.)

**Footwear Testing:** QIMA provides

a comprehensive range of quality control tests for every kind of footwear, allowing you to verify its durability and make sure its components are free of hazardous substances.

**Jewelry Testing:** Fashion jewelry made of various materials, including non-precious metals and polymer materials, is tested against relevant safety regulations to ensure that it is free of harmful substances. QIMA also offers a battery of performance tests for every type of fashion jewelry, allowing you to check corrosion resistance, flammability, tension, and other performance characteristics of your product.



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# ADVANCED EDITING IN SPYDER PRINT



February 10, 2022

SDCE's longstanding partner Ramp Impex made a 4,000 mile journey to the UK headquarters this week in a significant first visit to the company in over two decades. Made more poignant by the recent restrictions imposed upon face-to-face meetings by the Covid-19 pandemic, the visit by Puneet and Rachna Rawal was an opportunity to re-align their sales strategy for India, as well as viewing the premises for the first time since SDCE relocated to Holmfirth, West Yorkshire in 2016. The husband-and-wife team

was welcomed by sales manager Kim Briggs and managing director Mark Yare, who hosted a tour of the site's full production facility.

"The absence of trade shows has left us with little opportunity to catch up with our global partners face-to-face, so we were delighted to welcome Ramp Impex to the SDCE," he says. "Demand for our products continues to be high as the worldwide industry begins its recovery from the pandemic, and we are well-placed to continue to work with Ramp Impex to develop sales across India and the surrounding areas." Ramp Impex was established as an official distributor for India in 2001 when Puneet Rawal – a specialist supplier of scientific instruments – sought to bring high quality testing consumables back from the UK to the thriving textile trade of India.

"At that time SDCE was a pioneer in the marketplace, and we were already becoming familiar with the brand as specialists in the textile field," says Rawal. "I recognised the quality of the brand and felt sure that I could raise its profile back

in my home territory."

The relationship became one of SDCE's most successful partnerships to date. Since officially appointing Ramp Impex as its official distributor for India in 2002, the joint enterprise has established over 650 accounts across India.

"The brand and the products have proven themselves over the past 17 years with regards to quality, consistency, correlations and performance," says Rawal. "Our key accounts include laboratories, apparel houses, brands and processing mills, all of whom trust the SDCE name, and trust us to deliver the goods."

Following their visit to SDCE's UK headquarters, Puneet and Rachna Rawal have set their sights on stepping up their efforts to supply India's rich network of textile testing professionals with the best in customer service, as well as premium products.



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# XUZHOU HUASHENG TEXTILE CO LTD. CHINA



Mr. Zhang Yu Meng, Vice General Manager and General Manager for Production



**“Loepfe yarn clearers are our best choice”**

Mr. Zhang Yu Meng,  
Xuzhou Huasheng Textile  
Co Ltd. China

Mr. Zhang Yu Meng, Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co Ltd. China “Loepfe yarn clearers with Lab Pack quality assurance is our best choice” Mr. Zhang Yu Meng, Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co Ltd. China

Yarn spinning production in China is today confronted with rising wages, higher energy bills, shortage of labour and mounting logistical costs. The combination of these reasons is leading Chinese spinning companies to invest in machineries offering a higher degree of automation in their mills. The trend towards automation and digitalization significantly determines investments of the

textile industry, both in new installations and in the replacement sector.

Spinning mills that still work manually today with shorter spinning machines upgrade into economical automation thanks to the multi-link winding solutions, which makes it possible to assign several ring-spinning machines to a winder, which makes such link upgrades profitable with shorter spinning machines as well.

Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co. Ltd. has taken up this economical automation solution to stay competitive in the future and has just recently invested in 12 Savio Polar IDSL multi-link

winders having up to 70 spindles with Loepfe YarnMaster ZENIT+D basic yarn clearers. At this mill, the foreign fibre cleaning functionality is not an issue with pure Viscose, Modal, Lyocell fibres and blends thereof processed. Each winder is linked with 3 different ring spinning machines.

Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co Ltd. is a privately held spinning company located in Peixian which is under the administration of Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, China, bordering the Shandong prefecture level cities of Jining to the northwest and Zaozhuang to the northeast and sitting on the western



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shore of Nansi Lake.

Established in the year 2000 and headed ever since by Mr. Zhang Yu Meng, Vice General Manager and General Manager for Production, Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co. Ltd. quickly became the leading quality ring spinning mill in this area with 250'000 spindles offering an annual production capacity of 40'000 tons. Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co. Ltd. is focusing its activities primarily in the Siro spinning of Viscose, Modal, Viscose Modal and Viscose Lyocell blended yarns as well as slub yarns in the yarn count range of Ne 10 – Ne 100 for knitting and weaving fabrics.

Mr. Zhang Yu Meng quotes: "To be successful in the long term in the highly competitive Viscose yarn market, it is extremely important that we are perceived as a supplier of constant yarn quality. Our long-term customers expect from us that we deliver constant yarn quality with every order. We're working hard daily to achieve this reputation in the market and Loepfe's yarn clearers of various generations with its unique Lab Pack quality assurance function help us greatly to achieve this! We are processing all our yarns on more than 3'000 winding positions in our mills having all optical yarn clearers from Loepfe from various generations. On all our yarn clearer systems, the activated Lab Pack quality assurance option and its bad bobbin detection is making sure that we can always deliver constant quality yarns to our customers."

100% Online quality assurance

and detecting off-standard bobbins.

The philosophy of 100% on-line quality assurance in the winding process, introduced by Loepfe into the spinning mill world years ago, provides all relevant quality test characteristics except for tensile strength tests. Experienced spinning mill managers no longer rely on random samples! Even when a production lot was found good using time-consuming laboratory verifications, strikingly divergent off-standard bobbins give cause for complaint. These problems can be avoided with Loepfe's Lab Pack quality assurance function, as it eliminates reliably off-standard bobbins from production and always keeps the yarn quality constant due to fixed and comprehensive clearing limits in a pre-set range.

### **Lab Pack online laboratory data needs data management**

At Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co. Ltd., all the data from all the various yarn clearers from all winding machines is processed with Loepfe's MillMaster TOP monitoring system. However, the fact that important yarn quality data such as hairiness, neppiness, general yarn surface irregularities and diameter variations, besides the normal yarn imperfections are made visible, a comprehensive quality monitoring and analysis is at the disposal for the customer. A very important advantage with basic yarn clearers unlocked with Lab Pack function such as YarnMaster ZENIT+D,

as the single optical infrared sensor is capable to monitor all these parameters without the necessity of an additional foreign fibre sensor!

Only the Lab-Pack functionality and the simultaneous processing of all data generated by the yarn clearers with Loepfe's MillMaster TOP data management system complete the seamless quality monitoring. The edited quality reports are used to intervene in time in the spinning mill process. By analysing the quality reports, service and maintenance work can be optimized, which, apart from a constant quality, also results in cost savings.

Final words of Mr. Zhang Yu Meng from Xuzhou Huasheng Textile Co. Ltd: "To push the automatization possibilities forward and to benefit from todays and future digital solutions are important parts of our corporate strategy. The MillMaster TOP monitoring system from Loepfe is connected to all our existing Loepfe yarn clearers, which are activated with the LabPack function on our Savio winding machines. This results that we always have reliable production and comprehensive quality data on 100% of our yarns available. We and ultimately our customers not only benefit from a constant yarn quality through this combination, but it also enables us to economically optimize processes and the use of raw materials. The company's present and future success depends on the ability to embrace such technological possibilities!"

# INAUGURATION NEW OFFICES IN NEW DELHI

MARCH 11, 2022

Picanol has been active in India since 1956, and following many years of successfully serving the local market, Picanol India Private Ltd. was established in 2008. Just a few years later, the inauguration of new offices for Picanol India in New Delhi took place in 2012.

Ten years on from that event, our offices in New Delhi have now been both extended and renovated.

“This decision clearly shows our commitment to grow together with our Indian customers. The new offices will create several advantages for Picanol India. Specifically, grouping the Sales, Service, and CSR teams under one roof will make operations more efficient and the print repair facilities have been modernized.” explains Kasiviswanathan Palanisamy, Director of Picanol India.

The preparation for the opening started in February 2022 with a “Havan” – this is a traditional fire ritual that involved a Hindu priest visiting the offices and placing herbs and some other items of food in a holy fire. A Havan is believed to purify both the en-



vironment and the devotees. Following this, on March 10, Ambassador of Belgium to India, cutting the ribbon. We're



2022, Picanol India officially opened its new offices, with H.E. Mr. Francois Delhaye, pleased to say that an enjoyable time was had by everyone who attended.



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# INTERVIEW WITH ROHLEDER

## HOW A SMALL LOEPFE PRODUCT IS PART OF THE SUCCESS

### Rohleder – Quality and Design

Rohleder the HITEX® Manufactory is much more than a weaving mill. At their plant in Konradsreuth Germany, they have been producing designer fabrics of the highest level of quality, comfort, and durability since 1946.

Loepfe considers itself fortunate to have one of the most successful weaving mills in Europe as a customer. As a result, the weaving machines specially modified for Rohleder have been equipped with the WeftMaster CUT-iT thermal fabric cutter since mid-2019.

In an interview with Loepfe, Mr. Werner Kaufmann, electrician at Rohleder, describes why a small Loepfe product is part of the company's success.

Loepfe: Rohleder offers a wide variety of high-quality fabrics. Whether these are velvets or epinglé, furnishings or flat wovens, dobby or jacquard, Rohleder offers a seemingly unlimited choice of materials, textures, colors and patterns. What challenges does this pose for daily production?

Werner Kaufmann: We have very flexible employees with high-quality awareness - there



would be no other way. Of course, our extensive design and R&D competence is also an important building block, in addition to the constant maintenance and renewal of our machinery.

Loepfe: Alongside the distinctive design requirements at Rohleder, the quality concept is a mainstay running through all process steps. Why is quality so important to you?

Werner Kaufmann: For us as a company with production facilities in Germany, quality is a natural feature.

Loepfe: You rely on modern technologies and machines and components customized especially for Rohleder. Why did you

choose a product from Loepfe for the fabric separation?

Werner Kaufmann: The hot wire cutters prevent unwanted problems in our thermal-mechanical finishing process during further processing. The CUT-iT system gives the selvedge more stability, which means we produce significantly less second choice.

Loepfe: How many CUT-iT systems are in use throughout your production?

Werner Kaufmann: Six, possibly seven soon, all other machines run with the machine manufacturers cutting system.

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## PICANOL INDIA INAUGURATES ITS NEW OFFICE

Picanol has been engaged in India since 1956, and Picanol India Private Ltd. was founded in 2008 after many years of effectively serving the local market. Picanol India opened new offices in New Delhi in 2012, only a few years after the company was founded. Ten years on from that event, their offices in New Delhi have now been both extended and renovated.

Picanol India officially opened their new office on March 10, 2022, with H.E. Francois Delhaye, Belgian Ambassador to India, cutting the ribbon. We're happy to report that everyone who attended had a great time.

"This decision clearly shows our commitment to grow together with our Indian customers. The new offices will create several advantages for Picanol India. Specifically, grouping the Sales, Service, and CSR teams under one roof will make operations more efficient



and the print repair facilities have been modernized." explains Kasiviswanathan Palanisamy, Director of Picanol India.

The preparation for the opening started in February 2022 with a "Havan" – this is a traditional fire ritual that involved a Hindu priest visiting the offices and placing herbs and some other items of food

in a holy fire. A Havan is believed to purify both the environment and the devotees.

The entire team at Picanol India is confident that the new offices will mark the newest chapter in the success story of Picanol's longstanding presence in India.

## AIR JET LOOM – TSUDAKOMA, JAPAN

### AIR JET LOOM – Tsudakoma, Japan

The "ZAX9200i MASTER" upgrades the high-speed ability of Tsudakoma's best-selling air jet loom the "ZAX9100 Professional." The ZAX9200i saves resources, energy, and manpower. It is an advanced air jet loom that is worthy of the name "MASTER." Newly upgraded electric components strongly support

the "ZAX9200i MASTER."

Ultimate weaving support! "Weave Navigation® System-II"

The world's first weaving support system that Tsudakoma developed is upgraded to the "Weave Navigation® System-II"

The "Weave Navigation® System-II"

employs a 15-inch display - the largest in the weaving machine field. It reduces the hierarchy levels of the menu and the number of button operations is also reduced for user-friendliness.

Multiwindows are supported. They allow real-time adjustments while observing the result.

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Due to the optimum weaving conditions, high quality fabrics are produced while saving energy at a high level.

#### Navi-board

The high-resolution LCD monitor that reproduces 16 million colors provides a maintenance guide on video and allows adjustments based on visual cues.

The 15-inch display reduces the hierarchy levels of the menu and the number of button operations is also reduced for userfriendliness.

#### Navi-board

#### Multi-windows

Simultaneously displaying the setting page and the monitoring page allow realtime adjustments.

You can adjust the weft insertion timing while observing the weft insertion graph, and can set the warp tension while observing the tension changes.

#### Multi-windows

#### Use of USB thumb drive

Loom data can be saved and transported with a special USB thumb drive.

The amount of data saved is drastically increased. Data management is easy.

#### Stand-alone display

Even when the LAN environment for the TLM is not provided, the manuals and the parts catalog can be displayed by the stand-alone loom.

#### Automation

Adjustments for the 1st pick timing are no longer necessary.

The timing of the main nozzle and the hook pin for the 1st pick is au-

## ZAX<sup>MASTER</sup>9200i AIR JET LOOM



tomatically controlled in response to the initial rise of the motor when the loom is started.

When the loom RPM changes while using the same weft type, weft insertion adjustments for the low and high speeds are not required either.

#### Energy saving

Power consumption for control except for the driving motor is reduced by about 20%.

#### Reliable design

Long-lived parts are used for the control printed board.

#### Wider versatility

The number of steps of the weaving pattern data is increased to 19,980,000 picks including the repeat function for the dobby loom, and to 1,980,000 picks for the cam/crank shedding loom.

The available number of pick densities is also increased to 32. Therefore, various fabrics can be woven.

#### Video replay

Procedures for adjustments and maintenance can be checked through the video.

The required works are easily comprehensible.



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# SPGPRINTS | STOVEC INTRODUCES OPTIMAL SOLUTION “DART” TO START-UPS IN DIGITAL TEXTILE PRINTING

Mar 11, 2022

The textile industry has taken a big leap with the latest innovations in the digital printing. Digital textile printing has enabled companies to keep up with the ever-changing requirements of the textile market. It has a positive benefit on the sustainability of the textile production process, as well as the typical benefits of fast design introduction, shorter print runs and new design possibilities. Many textile entrepreneurs in India too have started investing in digital printing technology, as it is now being considered the most budding method of printing. Is your company also ready to make a strategic transition to digital textile printing?

Now, Stovec (subsidiary of SPG-Prints Group) brings to you the optimal future-proof digital textile printer ‘SPGPrints DART’. Stovec takes great pride in introducing our customers to our robust entry level digital printer – ‘DART’, a perfect solution for start-ups to fulfill their need for a medium speed printer. With fast turnarounds and full application support DART is the optimal solution for your entry into digital printing.

DART provides industrial perfor-



mance and more sustainable, high quality digital printing at a profitable cost level. It offers immense creative opportunities for printed designs as it can print on even the most difficult fabrics and help the brand owners or customers to meet the ever-changing demands of fashion industry.

It offers unsurpassed quality and value to textile printers who are taking the first step into digital printing. Apart from ease, accuracy and productivity, it offers flexibility with different inks and drying methods. Stovec is a total solutions provider, offering productive hardware, best in class software and compatible inks in different chemistries in the field of textile printing, for both Ro-

tary & Digital textile printing.

The ‘SPGPrints DART’ enables you to print on demand at a top quality of 720 x 1080 dpi, using 8 colors. The print engine works with Konica Minolta print heads for extended service life, while the unique SPG-Prints technology ensures consistent print quality, regardless varying climatic conditions. The variable drop size enables you to produce sharp images, vibrant colors and smooth gradations. The printer is very easy to operate with plug and play installation and the latest color management engines and color processing tools are included in the preloaded RIP software.

Visit our Experience Center to witness the true power of digital print-



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ing: Stovec has strengthened its commitment to the adoption, development and support to textile printing technology, with the setting up of the 'Experience Center' – a demonstration and training facility located at company's premises in Ahmedabad, India.

Print your own fabrics and learn how to reap the revolutionary benefits of digital textile printing. The innovation hub gives textile printers

the ability to try new designs and fabrics under test conditions and get expert guidance. The opening of the Experience Center marks our commitment towards both brand owners and customers in providing the first-hand, real-time insight into this technology's tremendous potential. Our focus is to enable textile printers to use digital printing technology to achieve higher standards of quality on the wide range of fabrics, and giving customers the

flexibility to bring designs faster to the market.

For printing companies who are ready to embark on a digital textile printing journey, a visit to our Experience Center will be worthwhile. Come see for yourself the astonishing output DART can help you deliver.

## DIGITAL TEXTILE MARKET TO REACH US \$ 8 BILLION BY 2029, SAYS FMI REPORT

04-March-2022

The global digital textile printing market is projected to clock a CAGR of 16.30 per cent over 2022-2029, as suggested by a new Future Market Insights (FMI) report.

Currently, the market size of digital textile values US \$ 2.70 billion, which is expected to reach US \$ 8 billion by 2029, as per the report. Of total value, the share of Direct-to-Fabric (DTF) printing is estimated at 54 per cent. DTF segment is experiencing unmatched demand in the global digital textile printing market and it is expected to expand at an impressive CAGR of 17.50 per cent during the forecast period.

This market growth is majorly driven by increasing penetration



of the printing sector in developing markets such as China, Mexico and India, and technological advancements that have taken place over time.

In light of the measurable impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the printing industry, FMI projects

that, industry players will most likely fail to meet their financial targets due to considerable supply chain disturbance, led by reduced customer demand.

Alerted by the current market situation, leading players are build-

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ing essential operational flexibility to survive the pandemic. In terms of market growth, North

America and East Asia are estimated to witness commendable growth in the global digital textile

printing market, FMI predicts.

## AQUARIA WITH BENEFITS-BIANCALANI

17 February 2022

Thousands of meters. The tests Biancalani has taken on printed fabrics are further evidence of the versatile nature of AQUARIA®. In fact, the machinery does not aim at a single kind of after-printing washing process, but it has shown its limitless potential, its several applications. That is why, it is totally makes sense to call AQUARIA® a textile finishing machinery with benefits.

Quality check. What seemed like an interesting number of very good results have underwent quality checks by external laboratories, which have done nothing but confirm those results, obtained by Biancalani during the last two years. After-print washing by AQUARIA® ensures extreme colorfast fabrics during the washing process. Besides, it astonishes the cleanliness of fabric fibers and yarns washed by AQUARIA® – both printed and to be piece dyed ones – which are totally free from the residues of chemical additives used during the spinning and weaving processes.

R&D. When creating what represents a breakthrough in the textile industry, thanks to an innova-



tive machinery, it is essential both to have a deep knowledge of what is already on the market and to start a close synergy between the R&D department and highly prepared and experienced external experts. "After working for years in the mechano-textile industry and particularly in the segment of washing" a textile specialist states, "I'm very impressed that I'm face to face with a machine I've never seen before, a real step forward in the textile field of washing after printing."

Benefits. The benefits of AQUARIA® as the ultimate after-printing washing machinery should not be surprising as at its core there's the

renown AIRO® process. Thus, fabric is moved by air and thanks to the intense mechanical action resulting from special grates flapping – patented by Biancalani. That's what R&D also means: to find a connection between what you have already achieved and what is still to be achieved, in order to make the best out of it.

Fine facts and numbers, but how does after-printing washing process by AQUARIA® actually work? The machinery is composed two modules that can be combined in a line. AQUARIA® main module takes care of the fabric, moving it back and forth alternately and push-

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ing it thanks to an airflow blended with washing. That guarantees the ultimate combination of mechanical action and long dwelling times. The auxiliary module alternates between different phases, i.e. washing and rinsing.

Speeding up the washing process and thus reducing production time, AQUARIA® module can become the core of a three-modules after-printing washing line (pre-washing module + AQUARIA® + rinsing module). The AQUARIA® line can guarantee an increased productivity, up to 50

meters per minute, and confer to the fabric a unique hand, very different from fabrics finished using traditional machinery.



## DRIVING INK SAVINGS IN DIGITAL TEXTILE PRINTING

Sep 7, 2021

Expert Opinion In digital textile printing, the negotiation of ink prices is in the spotlight of many customers. As this consumable represents a significant part of the variable production costs in textile printing, it also

has a relevant impact on the customers' business models. Ink prices, especially for reactive inks, have fallen sharply in recent years but have reached rock-bottom levels in 2019. Without compromising the quality level of the inks (col-

or strengths, dye quality, etc.), market experts do expect stabilization of the current ink price levels.

To optimize production costs, digital textile printing companies are making every effort to keep the ink prices down but

do not but enough emphasis on other critical influence factors such as profiles, workflows and color management. Frequently, non-optimized profiles, workflows and color management impact the customers profitability negatively. In many cases, optimized profiles, workflows and color management can cut ink consumption easily more than 10 percent without putting any compromise on image quality or the fastness properties of the product.

Using proper profiles is very important in digital textile printing. In order to create optimized profiles, a deep understanding of materials, pre-treatment, end-customers' needs, RIP, printing machine characteristics and textile processes is necessary. Especially the understanding of the interdependence between those sub-areas is very important. When creating a profile, there are a variety of parameters that must be considered in order to adjust the quality of the print and ink consumption. For example, in the pre-treatment of goods, a setting for little penetration can be carried out by special adjustments of the recipe. In the RIP, the adjustment of the black build-up is an important setting as well. Attention should also be paid to the exact use of light colors.

Furthermore, proper adjustment of the ink limit and settings for digital pre-treatment should be taken care of. Checking the process parameters such as steaming also influences ink consumption. In textile print-



ing, there are different fabrics, pretreatment methods or temperature settings of dryers strongly impacting the printing process. Therefore, a separate profile for each changing production environment should be created. It usually takes half a day to create one profile. On average, a customer needs four different profiles for an optimized production approach. If the customer plans to change the ink set, a new profile is absolutely necessary. In minimum, two different technical solutions have to be prepared. One designed for maximum ink savings and one for maximum color space. The mentioned basic principles are very important to consider, otherwise, enormous amounts of ink and material – and, thus, profitability – could be wasted.

Following this approach, the investment in good profiles, workflows and professional color management pays off instantly in a production approach that considers all relevant elements of the process: a real pixel-to-output produc-

tion strategy. The experts of the Durst Textile Application Team are offering consultancy to our customers in this field. Thomas Mauser, Durst Textile Printing Application Specialists with decades of experience in this field, travelled to Asia to help a customer optimizing his printing process in late 2019. Due to various adjustments in the Inedit RIP, particularly regarding black build-up, an ink saving of even up to 60 percent on 160 g cotton knitwear was achieved in this particular case for some color-intensive print jobs. This clearly demonstrates how the potential of digital textile printing can be leveraged by optimized profiles, workflows and color management resulting in highly profitable textile printing businesses of our customers utilizing, e.g., Durst Reactive HDI Ink. The overall value and profitability captured by this approach would not have been possible by simply focusing on the price of the ink itself. Here, the Durst pixel-to-output approach makes the difference.



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# M&S LAUNCHES FIRST SUSTAINABLE DENIM CAPSULE COLLECTION

02-March-2022

Marks & Spencer (M&S) has launched its maiden denim capsule collection, which is a part of The Jeans Redesign project.

The new five-piece denim capsule collection has been designed so as to fit for a circular economy – made to be used more, made to be made again and made from safe and recycled/renewable materials. Notably, the styles, available across womenswear, menswear and childrenswear, are made from organic cotton that includes a minimum of 25 per cent recycled cotton.

It is worth noting here that 2021 had seen M&S unveil new sustainability standards across its entire hero product category of denim. And now the new denim capsule collection is just one more step towards its various sustainable measures.



Substantiating on the launch, Monique Leeuwenburgh, Director of Sourcing, M&S Clothing & Home, averred “As an own brand retailer, we’re uniquely positioned to work with our long-standing suppliers and partners on new and better ways of doing things.”

Further, Monique said, “Denim is a staple clothing product and more sustainable denim really matters to us and to our customers.” M&S’s Jeans Redesign capsule collection is priced from £18.

Founded in 1884, M&S generated £10,181.9 million in 2020.

## FRAME DEBUTS ITS FIRST BIODEGRADABLE JEANS MADE USING VIRTUALLY NO WATER

Los Angeles-based premium denim brand, Frame, has unveiled PURE, a new 10-piece denim collection made using virtually no water,

marking the brand’s next step in its commitment to sustainability.

PURE was created in collaboration with SAITEX USA, which is said to be one of the world’s cleanest denim manufacturers in the world, utilizing only eco-friendly, liquid-based finishing agents and sophisticated lasers.

Denim uses up to 80 liters of water for every garment in the traditional method. PURE’s unique closed

system, on the other hand, requires 1.25 liters, of which 98 percent is recycled and 2% is evaporated and utilized.

In addition, the PURE collection includes styles made from 100 percent biodegradable cotton fabric, as well as recycled paper, hang tags with QR codes that provide information on the collection’s impact, reducing the need for wasteful, disposable tags in the long run.



Each garment is cleaned responsibly utilizing cutting-edge machinery to eliminate traditional production techniques while adhering to FRAME's "Four Pillars of Responsible Washing": no bleach, potassium permanganate, or stone-washing.

Erik Torstensson, Co-Founder and Chief Creative Officer of FRAME, said that they're thrilled to introduce a collection as imaginative as PURE. Conserving water, and thus saving energy, is another step on our journey to not just produce sustainably and responsibly, but also to aspire to be better global citizens.

PURE is a follow-up to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's (Bio) Degradable Jean and Circular Denim collection, which was created as part of and in accordance with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's Jean Re-design project, which aims to make denim not only more durable and recyclable but also more sustainable



and fair for the environment and garment workers.

PURE is now available at [frame-store.com](http://frame-store.com) and Selfridges, where a dedicated window for the line will

be unveiled this week. In terms of fabric and wash, FRAME's SS22 collection will contain 5% PURE, 9% degradable, and 53% of styles that are sustainable.

## SRI LANKA CLOCKS RECORD HIGH APPAREL EXPORT VALUE IN JANUARY '22

02-March-2022

After noting around 22 per cent yearly growth in 2021 over 2020 in its apparel exports, Sri Lanka has kicked off 2022 with an overwhelming apparel export figures. The country clocked US \$ 487.60 million in its apparel exports in January '22, noting 23 per cent growth over January '21.

The export values clocked in Jan-

uary are the highest in last six years (at least), as the previous best figure was US \$ 452 million that were recorded during January '19.

The statistics were recently released by Sri Lanka Apparel Exporters Association.

Of total values, USA accounted for US \$ 214.47 million, noting 30.14 per cent yearly growth.



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On the other hand, the apparel shipment to EU valued US \$ 139.26 million with 8.40 per cent annual growth over January '21.

It's worth noting here that USA and EU collectively accommodated over 72 per cent of Sri Lanka's apparel export values in January '22, down from 85 per cent in 2021 (calendar year) that indicates the exports to non-traditional markets have jumped in the beginning of 2022.

## BASICS OF APPAREL PLANT AND SEWING MACHINES LAYOUT

01-February-2014

A good factory layout is directly associated with good workflow, right from material receiving till the finished goods go out of the factory. Whatever type of plant layout a firm develops, it should be designed to optimise quality, throughput time and flexibility.

Experts differ in views on how and what constitutes a good layout. It is never easy to rate one layout over the other when both achieve the desired results. But at times, little changes bring wonders.

Suresh Dureja, in this article, defines the basic considerations while conceptualising and designing a factory layout.

Plant layout is the spatial arrangement and configuration of departments, work stations, machinery and equipment used in the conver-

sion process. Layout of an apparel production plant directs the flow of materials and work-in-process from start till its completion and integrates material handling and equipment.

An efficient layout has the flexibility to be changed to meet requirements of the product line, delivery schedules, and anticipated volume. Safety is a major consideration in plant layout. Fire and safety codes, emergency and accessible exits, open traffic areas, etc. must all be a part of layout plans.

The following factors should be taken into consideration while planning a layout:

- Minimization of manufacturing cost,
- Feeding the materials and parts at highest possible speed and in one direction without any back-tracking or overlapping flow of products,
- Minimization of work transfer among the processes from acceptance of raw materials till delivery of finished product with properly defined spaces for each process, and
- Provision of future expansion plans. The layout planning should be done based on factory site selection and arrangement of building and machines.

Layout of the plant is decided based on process sequence, building structure, shop floor transportation, type of layout (product or process based or a combination of both) and arrangement of machines. The aim of every layout is to maximize utilization of avail-

able space in order to speed up the material flow. Highly specialized machines and small parts assembly may be configured with a line arrangement for final assembly.

Factors to be considered for designing an effective layout include number of workers both male and female, number of machines (size, weight by models), entrance, exit and passages (size, width, position, number of each of them) for production as well as administrative wing, change room, lunch room, lavatories, medical emergency room and provision for those governed by local laws. Utilities like boiler, air compressor, vacuum pumps, generator, electric panel, air conditioning machine, underground water storage tanks for boiler and washing machines, water softening plant, waste water recycling plant, drainage system are also equally important.

**General Steps for Making a Plant Layout**

Make a scaled drawing of factory/shop floor Make models of machines/equipments Draw immovable facilities/equipments

- Entrances, exits/stairs
- Washrooms, corridors
- Pillars, partitions
- Air conditioning ducts, steam, air and vacuum lines
- Power outlets, electrical lines for feed to machines, electrical panels

Arrange the main flow process in the available space

If it is necessary to change the direction of main flow process change it for worker who is in charge of an

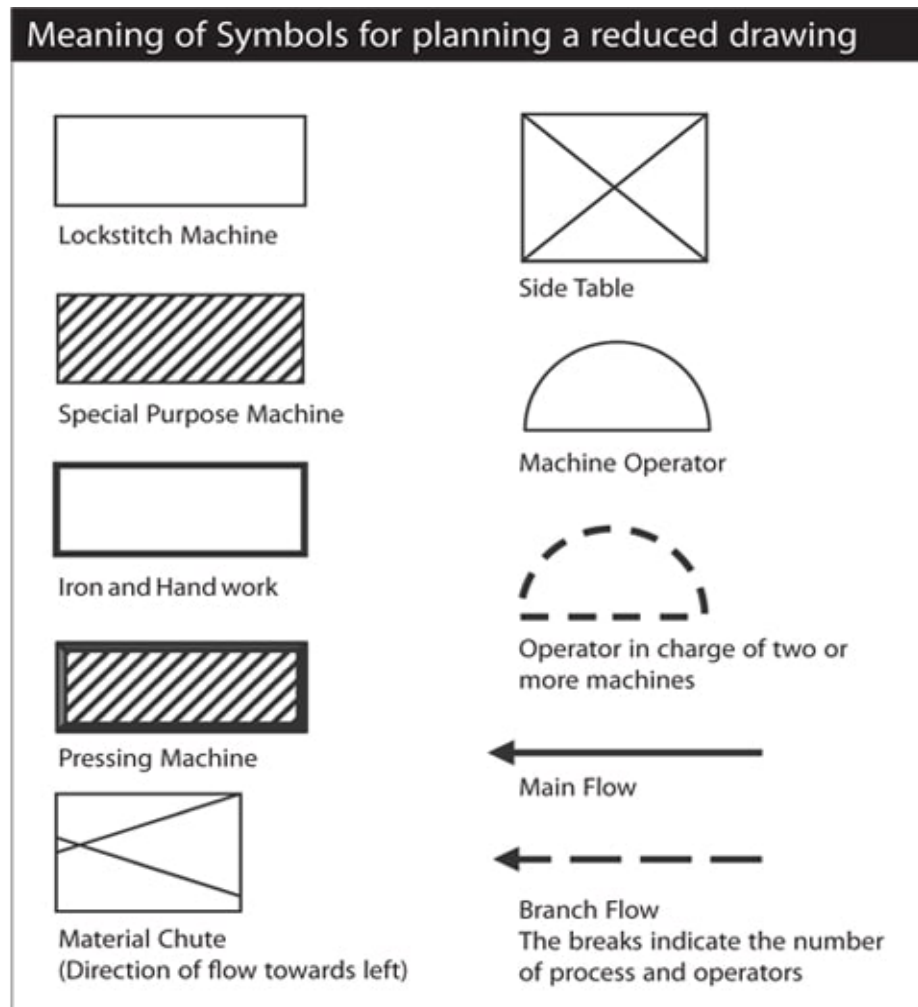


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iron or a special purpose machine. Arrange the additional divisions in the remaining space. Make a final drawing based on completed machine layout. Other factors that need attention before laying out the factory plan include ceiling height (3-3.5 metres from floor), lighting (large windows of 2 or 3 stages) and illuminance levels (600 Lux for production and 800 Lux for inspection areas) besides ventilation. Also, the workplace should have sufficient number

of men's and women's toilets and drinking water outlets in the vicinity.

**Factors influENCing Machine layout**

"Machine layout is the arrangement of available space based on conditions required by production system design and depends on various factors." – Suresh Dureja, Director of Manufacturing, Canada Goose, Toronto, Canada

1. Types of products to be manu-

factured

The number of different types of product items, man hours, lot size, variation in garment design, degree of fluctuation in a year, etc.

2. Manufacturing system

According to sewing system being followed, like make through, PBU assembly line, sectional assembly line, UPS with overhead hanger, teamwork with stand up working (TSS).

3. Method of style changeover

Overall change or consecutive

change.

(a) Overall change

All products/styles being manufactured are entirely different from each other and require major changes in operation sequence and in layout of machine with requirement of special purpose machines, for example shirts, trousers, jackets, ladies dresses, etc.

(b) Consecutive change

The products/styles being manufactured are with slight style variations only. That is most of the operations are similar and do not require major changes in layout of machines/operations, every time new style is introduced, for example in formal shirts, casual shirts, etc.

4. Material transfer system

Per bundle system or per piece system.

(a) Bundle system

The garment parts are made into bundles of 5, 10 and 15 pieces depending on kind of garment being made. The bundles are moved from one operation to another. Bundle size is important for selecting an appropriate handling method. Bundles can be in tied form, in plastic bags, in boxes and baskets, in bundle trucks, in clamps, on rails, etc.

(b) UPS overhead hanger system

The garment parts in single piece clipped in overhead hanger rails, where movement of rails can be manual (switchtrack/UHS) or motorized (ETON).

(c) Per piece

It means that garment parts are transferred piece by piece from one operation to another, for example in Toyota Sewing System, etc.

5. Buffers

Number of cut components and half finished garments being maintained as WIP between operations.

6. Storage method of semi-finished products

Distribution of cut parts and temporary storage of semi-finished products in assemble tables, racks, shelves, bags, etc.

7. Equipments

Special purpose machine, general purpose machine, semi automatic and automatic workstations (where machine to operator ratio is more than one).

8. Transfer equipment

(a) Manual humping

Bundles are picked up and carried by the operators to and from the workplace and storage area. Little capital is necessary for this method which is flexible. But its efficiency is restricted by the maximum load that can be carried by distance.

(b) Racks

Bundles on racks are used between groups of operations. These facilitate visual balancing, reduce space requirements and improve the appearance of the shop floor. Bundle size is limited by the rack and box or basket size in which they are held. Garments are carried to and

from the racks by hand.

(c) Trolleys or trucks

These permit the use of larger bundles or group of bundles, bulkier or heavier than those which can be moved by lifting or carrying, for example in the shirts, jackets and jeans factories.

(d) Unpowered conveyors

Chutes, roller conveyors and rails are all cheap and convenient means by which work can be stored or moved. They permit the use of bundles which are far heavier than would be possible by manual humping. Chutes must be set at a steeper angle. Gravity will only power one way systems.

(e) Powered conveyors

Belts and rails belong to this type. Suited for automatic routing, rails are run at head height and permit long garments to hang so that they crease little in transit.



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# WALMART INTRODUCES ZEEKIT VIRTUAL TRY-ON TECHNOLOGY TO ADDRESS ONLINE FITTING WOES

03-March-2022

Walmart has introduced a new virtual fitting room for its online fashion shoppers. The launch has come nearly nine months after the acquisition of Israel-based virtual try-on technology company Zeekit.

The retailer says it is frustrating for online fashion clothing shoppers to understand how an item will actually look on them. With Zeekit, as Walmart says, its goal is to deliver an inclusive, immersive and personalised digital experience that will better replicate physical shopping.

“We are rolling out Zeekit technology to users of the Walmart app and Walmart.com, starting with the Choose My Model experience. This feature currently offers customers the ability to select from 50 models between 5’2” – 6’0” in height

and sizes XS – XXXL. Customers can determine the model who best represents their height, body shape and skin tone to understand how an

el options launching in the weeks ahead to offer an even wider range of sizes, skin tones and hair colours,” says Denise Incandela, EVP of Ap-



item will look on them. And we will continue to expand our model selection, with nearly 70 additional mod-

parel and Private Brands, Walmart USA in a press release.

## AZIM GROUP'S PLANNING EFFICIENCY UP 15% WITH COATS DIGITAL

17 Jan '22

Coats Digital has announced that following the implementation of Coats Digital's FastReactPlan solution, pioneering Bangladesh garment manufacturer Azim Group, has realised a 15 per cent increase in planning efficiencies and a 97 per cent faster turnaround in order confirmation – with orders being confirmed in just 30 minutes instead of two days.

Established in 1975, Azim Group

produces garments for leading brands in the United States, Europe, Asia and South America. Its clients include Calvin Klein, Inditex, Aeropostale, Berksha, Walmart, Kohl's, Perry Ellis, Elcorte Ingles, Land's End and Falabella.

Prior to implementing FastReactPlan, capacity management and line planning teams lacked the pinpoint accuracy required to respond to the buyer's latest changes. As a result, additional effort and regu-

lar reviews were needed with merchandising to ensure all teams had a unified approach to delivery. With important information siloed in multiple sources across email, Excel spreadsheets and over phone conversations, manual planning processes proved time-consuming and inefficient. Based on insufficient data, capacity was often overbooked or under-booked, causing late deliveries and unnecessary rejection of new orders, Coats Digital said in a

press release.

“In the first year, our planning efficiency increased by 15 per cent and will continue to increase going forward. Furthermore, the new system has helped streamline key processes such as order confirmation, capacity forecasting and line allocation – providing more accurate results compared with previous methods. Ultimately, the increased efficiency is reflected in higher growth in our business,” Ehsan Islam, operations manager, Azim Group, said.

Azim Group now has all relevant information available in one platform, ensuring comprehensive data transparency and visibility across merchandising and planning processes, so that teams can update and respond to new information in an agile way. Now that minutes-based load vs. capacity monitoring has also been accurately established on true actual line plans, merchandising and planning teams can establish accurate plan-based capacity reports within minutes, guaranteeing a realistic capacity status, with timely warning alerts, to avoid overbooking or under-booking scenarios.

“Following the implementation of FastReactPlan, we started seeing positive results quickly. The new system can process data much faster than the tools traditionally used in the RMG industry. Thus, it enables management to make more informed, data-driven strategic and financial decisions,” Farhan Azim, deputy managing director, Azim Group, explained.



With production plans made mostly at the style or even the PO level, a series of time-consuming drill-down meetings were often required to iron-out potential problems and ascertain the fastest remedy. Re-plan changes were consequently difficult to apply quickly, resulting in late deliveries and confusion with regards Work in Progress (WIP) reporting and Time & Action (T&A) prioritisation, the release said. Since implementing FastReactPlan, standardised PO, colour and delivery level visibility is now available across all departments, establishing one version of the truth throughout the business and a single source of all information for better-informed decision making. All departments are now using FastReactPlan to create accurate, real-time reports and daily activity priorities, including KPIs, all of which are readily available for all departments to see. As a result, Azim Group has saved nearly

six person days per month in time efficiencies – a 68 per cent time-saving in report generation.

Realistic plan targets, factoring in robust efficiency targets by product type, learning curve requirements and the production line's performance have also helped to significantly increase efficiency and reduce last-minute firefighting. Factory efficiency has consequently increased by 7 per cent; whilst Cut to Order, Ship to Order and Cut to Ship efficiencies have also increased by 0.37 per cent, 0.89 per cent and 1.36 per cent, respectively, the release added. The system takes real-time data and is able to auto-generate many key reports, hence saving person hours and increasing overall efficiency of all concerned departments,” Istiak Rana, manager, of IT & Communications, Azim Group, said.



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# HOLLANDER REBRANDING ICONIC OWNED BRANDS

**Live Comfortably hones in on sustainability across product categories**



March 14, 2022

Hollander is introducing Natural Balance, a USDA-certified, plant-based bedding collection.

Boca Raton – The evolution continues at Hollander Sleep & Décor, which has been updating its facilities and refreshing its brand approach.

The manufacturer of sleep solutions, slipcovers, home décor products and shower curtains is retooling some of its brands. The first out of the gate is a rebrand of its core Live Comfortably collection,

which is now focused on sustainability and comfort in all areas of the home.

“With 86% of consumers seeking more sustainable, circular solutions and comfort in the home, bath and bedroom being a top priority, what better time to reintroduce this brand,” the company stated.

Hollander is also building out its sustainable offerings with the introduction of Natural Balance, a USDA-certified, plant-based bedding collection.

Using a renewable plant re-

source, Natural Balance fibers are made using sugars from plants offering a pillow and comforter solution that is eco-friendly with 100% of the carbon derived from renewable resources. The end result is a product that is quick drying, naturally wrinkle-resistant and outperforms PET from a breathability, comfort and insulating perspective, the company said.

Hollander is doing virtual market meetings by appointment from its corporate showroom in Florida.

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# ULTRAFABRICS PARTNERS WITH LENZING TO USE TENCEL FIBERS IN ITS COLLECTIONS

Ultrafabrics®, the manufacturer of intelligent animal-free performance fabrics, is pleased to announce a collaboration with Lenzing AG, a company that makes sustainable wood-based fibers.

Ultrafabrics will be the first and only polyurethane material to use Lenzing AG's Tencel™ Modal fibers as a backcloth in its collections with 100-percent reinforced rayon as a result of the partnership.

Ultrafabrics is committed to environmental sustainability in all parts of its operations. It aims to have 50 percent rapidly renewable and/or recycled materials in its whole product portfolio across 11 markets by 2030. It's a big aim, but it'll help the company achieve its wider objective of making future-proof materials through a more circular design process.

To assist the company to achieve its ambitious environmental goals, Ultrafabrics has chosen to partner with Tencel™ branded fibers. Tencel Modal fibers are mostly made from sustain-

able beech wood procured from FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) and/or PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) certified forests in



Austria and surrounding countries. To make the process environmentally friendly, numerous Lenzing technologies have been incorporated into the production of Tencel™ Modal fibers. By using renewable energy and recovering process chemicals, Lenzing aims to protect resources for future generations. This collaboration encourages us to use renewable resources.

Jennifer Hendren, Senior Director of Product Development with Ultrafabrics, said they're happy to be associated with the Tencel™ brand and the Lenzing AG fami-

ly, a bold firm with equally ambitious environmental ambitions. They share their commitment to bringing their sustainability journey to the forefront while maintaining product quality and integrity. They collaborate with major minds and take delight in ensuring that their global audience has faith in both of their brands.



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# INDIA'S BIRLA CENTURY ENTERS HOME BEDDING SEGMENT WITH HILL & GLADE

08 Mar '22

Indian textile manufacturer Birla Century, a division of Century Textiles & Industries limited, has launched Hill & Glade, a flagship brand catering to the home bedding segment. Offering choices in 4 different qualities, Hill & Glade will provide basic, essential, premium and grandeur, in thread counts of 160, 210, 300 and 400 respectively.

Hill & Glade will launch with over 250 designs in a range of colours that will encompass solids as well as prints for the discerning consumer, the company said in a press release.

Hill & Glade will also look to offer consumers choices in hand towels, face towels and bath towels. In an endeavour to merge the quality offering from Birla Century with the ethnic diversity of India, Hill & Glade will be offering a range of ethnic bedsheets later this year.

"Sustainability is the new buzzword, but for Birla Century it has been a practise since our inception. Preserving our mother earth

Century Textiles and Industries Limited, said.

"We have invested a considerable amount of time and research to get



has always been a priority and we always keen 'Think today, about tomorrow' at the heart of whatever decisions we take. This approach also reflects in our products which are much loved by consumers the world over for their attention to detail and unfailing quality standards," R.K. Dalmia, senior president and wholtime director at

here after ensuring the feedback from a large set of target audiences determined the gaps in the home bedding segment. Hill & Glade will provide choices in terms of textures, colours and quality segments, catering to all consumers," Ashish Mehrishi, CMO (Home Textiles & Apparel Fabrics) Birla Century, stated.



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## 30 YEARS OF EXPERTISE AS A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

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 STANDARD 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,

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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 in-

novations 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 addition to cooperation with external multi-stakeholder initiatives, the OEKO-TEX® International Advisory Board (IAB) meets annually. The core func-

tion 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."



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# OEKO-TEX RENEWS COMMITMENT TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE ON 30TH ANNIVERSARY

In March of 1992, OEKO-TEX® was founded on a single mission: Enable consumers and companies to make responsible decisions to protect our planet for future generations. We committed to this goal so that shoppers can more easily make safe, environmentally friendly, and socially responsible purchases. To meet this goal, we monitored legal, scientific, and technical information, developed standards, and ran rigorous testing. Over the years, we have continuously improved our processes – advancing our deep knowledge of textiles, implementing new tools, and responding to consumer needs. Fast forward 30 years and you'll find the organization not only remains true to this goal, but OEKO-TEX® has also become a worldwide leader in consumer trust. We have:

- Expanded to include 17 independent research and test institutes and developed standards that cover the entire supply chain, including our best-known labels: STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® and MADE IN GREEN by OEKO-TEX®
- Partnered with more than 21,000 companies in 100 countries to issue over 235,000 certifications, covering countless products
- Developed test methods and limits that protect consumers, workers, and the environment from

thousands of substances.

This March, we celebrate the progress in safer textiles and leather and recommit to creating a healthier world through safety, transparency, and sustainability.

"We are more determined than ever to develop solutions that will allow our children and our children's children to inherit a healthy world," said OEKO-TEX® Secretary Georg Dieners. "Innovation is key, and at OEKO-TEX®, the next chapter of sustainability is just beginning." Today, OEKO-TEX® is monitoring and advancing the textile industry in line with technological, scientific, social, and legislative trends to better service the health and environmental demands of today's consumers.

- We recently launched the OEKO-TEX® Impact Calculator. The footprint tool equips the textile industry with the data needed to measure and quantify carbon emissions and water usage to take targeted action toward improving operations and meeting reduction goals. OEKO-TEX® has been steadfast in its mission to protect consumers and future generations. (Consider that STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®, our first label, was created 20 years before the United Nations made its Sustainable Development Goals!) We know that there are big chal-

lenges ahead of us, but OEKO-TEX® is prepared to support the industry in protecting people and the planet.

**GOTS marks 20th anniversary with all-time high in certified facilities Record high: 12,338 (+19%) GOTS certified facilities in 79 countries in 2021**

Stuttgart, February 23rd 2022

Twenty years after its inception, the world's leading textile processing standard for organic fibres records new all-time high figures: 18 GOTS Approved Certification Bodies report a total of 12,338 certified facilities (+19%) in 79 countries (+11%). Among the countries with the largest increase in GOTS certified facilities in 2021 are Turkey (+61% to 1,799), Italy (+53% to 894), Germany (+19% to 817), Portugal (+35% to 608), France (+22% to 122), Denmark (+14% to 115), Switzerland (+15% to 61), Belgium (+55% to 59), Sweden (+34% to 51) and Vietnam (+264% to 51).

"What seemed utopian to many in 2002 has become a reality in the past 20 years. We have created an organic textile standard, certified by approved certification bodies, which is accepted in all major markets. GOTS is a standard that gives consumers the power to choose truly organic products sourced from sus-

# ZDHC UPDATES ITS WASTEWATER GUIDELINES TO VERSION 2.0

The ZDHC Foundation, which is working towards the zero discharge of hazardous chemicals throughout the industry, has updated its Wastewater Guidelines to assist the sector in reducing the impact of wastewater.

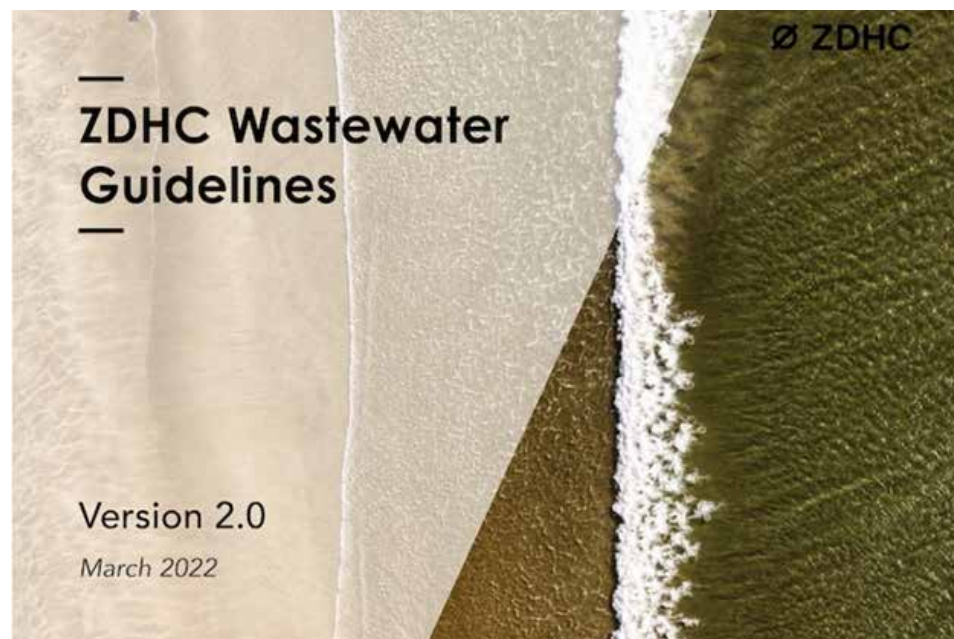
The ZDHC Wastewater Guidelines establish a single, world-wide defined expectation for industrial wastewater and sludge across the textile, leather, and footwear industries.

The most recent version combines previously separate guidelines for the textile and leather industries into one, giving the entire apparel industry a unified expectation for industrial wastewater and sludge and strengthening the Roadmap to Zero Program, which aims to eliminate harmful chemicals from the global apparel supply chain.

The ZDHC Wastewater Guidelines Version 2.0 was updated in partnership with the ZDHC Wastewater Council, a group of independent wastewater specialists from the garment industry, academia, and the water treatment industry. The council was formed to oversee the update and verify that the constraints and limits included were appropriate, strict, and practical.

The update comes after an independent Wastewater Council study and a public consultation

to give all stakeholders a chance to comment on the proposed changes.



to comment on the proposed changes.

Tim Maloney, a member of the ZDHC Wastewater Council and lead technologist at startup and operations services, said that it was a pleasure and privilege to be a part of the ZDHC Wastewater Council as a wastewater professional of 40-plus years. The council members' knowledge, experience, and involvement impressed me greatly. The council includes not only a cross-section of the industry but also some of the essential players who will guide them ahead.

TextileExchange corporate benchmarking director Liesl Truscott, said that pollution poses a direct danger to biodiversi-

ty in terrestrial, freshwater, and

marine ecosystems. The ZDHC's support in handling wastewater from textile manufacturing will not only help the sector link the biodiversity risks but will also provide practical advice on positive practices.

The official ZDHC wastewater recommendations version 2.0 states that the rules will be evaluated and changed as needed in the spirit of continual improvement. It claims that the most recent version has been updated to include lessons learned and opportunities found through previous actual applications and implementation.



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# ACHIEVE 'TOTAL PEACE OF MIND' IN APPAREL BUSINESS THROUGH INTERTEK ASSURANCE SERVICES

Intertek – a leading TQA (Total Quality Assurance) provider for various industries – for decades, has been enabling the factories to move beyond traditional supply chains services and help them do proper risk assessment in their entire business procedures. From lab outsourcing to benchmarking and comparison testing, Intertek's bespoke assurance solutions provide its custom-



ers with a competitive edge.  
by Apparel Resources  
02-March-2022

Apparel factories in today's unprecedented times aim to go beyond testing, inspection and certification to look at the underlying elements that enable them, their employees and products to be successful. For this to happen, factories need to have that sort of technical understanding using which they go for precise identification and mitigation of the intrinsic risk in their business operations, supply chains and processes. And who can understand these fundamental risks in the textile and apparel manufacturing industry better than Intertek – a leading TQA (Total Quality Assurance) provider for various industries – that, for

decades, has been enabling the factories to move beyond traditional supply chains services and help them do proper risk assessment in their entire business procedures.

The industry stakeholders today don't talk about product quality only, but also about the quality of in-house processes and supply chain because these collectively make huge impact on the business. This is one of the prime reasons behind apparel companies' consistent efforts towards improving their quality management system to place their operations in the best position to act effectively before they create problems and result in inefficiencies and cost loss.

## How to mitigate these risks?

As important as it is to understand that risk assessment is mandatory for a balanced supply chain, what can't be denied is that it requires collaboration with a technically sound team which, possibly, not many apparel factories have! An experienced third-party laboratory services provider – such as Intertek – can help mitigate these risks. The right lab setup is important, as it can help identify the root cause of product inconsistencies and provide the necessary measures and solutions to reduce testing turnaround time and costs and ensure compliance with laboratory testing guidelines.



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# GERMANY'S PFAFF INTRODUCES AI-POWERED CREATIVE ICON 2 SEWING MACHINE

04 Mar '22

Germany-based PFAFF has introduced the creative icon 2 sewing machine, which is engineered with artificial intelligence (AI) to perform and evolve in response to the sewist. It features speech and presser foot recognition, stitch prediction, hands-free commands, built-in sensors, and an active virtual sewing assistant on the digital screen.

The PFAFF creative icon 2 will be available after March 22, 2022.



The PFAFF creative icon 2 advanced technology helps the sewist deliver precise stitches (including embroidery) even while using the most challenging threads. Built-in sensors measure the fabric thickness to regulate the amount of thread needed to achieve the perfect balance between the needle and bobbin threads. Results are perfect on both sides of the fabric, the company said in a media release.

The ultra-powerful lighting and 150 newtons (33.7 pounds) piercing power combine with the baseplate to increase stability, reduce vibrations, and provide excellent visibility. With the

built-in projector, camera, and touch screen, designs can be seen before stitching, allowing for instant help placing a design.

"The creative icon 2 features and technological breakthroughs defy imagination. It is the world's first and only sewing machine to be voice-controlled with speech recognition. Hands-free commands offer sewists more flexibility, creativity, and time savings. The machine is able to work alongside the sewist and the large interactive display acts as a virtual assistant, customising and assisting throughout the project. The artificial intelligence capabilities are an amazing feat of

technology combined with honouring the history of the craft," Dean Brindle, CMO, SVP worldwide, at the parent company of PFAFF, said.

The creative embellishment attachment allows the sewist to embroider ribbon, beads, rope, or cording directly and precisely onto fabrics as the attachment guides the material into place. The multi-function foot control gives the user control over a project by using the sewist's feet to activate different functions of the machine-like thread cut or reverse.



# SEWING MACHINERY EXPORT OF CHINA REACHES US \$ 3.15 BILLION IN 2021



03-March-2022 According to General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), the sewing machine sector of the country has clocked US \$ 3.15 billion export revenues in 2021.

In 2020, the sewing machine export of the country had valued US \$ 2.36 billion and China has thus witnessed a 33.47 per cent yearly growth in 2021.

In 2021, China has exported 4.77 million sets of industrial sewing machines, experiencing 22.10 per cent Y-o-Y growth and fetching US \$

1.54 billion export revenues – 48.07 per cent higher than the year before. Embroidery machine has secured an export volume of 31.20 thousand sets (pricing minimum US \$ 2,000 per set), worth of US \$ 350 million, noting 60.41 per cent and 81.43 per cent growth in volumes and values, respectively.

Regarding different continents, China's export of sewing machinery to Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America has grown at a two-digit rate. Specifically, export to Asian countries has reached US \$ 2

billion, increasing 39.33 per cent in 2021 over 2020.

Export to Europe reached US \$ 360 million (up 22.16 per cent), while it valued US \$ 300 million (up 41.54 per cent) in South America. As far as North America is concerned, sewing machinery exports of China clocked US \$ 200 million in 2021, noting 10.38 per cent yearly growth. Regionally, China has exported sewing machinery worth of US \$ 2 billion to countries along the "Belt and Road," growing 43.63 per cent compared to the year before.



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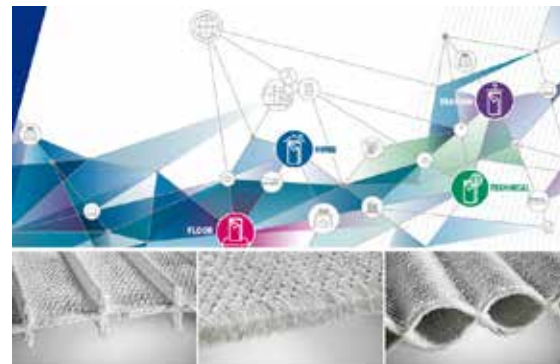


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