

KOHANTEXTILE

MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA TEXTILE JOURNAL



SPACE APPLICATION FOR ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026 OPENS



REGISTRATION OPENS FOR SUMMER 2025 SOURCING EVENTS IN NYC & LA

ITCPE 2025: TWO DECADES OF INNOVATION IN TEXTILE AND PRINTING

In this exclusive interview, the organizers reflect on two decades of progress— from a regional show to a 60,000-square-meter global event featuring over 1,000 exhibitors and 60,000 professional visitors. With a renewed focus on digital printing, intelligent manufacturing, and sustainable innovation, ITCPE 2025 promises cutting-edge technologies, strategic partnerships, and a powerful roadmap for industry transformation.



GLOBAL SOURCING EXPO 2025: DRIVING CHANGE IN ETHICAL SOURCING AND SUSTAINABILITY

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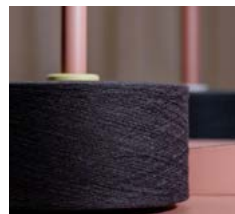
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Africa – The Next Frontier in the Global Textile Revolution

By: Behnam Ghasemi



A New Continental Vision in the Global Value Chain
For decades, Asia and Europe have dominated the global textile and apparel industry.

However, shifting geopolitical dynamics, rising production costs in Asia, environmental concerns, and the global need for diversified, resilient supply chains have pushed the world to turn its attention to a new destination: Africa.

According to official data from the World Bank and UNIDO, Africa holds immense potential for textile sector development. This potential is not only due to its abundant resources—such as cotton, a youthful workforce, and a 1.4 billion-strong consumer market—but also because many African governments now recognize the textile in-

dustry as a strategic pillar for employment, export growth, and sustainable development.

Why Now? Signs of an Awakening

- The rapid rise in textile, fashion, and apparel exhibitions across the continent is a clear sign of growing industrial awareness. Over 25 textile-related events were held across Africa in 2024 alone.
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in textiles, dyeing, and garment production—particularly from China, Turkey, and India—is on the rise.
- Government-led training and skilling initiatives in countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia, Benin, and Rwanda are preparing a new generation of textile

workers.

Meanwhile, Egypt is emerging as a regional powerhouse in North Africa.

With a focus on building integrated value chains—from cotton cultivation to finished garment exports—Egypt has attracted significant foreign interest by establishing modern industrial zones and offering tax incentives.

Additionally, Morocco is rapidly positioning itself as a leader in sustainable textile manufacturing within North Africa.

With strategic investments in eco-friendly production and circular economy practices—from recycling textile waste to adopting digital technologies—Morocco has successfully attracted international partnerships and boosted exports, leveraging modern industrial parks and advantageous trade agreements with Europe and the United States.

Similarly, Nigeria is reviving its textile sector by strengthening local cotton production.

With targeted programs initiated by the Central Bank of Nigeria aimed at engaging over 300,000 cotton farmers, the country is laying the groundwork for integrated textile value chains—from raw cotton farming to finished apparel.

These strategic efforts aim to reduce imports, increase employment, and revitalize Nigeria's historically vibrant textile industry.

Tunisia's role as a key textile hub in the Euro-Mediterranean region was recently reinforced through a landmark partnership between EURATEX and FTTH.

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in Monastir marks a new era of strategic collaboration fo-

cused on sustainability, innovation, and trade integration.

With over €2.5 billion in textile exports to the EU in 2024 and a workforce exceeding 160,000, Tunisia is positioning itself as a reliable nearshoring partner for Europe.

This partnership aims to deepen regional value chains, reduce global supply chain dependencies, and accelerate Tunisia's transformation into a modern, circular, and competitive textile economy.

Africa's Unique Opportunity

Africa can leapfrog traditional models of industrialization and build a smart, sustainable textile industry from the ground up—avoiding the environmental and social pitfalls seen in parts of South Asia.

Analysts believe that Africa has a unique opportunity to become a global leader in eco-friendly, digitized, and automated textile production.



At the same time, Africa is confronting a legacy challenge: the massive influx of secondhand clothing from the West.

These imports have undercut local production and damaged consumer self-esteem. Thankfully, governments are now responding, with many restricting or banning these imports to rebuild local manufacturing.

What Experts Say?

As the Editor-in-Chief of Kohan Textile Journal, which places a special focus on the Middle East and Africa, I have had the privilege of engaging with numerous industry leaders and experts to discuss the evolving textile market in Africa.

This article highlights only some key insights and perspectives from these valuable conversations...



**— Mr. Gerd Paul Wienands,
Regional Sales Manager,
Trützschler GmbH & Co. KG**

“Africa is a continent of immense potential for the textile industry, but it must be viewed holistically rather than through isolated markets.

While North African countries like Egypt are already making strides with strong cotton production, skilled labor, and modern machinery, Sub-Saharan Africa presents both challenges and opportunities. Countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Kenya have the raw materials and workforce to revive their once-vibrant textile sectors.

At Trützschler, we believe that with strategic investment and a focus on long-term sustainability, Africa can play a significant role in the global textile value chain.”

Mrs. Verena Ruckh, Head of Marketing at Brückner Textile Technologies GmbH & Co. KG, Germany, said:

“Africa holds tremendous untapped potential in the textile sector. With the right partnerships and technical support, especially from experienced European manufacturers, African nations can leap into modern, energy-efficient production models. At Brückner, we believe empowering local industries with sustainable machinery and digital solutions is the key to long-term competitiveness.”

— Cornelia Buchwalder, Secretary General, Swiss Textile Machinery at Swissmem, said:

“Africa represents one of the most promising growth regions for textile technology. While it currently accounts for less than 5% of Swiss textile machinery exports, the potential is undeniable.

Investment in infrastructure, training, and sustainability—paired with innovative Swiss solutions—can transform African textile hubs into globally competitive centers.”



Groz-Beckert is committed to supporting this growth by providing localized service, technical training, and specialized tools that enable textile manufacturers to scale efficiently and meet the demands of a modern global market.”

— **Mr. Alejandro Gallego, Business Unit Director, AMEC Spain, said:**

“We tell every textile professional in Africa: be bold. Africa has the ambition, talent, and vision to reshape global fashion.

Spanish companies are ready to collaborate closely—not just as suppliers, but as knowledge partners—to support African textile transformation through innovation, digital printing, and sustainability.”

— **Groz-Beckert Management Team said:**

“The youthful and fast-growing population in Africa presents a unique opportunity for industrial expansion.





— **Mr. Josef Osl, GM Marketing, ZIMMER AUSTRIA, said:**

“Africa is not just the next frontier—it’s a vital part of the global textile value chain.

With a rising demand for sustainable and digitally printed textiles, African producers can gain international traction.

At ZIMMER, we are helping bridge the gap with tailored technologies and regional partnerships focused on capacity-building and sustainability.”

Africa Needs More Than Motivation – It Needs Machinery and Consultancy

While enthusiasm and market potential exist, Africa’s future in textiles hinges on infrastructure, technology access, and knowledge.

Many small and mid-sized producers are operating with outdated machines and limited technical capacity.

To succeed, African manufacturers need exposure to modern weaving, dyeing, digital printing, and smart sewing technologies.

Global machinery providers and technology firms are eager to partner with Africa—but need direct, face-to-face engagement to understand the market’s needs.

This is where Textile Machinery exhibitions like ITMA Asia + CITME Singapore 2025 play a crucial role. As a hub of textile innovation, ITMA Asia + CITME Singapore 2025 offers a unique chance to explore the newest machinery, automation systems, and sustainable production models.



Conclusion: The Beginning of a New Chapter

Africa stands at the dawn of a new industrial era. With the right investments, policy decisions, and public-private collaboration, the continent can rise as a global textile manufacturing hub.

But progress requires investment in modern machinery and advanced infrastructure.

The future belongs to those who move first—those who update their knowledge, build connections, and equip themselves for the next chapter.

Space Application for ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026 Opens

Space application for ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026 officially opens today. The exhibition is scheduled to take place from 20 to 24 November 2026 at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai).



Interested exhibitors are encouraged to submit their applications via the official website, www.itmaasia.com, before the closing date of 24 March 2026.

As Asia's leading business platform for textile machinery, the 10th combined edition of ITMA ASIA + CITME will continue to drive progress and facilitate collaborations across the industry.

Leading textile machinery manufacturers are expected to showcase their latest technologies, with exhibits spanning the entire textile manufacturing value chain.

A strong emphasis will be placed on advanced technologies, sustainable processes and automation, offering participants a dynamic platform to explore the latest trends in sustainability and digital transformation.

The previous exhibition in 2024 was a success, grossing 160,000 square metres and featuring more than 1,700 exhibitors from 22 countries and regions.

Numerous local and international brands staged product

launches that were well received by visitors.

The exhibition attracted visitorship of around 90,000 from 111 countries and regions over five days. It also received strong domestic support, drawing visitors from all 31 provinces, cities, and autonomous regions across China.

According to the show owners – CEMATEX, the Sub-Council of Textile Industry, CCPIT (CCPIT TEX), China Textile Machinery Association (CTMA) and China International Exhibition Centre Group Corporation (CIEC) – many exhibitors have already expressed strong expectations for the 2026 event.

ITMA ASIA + CITME is organised by Beijing Textile Machinery International Exhibition Co., Ltd and co-organised by ITMA Services.

Japan Textile Machinery Association is a special partner of the show.

Galfione Invests in BRÜCKNER ECO-AIR System for Sustainable Textile Production



production are top priorities for us,” said Fabricio Galfione. “BRÜCKNER’s proven expertise and decades of experience in exhaust air purification systems gave us the confidence to take this next step.”

The ECO-AIR system is designed to effectively clean the exhaust air from textile finishing processes, ensuring compliance with stringent emission standards while optimizing energy use.

With this investment, Galfione aligns its operations with global best practices in sustainability, contributing to a cleaner and greener textile industry in Argentina.

Regina Brückner expressed her appreciation for the continued partnership, stating: “It was a pleasure to meet the Galfione team again. We’re proud to support their vision for sustainable textile manufacturing and look forward to many more years of successful collaboration.”

The initiative not only reinforces Galfione’s leadership in responsible manufacturing but also highlights BRÜCKNER’s role as a key technology provider in the global shift towards environmentally conscious textile production.

Argentinian textile manufacturer Galfione y Cia S.R.L. has taken a decisive step towards greater environmental responsibility by investing in BRÜCKNER’s ECO-AIR exhaust air purification system, which includes an air scrubber and an electrostatic precipitator.

This move comes two years after the company installed a BRÜCKNER stenter frame, underlining its long-term commitment to sustainable textile production.

During a recent visit to Buenos Aires, Regina Brückner, owner of BRÜCKNER, met with Luciano and Fabricio Galfione, who lead the family-run textile business.

The meeting culminated in the new order, driven by Galfione’s clear focus on reducing resource consumption and minimizing the environmental footprint of its operations.

“Environmental protection and sustainable



Product range for the textile finishing industry

- ▶ Stenters and heat-setting lines for woven and knitted fabrics
- ▶ Multi-layer stenters for sensitive fabrics
- ▶ Weft straighteners
- ▶ Relaxation dryers for high-quality knitted fabrics
- ▶ Sanfor ranges for woven and knitted fabrics
- ▶ Continuous dyeing ranges and infrared dryers
- ▶ Heat-recovery systems
- ▶ Air cleaning and filter systems



Trützschler Nonwovens At IDEA 2025: Elevating Production Performance



Trützschler Nonwovens and American Trützschler are excited to announce their participation at IDEA 2025 in Miami Beach.

Visit booth #2242 to discover comprehensive solutions designed to enhance your production's sustainability, performance, efficiency and product quality.

New machinery targeting production excellence

Trützschler will showcase two groundbreaking product innovations at the exhibition: The X-Series cards and the Modular High Performance Dryer (MPD).

The X-Series includes the new carding models NC-X and NCT-X, which can increase productivity by up to 4 percent, reduce raw material consumption by up to 2.5 percent, and provide over 100 additional operating hours per year.

The cards of the X-Series can be universally used in inline and crosslapper configurations.

End products range from hydroentangled wipes and lightweight through-air bonded hygiene nonwovens to heavy high-loft nonwovens for insulation materials and needle-punched technical nonwovens.

The MPD dryer optimizes thermal energy usage during the drying process of hydroentangled nonwovens.

It operates with conventional energy sources like natural gas, electricity or heat exchangers, as well as CO₂-neutral hydrogen or biogas.

Its vertical design and small footprint make it ideal for expanding existing hydroentangling line capacities.

Utilize the full potential of every production line

The consistent use of the digital work environment T-ONE has demonstrably increased production speed by more than 50 percent depending on the product and reduced waste by up to 30 percent.

As a modular software solution, T-ONE optimizes workflows, implements best practices, ensures complete transparency, and captures all production-relevant data in real time.

The software is tailored to the individual production and IT systems of each nonwoven manufacturer and has already proven its effectiveness in over a dozen installations worldwide.

Discover new opportunities for exciting end products

Utilizing wood or fast-growing plants as fiber raw materials is our approach for sustainable, top-quality wipes.

As pioneer in Carded/Pulp (CP) and Wet-Laid/Spunlace (WLS) solutions, Trützschler Nonwovens offers reliable solutions for processing paper-grade pulp.

Our valued customer Elixrr Industries

has recently demonstrated the effectiveness of our concept by commissioning a hyper-flexible CP line, the first pulp-based nonwoven line on the Indian subcontinent.

We're always at your side

American Trützschler, located in Charlotte, N.C., the textile heartland of America, offers comprehensive sales, service, maintenance, and spare parts support.

Our certified UL508A panel shop specializes in complete/partial upgrades and customized solutions, while their well-stocked inventory of card wires is backed by 24/7 rewiring service available at your sites.





Marzoli to Present Tailor-Made Nonwoven Machinery Solutions at Techtextil North America 2025

Marzoli, a leading textile machinery manufacturer and part of the Camozzi Group, is set to unveil its latest innovations in nonwoven technology at Techtextil North America 2025, taking place May 6–8 in Atlanta, Georgia. Visitors can meet the Marzoli team and explore the company’s latest solutions at Booth 3632.

Focused on flexibility, efficiency, and quality, Marzoli’s showcase will spotlight tailor-made machinery and complete lines for the production of wipes, disposable medical products, and absorbent hygiene materials — critical segments in the rapidly evolving nonwoven market.

“Quality, flexibility, and efficiency are not just goals – they are embedded in our engineering,” said

Cristian Locatelli, General Manager of Marzoli.

“Our nonwoven solutions are designed to meet the industry’s evolving demands while enabling clients to maintain a competitive edge.”

C702NW: Engineered for High-Performance Nonwovens

At the center of Marzoli’s display is the C702NW high-production card, designed with a 1,500 mm working width and a modular structure.

This system supports multiple delivery outputs, including strips and heavier webs up to 60 gsm, and incorporates a special web condenser unit for enhanced performance.

The C702NW ensures:

- Exceptional fiber opening
- Uniform web formation
- Reduced energy use and maintenance
- Compatibility with delicate fibers like cotton and fine deniers

Complementing the card is a fully integrated pre-processing line that handles fiber opening, blending, and cleaning — essential for creating an impurity-free, uniform feedstock ideal for medical-grade products and soft-touch fabrics.

Turnkey Lines and European Collaboration

Marzoli's capabilities extend beyond single machines. In collaboration with leading European partners, the company

provides fully customized, turnkey production lines for:

- Spunlace fabrics
- Medical cotton products
- Perforated pads and cotton rolls
- Stratified webs and zig-zag folded cotton

These solutions offer high levels of cleanliness, consistency, and resource efficiency — all key factors in producing high-performance nonwoven materials.

Strong North American Presence and End-to-End Support

Marzoli's presence in North America is supported by a local subsidiary that ensures direct access and ongoing customer collaboration.

From project conception and feasibility studies to line commissioning, production optimization, and after-sales service, Marzoli offers a full lifecycle support model that reinforces its role as a trusted, long-term industry partner.

“We’re proud to work closely with our North American customers,” said Locatelli. “Our approach goes beyond supplying machinery — we’re engineering the future of nonwovens together.”





Spanish Solutions for Textiles

More
sustainable
than ever



62 companies

45 of them with
outstanding international
presence



479.903.000€ in turnover

65% coming from exports



Presence in 16 international events

Capacity to serve worldwide

**Our team has more that 50 years of
experience in international promotion and
a vast knowledge of the Spanish Industry.**

What can we do for you:

- Assess any company looking for **textile technology suppliers.**
- Assist foreign buyers by organizing virtual or presential **B2B meetings and roadshows.**
- Collaborate with trade shows organizers to promote **international events.**

[More information](#)

amecamtex

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Spanish Solutions for Textiles

More
sustainable
than ever

amec **amtex**

Main tendencies within the Spanish industry landscape

Energy efficiency and sustainability.

The sector investment is concentrated in achieving machines with greater energy efficiency. The sector is also **focused on finding sustainable solutions, reducing CO2, and reducing water consumption.**

Automation of machines and processes.

The evolution in machinery connectivity leads the Spanish sector to advance towards the goal of **achieving Smart Factories.**

New materials.

The Spanish textile sector is living **an important change due to the use of new materials.** This leads to innovation in technology for the use of recyclable materials and technical textiles and, on the other hand, it boosts the development of Smart Textiles.

[More information](#)



Spanish Solutions for Textiles Shines at Techtextil North America 2025

Spain's textile technology sector was prominently represented at Techtextil North America, held in Atlanta, featuring six leading companies: TVE Escale, Picvissa, Rius-Comatex, Ratera, Jeanologia, and EAS – Escarre.

Each company brought to the fair its unique expertise and cutting-edge solutions, showcasing the strength and innovation of the Spanish textile machinery industry.

The feedback from visitors was overwhelmingly positive.

Participating companies reported a high level of interest and quality engagement during the show, with many meetings focused on improving production efficiency—a pressing priority for U.S. manufacturers navigating a highly competitive and evolving market.

A recurring theme in these discussions was new product development. Here, Spanish manufac-



turers demonstrated a distinct competitive advantage: they don't just deliver standard machinery—they co-create bespoke solutions.

Their flexibility and commitment to continuous innovation were key differentiators and made a strong impression on prospective partners.

Despite ongoing uncertainty in the U.S. trade environment, the outcome of the show was decidedly positive for the Spanish representatives.

The event not only opened new avenues for collaboration but also reinforced Spanish companies' reputation as a trusted partner in advanced textile tech-

nologies.

At Spanish Solutions for Textiles, we are proud to support Spanish companies in their international expansion, helping them stay competitive and generate business opportunities abroad.

We are already working on upcoming events in different parts of the world alongside some of the most innovative companies in the industry.

Stay tuned—there's more to come.



Last Chance to Join EDANA's Innovation Forum!

LAST CHANCE!

EDANA
Innovation
FORUM | Nonwovens for Society

Join us at a location of creativity, cultivating bold thinking and innovative solutions

11 - 12 JUNE 2025
STATION F | PARIS

The countdown is on! With just 4 weeks to go, the EDANA Innovation Forum 2025 is nearly at capacity, and this is your final chance to join the most forward-thinking event in the nonwovens calendar!

Set to take place on 11-12 June at Station F in Paris, the Innovation Forum is designed as a hub for bold ideas, breakthrough technologies, and fresh perspectives.

It promises an inspiring mix of keynote sessions, interactive discussions, and innovative ideas.

By bringing together start-ups, research-

ers, scientists, and business leaders, the event aims to bridge gaps, spark new ideas, and challenge the status quo.

Expect engaging workshops, thought-provoking discussions, and real-world case studies that push the boundaries of what's possible.

This is not just another industry event; it's a catalyst for innovation!

To maintain an immersive and high-impact experience, we're limiting attendance — and spaces are running out fast!

Don't miss your chance to be part of the future of nonwovens. Register here!



Global Sourcing Expo 2025: Driving Change in Ethical Sourcing and Sustainability

Textile Waste in Australia: Consumption, Consequences and a Call for Change

The 10th Edition of the Ethical Fashion Report by Baptist World Aid estimates that around 92,000 tonnes of textile waste is generated globally each year.

Locally, around 22,000 tonnes of clothing waste are sent to landfills, equating to each Australian disposing of 23 kilograms of clothing annually.

In 2024, Australia ranked top of the list when it came to the highest number of average items purchased per year, at 56 items per person, surpassing key consumer markets such as the US (53 items), China (30 items) and the United Kingdom (33 items).

Julie Holt, Event Director at the International

Expo Group and organiser of the Global Sourcing Expo says that this systemic issue could further exacerbate ongoing issues in industry such as environmental pollution, greenwashing and a lack of accountability by some retailers.

“Every 10 minutes, Australians discard approximately 600 kilograms of clothing and textiles into landfill, while only 7% is recycled, according to the report.

This highlights a significant environmental challenge – and an equally important opportunity to improve waste management practices.”

Nehal Jain, Co-Founder of after and

speaker at the upcoming Global Sourcing Expo Seminar Series, echoes this sentiment, “Australia is now the largest consumer of fashion and textiles in the world, and we throw away just as much. On average, clothing is discarded after only seven wears.”

Founded in 2022, after focuses on collecting and recycling unwearable textiles and works with governments, corporates, schools and retailers to make ethical disposal an option. It’s also recently expanded its footprint to New Zealand.

Jain acknowledges while there is a big second-hand (thrift) culture in Australia, there are very few options for clothing that are unwearable, damaged, worn out and truly at the end of its life.

“We specifically focus on this overlooked category, collecting worn-out, unsellable and unusable textiles and ensuring they’re ethically and sustainably upcycled or recycled into raw materials like yarn, so that they can re-enter the circular economy.”

Progress is Being Made – But Is It Enough?

Holt notes that although some progress has been made, there’s a growing need for greater transparency and accountability across the supply chain.

“There’s demand for full traceability throughout the entire retail supply chain,” she says. “Implementing these measures will hold retailers accountable down to the last fibre of a garment and promote more sustainable sourcing.”

Jain adds that more awareness by consumers will help to further drive change. “Today’s consumers are asking real questions about how products are made and what happens to them afterwards.

It’s no longer enough for businesses to ignore these concerns. That said, we don’t believe the responsibility lies with just one group.”

Out of 120 major retailers assessed in the Ethical Fashion Report, less than 30 scored 55 or higher out of 100 across key criteria – including policies and governance, tracing and risk, supplier relationships and human rights, worker empowerment and environmental sustainability.

The average score was just 31, highlighting significant room for improvement in ethical supply chain practices.

And with fashion in high demand, Holt says that there has never been a more pressing time to source ethically.

“Where there is demand, there is opportunity.

We live in an age where retailers are actively advertising to us, regardless of whether we like it or not.

Many fashion houses offer major discounts and these appeal to the younger generations, where fast fashion remains easily accessible and affordable.”

What More Can be Done Right Now?

Jain calls on manufacturers to rethink the way in which they produce, source and dispose of textiles.

“This not only includes designing items to reduce waste but also using services like after when waste is generated. It’s about closing the loop both at the design phase and at the end-of-life stage,” she says.

“Start by taking a closer look at where textile waste is showing up in your business.

It’s not just about retail, there’s often significant waste in demolitions, uniforms, promotional items and merchandise.



Then ask, what happens to that material once it’s no longer needed? Is there a recovery solution in place?”

She adds, “One thing that we always share with brands: don’t be afraid of being honest.

Consumers want transparency. Some companies hesitate to speak up about their sustainability efforts in case they’re not ‘perfect’, but perfection isn’t the goal. Brutal honesty builds trust. People appreciate progress – not greenwashing.”

Holt concludes saying that platforms like the Global Sourcing Expo have never been more important than they are right now.

“Connecting a multitude of reputable suppliers in the

supply chain in one room is key to the success – and sustainability – of our sector.

Meeting with suppliers from around the world who understand their supply chain and source ethically is vitally important to securing our future.”

Nehal Jain and Yesha Patel, founders of after will be speaking on Thursday, 19 June at the Seminar Series from 11.30 – 12.30, covering the topic of ‘From Waste to Worth: Turning Textile Waste into Opportunity’.

Global Sourcing Expo kicks off its 2025 portfolio in Sydney from 17 – 19 June 2025.

Exhibitor bookings for both Sydney and Melbourne Expos are open, and applications can be submitted here

**GLOBAL
SOURCING
EXPO
AUSTRALIA**

17 - 19 JUNE 2025

SYDNEY

18 - 20 NOVEMBER 2025

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globalsourcingexpo.com.au

Is Europe Approaching a Textile-to-Textile Recycling Tipping Point?

Two decades after Japan's Teijin pioneered the first commercial chemical textile-recycling process, Europe may finally be nearing a long-awaited breakthrough in textile-to-textile recycling.

With companies like Circ and Reju building their first industrial-scale recycling plants in France and the Netherlands, a new report by Systemiq suggests the continent is edging closer to a critical tipping point. But the path ahead is neither easy nor guaranteed.

Signs of Momentum – But Still in the Shadows

According to Systemiq's first-of-its-kind study—developed in collaboration with Arc'teryx, Eastman, Interzero, Textile Exchange, and Tomra—Europe's polyester recycling capacity could rise from 30,000 metric tons to 340,000 by 2035.

Yet, this tenfold growth depends on major policy changes and strategic investments to overcome two significant hurdles: accessibility and affordability.

Currently, most textile waste in Europe is still landfilled, incinerated, or exported—a linear model that fails to feed into a circular economy.



On top of that, producing recycled polyester from post-consumer textiles in Europe remains 2.6 times more expensive than producing virgin polyester in Asia.

Even recycled PET bottles are cheaper, slowing brand adoption of textile-to-textile options.

“A tipping point occurs when a clean technology becomes more affordable, more attractive, and more accessible than the conventional alternative,” said Clara Luckner, director and fashion lead at Systemiq. “Textile recycling has only fulfilled one of these conditions so far.”

The Four Levers of Change

Systemiq's roadmap to mass adoption focuses on four key intervention areas:

1. Feedstock Access

Mandating separate textile waste collec-

tion across EU member states could better channel high-quality materials into reuse and recycling pipelines.

2. Market Demand

Brands and policymakers must send strong, long-term signals that recycled polyester will be a cornerstone of future production.

This would allow recyclers and sorters to invest with confidence.

3. Cost Reduction

Tax incentives, lower energy costs, and infrastructure support can make recycling more cost-effective than export or incineration—closing 40% of the cost gap.

4. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

The real game changer. An ambitious EPR scheme—now mandatory across the EU—can bridge 55% of the affordability gap by requiring producers to finance the collection, sorting, and recycling of their products.

Systemiq proposes an EPR fee of €250 per ton by 2028, rising to €330 by 2035, plus a €55 “green premium” to cover additional transportation costs for delivering recycled polyester to Asia’s yarn producers.

This “cost uplift” of up to €385 per ton would add only about €0.15 to a single sweater.

“It’s a modest price that could unlock

the full potential of circularity,” said Leonard von Boetticher, Systemiq associate. “Without such mechanisms, we risk stalling at the pilot stage.”

Beyond Numbers: A Call to Action

Systemiq’s report is more than just a technical analysis—it’s a wake-up call. With the global textile industry consuming 125 million metric tons of material each year, time is running out to build a truly circular system.

“If nothing is done, textile recycling will remain trapped in pilot purgatory,” warned Luckner. “Europe’s textile waste crisis will deepen, and a massive opportunity for innovation and sustainability will be lost.”

Despite the challenges, the momentum is building. With coordinated efforts from governments, brands, recyclers, and consumers, Europe could reach the tipping point needed to shift from a linear to a circular textile economy—one that finally turns waste into value, at scale.

The question is no longer whether textile-to-textile recycling is possible. It’s whether Europe will act fast enough to make it inevitable.





EURATEX and FTTH Sign Strategic Partnership to Strengthen Euro-Mediterranean Textile Cooperation

On Tuesday 15 April, EURATEX (the European Apparel and Textile Confederation) and FTTH (Fédération Tunisienne du Textile et de l'Habillement) formalised a new chapter in Euro-Mediterranean collaboration by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Monastir, Tunisia.

The agreement reinforces the commitment of both parties to closer industrial cooperation, with a strong focus on sustainability, investment, and trade integration under the revised Pan-Euro-Mediterranean Convention.

The signature ceremony took place at the Monastir Technopole in the presence of senior representatives,

including the Governor of Monastir, the Tunisian Minister of Industry, the EU Ambassador to Tunisia, and business leaders from both regions.

It marked a significant step towards establishing a structured dialogue and actionable cooperation between two key textile industries, in the context of global supply chain shifts and increasing demand for sustainable production.

“Europe and Tunisia share a long-standing partnership. While our systems may differ, our industries are deeply complementary.

In a time of regulatory transformation and increasing environmental ambitions, working together is essential,” said EURATEX President Mario Jorge Machado.

“This MoU offers a practical framework to im-

prove competitiveness, drive innovation, and reinforce the resilience of our shared textile ecosystem.”

The agreement also reflects a broader vision to revitalise and reinforce industrial partnerships across the Mediterranean.

In an evolving geopolitical and economic context, Tunisia stands out as a trusted and strategically located partner.

Deepening regional value chains, reducing dependency on distant sourcing, and fostering nearshoring solutions are not only economic imperatives, but also critical components of building a more sustainable and resilient European textile industry.

The MoU with FTTH embodies this ambition by promoting a Mediterra-

nean model of cooperation rooted in proximity, trust, and shared economic interests.

The Tunisian textile and apparel sector is a cornerstone of the national economy, accounting for over 160,000 jobs and more than 1,600 active companies.

In 2024, Tunisia exported €2.5 billion in textiles and clothing to the EU, confirming its strategic position as a nearshoring partner.

The MoU supports Tunisia’s ambition to become a modern, circular and competitive textile hub, while encouraging investment and industrial synergies with European partners.

As the European textile sector undergoes profound transformation, reinforced cooperation with neighbouring countries like Tunisia is essential to shape a more sustainable and strategic regional supply chain.



Africa in Focus at CIDPEX 2025: Raymond Chimhandamba to Spotlight Hygiene Market Trends



The FOCUS TISSUE & HYGIENE Conference, held in conjunction with CIDPEX 2025, will spotlight the African hygiene products market in a special session on April 15, 2025, at the Wuhan Intercontinental Hotel's International Conference Center.

This session will be led by Raymond Chimhandamba of Handas Consulting, a respected expert in emerging markets and hygiene sector growth.

Titled "Latest Developments in Africa's Hygiene Products Sector," the session will cover:

hygiene market structure . Key innovations and growth drivers across the continent . Emerging trends, consumer behavior, and upcoming opportunities

As a core part of the Disposable Hygiene Products Track, this session offers critical insights for manufacturers, suppliers, investors, and policymakers looking to engage with Africa's fast-evolving hygiene landscape.

Africa: The Next Frontier for Hygiene Innovation

A detailed overview of Africa's hygiene sector is

undergoing rapid change, driven by population growth, urbanization, rising health awareness, and increased manufacturing investments.

Drawing on deep experience in the field, Mr. Chimhandamba will outline strategic pathways, covering regulatory challenges, market entry strategies, and collaboration models.

Join the Conversation

The FOCUS Conference precedes CIDPEX 2025, offering a premier platform for industry dialogue, innovation showcases, and global networking.

With sessions spanning Europe, Asia, and Africa, it affirms CIDPEX's role as a truly international event.

Explore the full program and speaker lineup at the official conference site.



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How African Products Are Reshaping the US Market?

The trade relationship between Africa and the United States is undergoing a significant transformation, with African products making an increasing impact on US consumers and businesses.

Through initiatives like the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and strategic trade partnerships, African markets are becoming vital sources for textiles, agricultural goods, and industrial supplies for the US.

While challenges such as supply chain limitations, financing risks, and awareness gaps still exist, new developments in trade facilitation, investment, and sustainability efforts are bridging the gap between African producers and US buyers.

This article explores how African products support US consumers, the benefits for both

markets, and the future outlook for US-Africa trade.

Why African Products Matter for the US Market

Africa offers a wealth of resources that align well with the growing needs of US consumers and businesses. Some of the key sectors benefiting from US-Africa trade include:

- Textiles and Apparel – Many African countries, including Mauritius, Madagascar, and Lesotho, have strong textile manufacturing industries that supply garments to major US retailers. With AGOA providing duty-free access to the US market, African-made clothing is becoming increasingly competitive.

. **Agricultural Products** – Africa is a major producer of cash crops such as cashew nuts, coffee, cocoa, and fresh fruits.

Traditionally, these products have been routed through India, Vietnam, and South America before reaching the US, adding unnecessary costs.

However, direct trade with Africa is now increasing, offering better prices and fresher products for US consumers.

. **Sustainable Supply Chains** – African producers are increasingly focusing on eco-friendly farming, ethical labor practices, and carbon footprint reduction, making them attractive trade partners for US businesses looking for sustainable and transparent sourcing.

AGOA's Role in Facilitating Trade

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) has played a crucial role in strengthening economic ties between Africa and the US.

AGOA allows over 6,000 products from eligible African countries to enter the US duty-free, making African exports more competitive.

Although South Africa has been the biggest beneficiary, other nations are now recognizing AGOA's potential.

Textiles, apparel, agricultural goods, and processed food items have seen increased exports under this agreement, yet many African countries have not fully leveraged AGOA's benefits.

To enhance trade, more private sector engagement is needed to connect US retailers with African manufacturers and suppliers, ensuring that the full potential of AGOA is utilized.

Challenges in US-Africa Trade

While African markets present exciting opportunities, several barriers still hinder trade expansion:

. **Supply Chain Risks** – Many US companies lack awareness of Africa's full production capabilities, leading to hesitancy in sourcing directly from African suppliers.

Reliability, consistency, and supply chain stability remain concerns for US retailers.

. **Financial & Investment Barriers** – Trade financing remains a major challenge for African businesses, making it difficult for them to scale operations and meet the large volume demands of US buyers.

More financial institutions are needed to provide trade financing solutions and reduce risks.

. **Limited Processing & Value Addition** – Africa produces over 68% of the world's cashew nuts, yet only 8% of them are processed and sold directly to the US.

Most raw materials are shipped to India, Vietnam, and Thailand, where they are processed before being re-exported to the US.

Developing value-added industries in Africa can significantly boost trade benefits for both regions.

Expanding African Trade in the US:

The Role of Private Sector and Government

To strengthen US-Africa trade relations, both private sector initiatives and government programs are critical. **Key strategies include:**

- Expanding Market Awareness – More US businesses need to be informed about Africa's trade potential.

Encouraging trade missions and direct partnerships between African suppliers and US retailers can help bridge this knowledge gap.

- Encouraging Direct Trade – Reducing reliance on third-party processing (such as exporting cashew nuts to India before they



reach the US) will improve efficiency, lower costs, and increase Africa's direct exports to the US.

- Strengthening Financing and Investment – Providing trade financing solutions and risk management strategies will enable African businesses to expand operations and meet the growing demand from the US market.

- Promoting Sustainability – African producers adopting eco-friendly production, ethical labor practices, and waste reduction techniques will have a competitive advantage in securing long-term US trade relationships.

Future Outlook: Africa's Growing Role in the Global Supply Chain

With the right investments, trade policies, and partnerships, Africa has the potential to become a key supplier for the US market, reducing dependence on Asia and South America.

As US companies seek more diversified, sustainable, and cost-effective supply chains, Africa is well-positioned to fill this gap.

Future trade opportunities are expected to focus on:

- Expanding textile and apparel exports from Africa under AGOA

- Strengthening agricultural trade with a focus on direct-to-market strategies



- Increasing investment in value-added processing industries

- Leveraging technology and digital trade platforms to streamline US-Africa commerce

By overcoming challenges and maximizing opportunities, the trade partnership between Africa and the US will continue to grow, benefiting businesses and consumers on both sides.

Final Thought

Can African markets become the next big supplier for US industries? What steps should be taken to strengthen trade partnerships? Share your thoughts below!

 Benefits (Opportunities)	 Challenges (Risks)
Duty-Free Market Access (AGOA) – Enables African products like textiles and agricultural goods to compete effectively in the US market.	Supply Chain Risks – Limited awareness and fragmented logistics can disrupt supply chains.
Sustainable Sourcing – Increased adoption of eco-friendly practices meets US consumer demands.	Limited Processing & Value Addition – Low level of local processing reduces potential earnings.
Economic Growth & Job Creation – Increased trade helps boost economic development and job opportunities in Africa.	Political & Economic Stability Risks – Instability in certain African countries poses uncertainties for US businesses.
Technological Advancements – Innovations in digital platforms enhance efficiency in US-Africa trade.	Awareness Gap – Limited knowledge among US businesses about African suppliers’ capabilities.
Duty-Free Market Access (AGOA) – Allows African businesses competitive access to US markets, particularly in apparel and agriculture.	Limited Processing Capacity – Many products require external processing, reducing direct trade value.
Technological Advancements – Digital trade platforms streamline business between US and African firms.	Competitive Pressure – Strong competition from Asian producers (China, India, Bangladesh).



Garment Tech Istanbul Exhibition: A Global Hub for Buyers and International Visitors

Poised to become a global showcase for the garment and ready-to-wear industry, Garment Tech Istanbul Exhibition is set to bring together leading brands that shape the sector under one roof.

With its diversity of exhibitors, high-profile visitor portfolio, and substantial business potential, the exhibition promises a unique experience. It will serve as a pulse-check for the industry's ongoing transformation.

Taking place from June 25–28 at the Istanbul Expo Center (IFM), the Garment Tech Istanbul Exhibition for Garment, Embroidery Machinery, Spare Parts, and Sub-Industry will unite the key players of an industry that holds a significant share in Turkiye's exports.

Organized under the motto "Innovative Touch to Fashion", the exhibition will showcase technologies spanning the entire garment production chain—

from sewing to cutting, ironing systems to packaging, embroidery to denim.

A Platform for Strategic Partnerships

With its advanced production infrastructure, strong design capabilities, and dynamic workforce, Turkiye's garment industry will step confidently onto the global stage through the Garment Tech Istanbul Exhibition.

Bringing together all stakeholders from across the sector, the exhibition will host existing companies and attract international investors, business partners, and industry professionals.

Garment Tech Istanbul is more than just a product exhibition—it is a platform where new business collaborations will be initiated.

Over the course of four days, international investors, manufacturers, suppliers, and brand representatives will engage in face-to-face meetings to establish long-term business connections.

The exhibition offers exhibiting companies the chance to achieve both short-term sales targets and make significant progress in long-term business development strategies.

Decision-makers in the business world will invest in innovations, establish new supply chain partnerships, redefine their production strategies, and explore fresh positioning opportunities in regional markets.

Cutting-Edge Machines and Automation at Garment Tech Istanbul

The Garment Tech Istanbul Exhibition will also serve as a stage for innovative machines, automation systems, and sustainable production solutions.

Visitors will have the chance to explore the latest advancements in the industry and discover ways to improve operational efficiency.

They'll get hands-on with cutting-edge sewing and embroidery machines, digital automation systems, pressing

technologies, cutting automation solutions, and eco-friendly sustainable machinery.

These technologies will enhance production efficiency, reduce energy consumption, and help companies meet sustainability standards more easily.

Machines equipped with innovative applications such as artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), and data analytics will introduce industry professionals to not only today's but also tomorrow's manufacturing models.

Investors, tech developers, suppliers, manufacturers, and buyers will gain fresh insights that will help steer the direction of the global textile industry.



Istanbul: The Beating Heart of the Garment and Textile Sector

The Garment Tech Istanbul Exhibition also stands out due to its strategic geographic location.

As a bridge between Europe and Asia, Istanbul is highly accessible for global visitors.

Its modern transportation infrastructure, worldwide air connections, and visa waiver agreements with many countries significantly ease international participation.

Professionals from around the world are already applying online to receive their invitations and join the event to discover the latest technologies and form new business partnerships.

Thousands of visitors from over 60

countries—including India, China, Pakistan, Tunisia, Iran, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Germany, Italy, the UK, and Hong Kong—have completed their online registrations.

Expected to attract thousands of professional visitors, this event will once again position Istanbul as the epicenter of global garment and ready-to-wear trade.

This vibrant interaction will lead to a better understanding of regional market needs and lay the groundwork for more targeted collaborations.


Moreover, participants will enjoy the rich cultural and historical heritage of Istanbul, turning their business trip into a memorable journey.

From the stunning Bosphorus view and historic peninsula to world-class cuisine and much more, visitors will complement their professional experience with cultural enrichment.



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Turkish Manufacturer Pelsan Tekstil to Establish First U.S. Facility in North Carolina, Creating 216 Jobs



Pelsan Tekstil A.S., a leading Turkey-based manufacturer of breathable film technologies for the hygiene and medical sectors, has announced plans to open its first American production facility in Wayne County, North Carolina, with an investment of \$82.6 million.

The project is expected to create 216 new jobs, boosting the local economy and expanding North Carolina's footprint in advanced manufacturing.

Governor Josh Stein welcomed the announcement, highlighting North Carolina's

appeal for global businesses.

"North Carolina is pleased to welcome Pelsan as it opens its first facility in the United States," said Governor Stein.

"Our skilled workforce and strategic East Coast location enable companies to efficiently produce and deliver high-quality products."

Founded in 2006 as part of the Hassan Group, Pelsan was the first in Türkiye to manufacture breathable polyethylene films.

With a strong focus on innovation, the company offers one of the most advanced portfolios in the industry.

The new Goldsboro facility will allow Pelsan to better serve the growing demand across North America for high-performance breathable films used in hygiene and medical products.

“This expansion is a major strategic milestone,” said Ali Sisman, CEO of Pelsan Tekstil.

“Our investment in North Carolina reflects our confidence in the region’s workforce, infrastructure, and shared commitment to innovation.”

The average salary for the new positions is projected at \$48,789, exceeding the current Wayne County average of \$46,211.

The project will benefit from a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG), approved by the state’s Economic Investment Committee.

Over a 12-year period, the project is projected to grow North Carolina’s economy by over \$719.5 million, with potential reimbursements to Pelsan of up to \$2.06 million, contingent on verified job creation and investment milestones.

The return on public investment is estimated at 115%—yielding \$2.15 in state revenue for every \$1 of state support.

Local leaders praised the announcement.

“These new manufacturing jobs and capital investment will bring real opportunities and economic strength to our region,” said Representative John Bell.

“We’re excited to welcome Pelsan to Goldsboro,” added Senator Buck Newton. “This project brings long-term benefits to Eastern North Carolina.”

Key partners supporting the project include the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Wayne County Development Alliance, City of Goldsboro, NC Community College System, Wayne Community College, North Carolina’s Southeast, and Duke Energy.

Pelsan’s expansion reinforces North Carolina’s position as a growing hub for advanced manufacturing and foreign investment, especially in technical textiles and hygiene solutions.

Lesotho's Economic and Health Stability at Risk After U.S. Tariffs and Aid Cuts



Recent shifts in U.S. trade and foreign aid policies have placed Lesotho—a small, landlocked nation in southern Africa—under significant threat.

The introduction of a 10% U.S. tariff on Lesotho's exports, combined with the termination of USAID funding, could have devastating consequences for both its economy and public health systems.

A Shrinking Textile Sector Under Pressure

Lesotho has long relied on the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)—a Clinton-era initiative granting duty-free

access to U.S. markets.

Major U.S. brands like Gap and Levi Strauss once relied on Lesotho's textile factories, which employed 50,000 workers at their peak in the mid-2000s—primarily Basotho women. Even Trump-branded golf shirts were made in the country.

Today, that number has dropped to just 12,000 textile jobs, following years of decline exacerbated by COVID-19 and other global factors.

Lesotho currently exports roughly \$240 million in goods to the U.S. annually, but imports less than \$3 million, making the country highly vulnerable to tariff-driven imbalances.

Experts, including Charles Fogelman of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, warn that correcting this imbalance via higher tariffs is impractical.

Lesotho cannot significantly increase imports from the U.S., so the only likely path to “balance” would be for Lesotho to cut up to 90% of its exports, which would collapse its textile industry and cost thousands of jobs.

USAID Cuts Threaten HIV/AIDS Progress

Lesotho also faces severe public health challenges. The country has the second-highest HIV prevalence globally, with vital support coming from USAID-funded programs. Through sustained assistance, Lesotho recently reached the UNAIDS 90-90-90 goal: 90% diagnosed, 90% receiving treatment, and 90% achieving viral suppression.

This achievement led to a 75% drop in AIDS-related deaths and an 85% reduction in new HIV cases since 2005.

However, with USAID funding now cut, public health agencies are beginning to shut down, and

patients are losing access to essential antiretroviral treatments. Maintaining the 90-90-90 benchmark will likely become impossible unless another international donor steps in immediately.

Rising Concerns and Diplomatic Strain

While Lesotho’s government publicly downplays the situation, tensions are growing behind closed doors.

Meetings between U.S. embassy staff in Maseru and Lesotho officials are reportedly filled with anxiety.

President Trump’s dismissive comment that “nobody has ever heard of Lesotho” only worsened the tone of bilateral relations.

AGOA has faced threats before, but Lesotho had prepared contingency plans, including diversifying export targets to southern Africa and Europe.

Still, the sudden collapse of healthcare funding pos-

es an urgent and potentially deadly crisis.

Geopolitical Shifts on the Horizon

Looking ahead, Fogelman predicts that Lesotho—and similarly affected African nations—may turn to China, which has rapidly expanded its influence across the continent. Ironically, a U.S. trade policy aimed at curbing China’s global rise may, in fact, accelerate its expansion in Africa.

Source: University of Illinois News Bureau, April 11, 2025



Future Innovations in Digital Textile Printing Depend Heavily on Ink Development

The Symbiotic Relationship Between Inks and Machinery

The textile industry's shift toward digital methods is propelled by innovative inks and advanced machinery.



As digital textile printing becomes increasingly dominant, the critical interplay between ink formulation and machinery innovation becomes evident.

Experts assert that major future breakthroughs in machinery rely significantly on concurrent developments in inks and chemical technologies.

Insights from Industry Leaders

Mr. Josef Osl: Machinery Innovation Hinges on Ink Advancements

Mr. Josef Osl, the GM Marketing at ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing, states, "The next step in innovation in digital printing machines is significantly dependent on revolutionary changes in the ink and chemical industries.

Without substantial innovation in inks, it is difficult to anticipate groundbreaking advancements in machinery."

In the current economic climate, revolutionary innovations from European ink and dyestuff producers are unlikely, as many companies face uncertain futures and are operating primarily in survival mode.

Similarly, Asian manufacturers are constrained by challenging market conditions and global economic pressures, compelling them to prioritize competitive pricing strategies over investment in innovative product development.

Mr. Kamal Kulshreshth: Engineered Inks and Collaboration expert from India:

Textile digital printing expert Kamal Kulshreshth emphasizes that:

"Product development in digital textile printing is inherently connected to the inks used.

Unlike dyes in traditional analogue printing or dyeing, digital printing inks are specifically engineered products.

Although fluid, these inks must behave consistently when jetted at rates of thousands of droplets per second.

The millions of droplets fired during a print job must retain identical characteristics from the beginning to the end, and these properties must be replicable even months later for repeat orders.

When considering the complexity of using 6, 8, or even 12 different inks simultaneously to create intricate designs, it is understandable why machine manufacturers spend months validating inks for their digital printers.

Currently, the industry's primary objective—the 'holy grail'—is to enable printing on any fabric without chemical pre-treatment.

Pigment inks exemplify successful collaboration between ink makers and machinery manufacturers.

Unlike reactive or disperse inks, pigment inks involve minimal chemical processes.

The challenge lies in formulating pigment inks that effectively bond to untreated fabrics, requiring precise binder content to maintain jetting consistency at high frequencies.

Machine makers spend extensive periods ensuring these inks can meet commercial demands, highlighting that ink production alone isn't sufficient—they must undergo rigorous testing.

Similarly, no matter how advanced a digital inkjet printer may be, it won't gain market acceptance unless it reliably works with commercially available inks.

Looking ahead, digital textile printing could evolve from purely aesthetic applications to functional and practical uses.

For instance, conductive inks capable of carrying electric charges might emerge, prompting machine manufacturers to reconsider electronics design,

materials compatibility, and electromagnetic environments within digital printers.

These innovations illustrate the necessity for ink developers to closely align their new formulations with existing inkjet technologies and machine engineering requirements.”

Sustainability as a Catalyst for Innovation

Digital textile printing's rapid growth is closely tied to sustainability, with reduced water and energy usage as central drivers.

Technologies like One-Step digital textile printing and inline pretreatment significantly cut environmental impacts.



Pigment inks, combined with these technologies, offer sustainable solutions meeting the global industry's increasing ecological demands.

Current Challenges and Market Realities

Despite the potential for innovation, economic pressures severely impact ink manufacturers. European firms, historically innovation leaders, currently prioritize survival amid tough economic conditions, limiting breakthrough innovations.

Meanwhile, Asian manufacturers focus primarily on price competition, further reducing investment in groundbreaking chemical developments.

Collaborative Developments in Printing Technologies

Nevertheless, targeted collaborations among ink formulators, machinery makers, and print-head suppliers continue driving notable advancements.

Dye-sublimation printing, industrial inkjet systems, and direct-to-garment (DTG) technologies exemplify this successful integration, highlighting the ongoing dependency of machinery advancements on ink innovation.

Future Directions: Functional and Smart Textiles

Looking ahead, experts anticipate digital textile printing will transcend aesthetics, exploring functional inks like conductive formulations for smart textiles and wearable technology.

Achieving these advancements will demand substantial redesigns of digital printers, encompassing electronics, electromagnetic compatibility, and materials.

Market Outlook and Economic Significance

Persistence Market Research predicts robust market growth for digital textile printing equipment, forecasting a 14% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) between 2023 and 2030.

This growth underscores the critical economic value of sustained innovation in inks and machinery.

Conclusion

Digital textile printing's future critically depends on ongoing advancements in inks and related chemicals.

Expert insights from industry leaders confirm that machinery advancements are intrinsically linked to ink innovations.

For the textile industry to continue progressing sustainably and efficiently, collaborative innovation between ink chemists and machinery engineers remains indispensable.

The next wave of revolutionary printing technology awaits breakthroughs in ink chemistry.

Zimmer Austria Leads the Way in Digital Camouflage Printing Innovations

Zimmer Austria continues to lead global advancements in digital camouflage printing, delivering transformative solutions for the military textile market.



The military textile sector demands unique capabilities such as unlimited repeat sizes, rapid production cycles, and strict compliance with specifications.

Zimmer Austria meets these needs with advanced digital printing technologies tailored specifically for defense applications.

At the core of their innovation is the COLARIS® digital printing system, which enables unlimited repeat patterns essential for camouflage netting and tactical gear.

This capability ensures flexibility in designing patterns suited to various operational environments—enhancing concealment and mission success.

Zimmer's proprietary technology, paired with specially developed inks, delivers exceptional fastness, infrared reflectance control, and thermal shielding.

These features are critical for modern military gear to remain effective in challenging conditions.

Moreover, Zimmer's direct pretreatment method eliminates multiple processing steps, significantly improving production speed and efficiency.

Andreas Rass, Director at Zimmer Austria, notes: "Digital camouflage with unlimited repeat sizes is vital for military use. We are proud to lead this field with globally recognized solutions."

Zimmer continues to innovate with features like integrated metallic coatings for enhanced thermal protection.

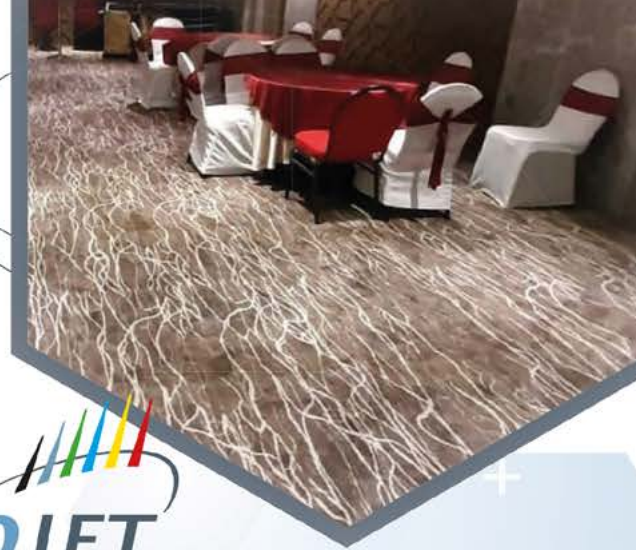
Their commitment to cutting-edge solutions positions them as a trusted leader in the specialized field of military textiles.



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COLARIS carpet printing solution was introduced in 2015 and is the high-resolution printer for today's market needs. Ready-made solutions can be provided for a wide

range of flooring products, incl. contract and residential carpets, rugs, mats, tiles, made of tufted, nonwoven or even woven PA, PES, or viscose substrates. Additionally, we provide print lines for wool, acrylic and viscose flooring products.

Small to medium tile and mat production in 2.200 mm width or for wall-to-wall carpets up to 5.200 mm width at a capacity of 4 linear meters per minute – your goal is our challenge.

Engineering and manufacturing the print line as per your specific needs is the aim. No matter whether you choose us as your general supplier for a complete line, or you want to incorporate existing or domestic machinery in combination with a ZIMMER AUSTRIA digital printer, we offer the most cost-effective

solution for your needs. CHROMOJET and COLARIS print lines from ZIMMER AUSTRIA are the right choice when looking for contract carpet printing or even for automotive, public transport and aeronautic flooring applications.

Both types of machines are working successfully in the market. Several of our customers are having CHROMOJET machines since many years and decided to make the step into high resolution COLARIS inkjet printing, to match the needs of an innovative and modern carpet design at the highest print quality available in the market.

For any of your needs feel free to contact us. We will do our best to find the most economic solution for your project.





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Digital Clones and Virtual Influencers: How AI Is Reshaping Fast-Fashion Marketing



Driven by advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and metaverse technologies, digital clones and virtual influencers are revolutionizing how fast-fashion brands connect with consumers.

These computer-generated personas are always available, ageless, and adaptable to any setting—offering a cost-effective, immersive approach to brand storytelling in the digital age.

The Rise of Virtual Influencers

Virtual influencers, such as Lil Miquela and Shudu, have emerged as powerful marketing tools, especially among Gen Z and digital-native audiences.

Some are fully computer-generated, while oth-

ers—like Hatsune Miku—blend human features like voice or motion with digital design.

Hybrid models allow for even more customization, enabling brands to tailor virtual personalities that align precisely with campaign themes and brand identities.

The global influencer market, valued at over US\$24 billion in 2024, is expected to exceed US\$32 billion in 2025.

Asia, in particular, has seen rapid adoption of these vir-

tual personas, reflecting broader cultural receptiveness to AI and digital innovation.

Digital Twins in Fast Fashion

Beyond influencers, fashion brands are now turning to digital twins—virtual replicas of real models.

These are primarily used for operational efficiency, such as content creation and campaign planning. Unlike virtual influencers, digital twins do not interact with audiences.

They serve as static avatars, helping brands like H&M and Mango reduce costs and speed up catalogue development while maintaining visual continuity.

For example, Levi Strauss & Co. has partnered with AI modeling firms to integrate digital personas into its marketing strategy.

Mango launched an AI-avatar campaign in July 2024 targeting teenage girls, sparking conversation across the industry.

These digital models enable personalization at scale and are particularly attractive to fast-fashion retailers seeking speed, flexibility, and diverse representation. However, they also raise ethical concerns.

Ethical and Legal Challenges

While the appeal of AI-generated imagery is clear—lower costs, faster production, and creative control—there are significant challenges.

The use of digital clones can marginalize human talent, including models, stylists, photographers, and other creative professionals.

Key concerns include:

- **Consent and compensation:** Digital replicas must be created and used with explicit approval. Without proper safeguards, individuals' likenesses could be exploited.
- **Authenticity:** As consumers grow more conscious of brand values, overly polished or deceptive digital content risks alienating audiences.
- **Diversity:** AI must be used responsibly to avoid reinforcing biases or creating a superficial illusion of inclusivity.

With legislation still catching up to technological change, compliance is complex but essential.

Companies must clarify image rights, intellectual property usage, and establish ethical frameworks to avoid backlash.

Strategic Opportunities and Responsibilities



Despite the challenges, the strategic potential of digital clones in fashion marketing is undeniable.

These tools enable brands to:

- Represent a wider range of body types, ethnicities, and styles.
- Personalize online shopping experiences and recommend products based on consumer preferences.
- Simulate and test campaigns before investing in full-scale production.

To succeed ethically, brands must:

- Be transparent: Clearly disclose when digital avatars are used in advertising.
- Ensure diversity: Represent real-world demographics genuinely, not as token

gestures.

- Obtain clear consent: Secure legal permissions for the use of any individual's likeness.
- Support human creativity: Use AI to complement, not replace, the human element in fashion.

Conclusion

As AI continues to transform fast fashion, digital clones and virtual influencers offer both promise and pitfalls.

Brands embracing these innovations must balance efficiency and creativity with transparency and accountability.

When guided by clear ethical principles and inclusive design, digital avatars can drive innovation while honoring the values that matter most to today's fashion consumers.



HOMETEX 2025 Set to Elevate Global Home Textile Industry in Istanbul

HOMETEX, one of the world's leading home textile exhibitions, is gearing up for a landmark edition in 2025.

Organized by the Turkish Home Textile Industrialists and Businessmen Association (TETSİAD) and KFA Fair Organization, the event will take place from May 20–23, 2025, at the Istanbul Expo Center.



Spanning 11 halls across 200,000 square meters, HOMETEX 2025 will feature nearly 700 projects, including top Turkish brands and global exhibitors from multiple continents showcasing their latest collections and innovations.

The fair has already reached full capacity—demonstrating the strong international trust and reputation it has built.

Following its success in attracting over 175,000 professional visitors last year, HOMETEX is targeting even higher participation in 2025.

Buyers from major global retail chains, hotel groups, architects, designers, and industry professionals are expected to attend.

Delegations from countries including the U.S., France, It-

aly, Spain, Pakistan, and the Turkic Republics will explore new partnerships and export opportunities.

The fair will also feature HOMETEX Dialogues, a forum where designers, academics, and sector experts will discuss sustainability, technology, and the future of home textile design.

Additionally, the HOMETEX Trends zone will spotlight 2026–2027 trends under the theme “Beyond Borders,” featuring immersive Design Hubs and thematic exhibitions.

Among the standout installations will be “Anatolian Motifs:

Interactive Digital Art Experience,” blending AI and cultural heritage in a unique digital showcase.

Driven by KFA Fair Organization's proven expertise, HOMETEX 2025 is expected to further strengthen Türkiye's role as a global leader in textile production and innovation—setting the stage for new collaborations and industry breakthroughs.

Premier Bangladesh Fashion Manufacturer, Cotton Club (BD) Boosts its Annual Turnover by 250,000 USD with Coats Digital's GSDCost

By establishing accurate Standard-Minute-Values, GSDCost has enabled Cotton Club (bd) to improve its costing accuracy by 90%; increase production efficiency by 3%; reduce material wastage by 4% and increase its OTDP by 7%



Coats Digital is delighted to announce that one of Bangladesh's leading garment manufacturers Cotton Club (bd) Ltd., has reduced the time it takes to produce its core styles by 25.6%, resulting in a productivity increase of 5% since its adoption of GSDCost in August 2021.

The company has subsequently increased its profit margins by a staggering 0.45 million USD annually as a result of a 90 percent increase in costing accuracy; a reduction in material wastage of 10 percent; a decrease in unnecessary overtime costs of 8 percent and an increase in on-time delivery performance (OTDP) of 7 percent.

The company has also been able to confidently take on more varied and complex, new order requests since the GSDCost implementation, whilst significantly enhancing customer loyalty at the same time.

Founded in 2006, Cotton Club (BD) Ltd. is a premier composite garment manufacturer in Bangladesh, dedicated to delivering innovative, high-quality garments worldwide.

The company operates a vertically integrated operation which includes all knitting, dyeing, cutting, printing, embroidery, and sewing & finishing processes.

Cotton Club (bd) consists of four companies, including Cotton Clout (BD) Ltd., Tropical Knitex Ltd., and Cotton Clothing (BD) Ltd., which specialises in knitted items for all ages and underwear production.

The company employs a 15,000 strong workforce, operates 6,800 sewing ma-

chines ,boosts an annual turnover of 268 million USD and is targeted to reach 300 million this fiscal year.

Its customers include: Kiabi, Inditex Brands , Primark, Kontoor Brands, Kohls, Target USA, Ernsting Family, Bon Prix, Being Human and Forever 21, among many others.

In 2023, Cotton Club (BD) expanded its operations with a state-of-the-art seamless garment manufacturing facility in Gazipur, Bangladesh, to ensure stringent, quality control measures are applied at every stage of the manufacturing process to meet the highest possible standards.

The 260,800 square feet manufacturing facility is consequently equipped with advanced technology, ensuring that it consistently meets the latest industry and environmental demands.

As a result, it has achieved the following certificates and accreditations: BSCI, WRAP, SEDEX, SCAN, ICS, Better work, GOTS & OCS, GRS & RCS, European Flax, and is ISO 14001:2015, COC, LEED (Gold) Certified.



Before adopting GSDCost, Cotton Club (bd) Ltd. relied on outdated historical data spread across multiple Excel spreadsheets for cost and capacity forecasting.

These manual processes made it difficult to update information in real time across costing, capacity planning, and manufacturing teams, leading to inefficiencies and costly errors.

Without accurate Standard Minute Values (SMVs) to determine Cost to Make (CM) production times, the company struggled with poor costing visibility and unreliable capacity planning.

This often resulted in last-minute realisations that production floor capacity was insufficient, leading to missed delivery deadlines, increased overhead costs, and customer dissatisfaction.

At the same time, the lack of accurate data caused Cotton Club to turn down new business opportunities, mistakenly believing it lacked the resources to fulfil them—when, in reality, it had the capacity to take on more orders.

These challenges created significant workflow disruptions, making it difficult to manage short lead-time orders and maintain a smooth, efficient supply chain.

Md. Zubayer Mondol, Director & Owner, Cotton Club (bd) Ltd. said: "Running a factory without accurate costing and capacity data is like flying blind.

Before GSDCost, we relied on outdated spreadsheets that gave us no real-time visibility.

We were making big decisions based on guesswork, which sometimes meant we turned away orders we could have handled or, worse, over-committed and had to scramble to meet deadlines.

This led to costly overtime, missed delivery dates, and frustrated customers. It was a constant struggle to balance efficiency with profitability."

Since adopting GSDCost, Cotton Club (bd) has seen significant improvements across its whole operation.

By successfully establishing international standard time benchmarks based on standard motion codes and predetermined times, the sales, costing, planning and manufacturing teams at Cotton Club have been able to communicate seamlessly using the same language, based on a scientific method for correctly analysing manufacturing costs.



Md. Zubayer Mondol, Director & Owner, Cotton Club (bd) Ltd said: " Coats Digital's GSDCost Software has significantly improved the accuracy of our work measurement, ensuring that we can track projects with precision.

Its features have streamlined our workflows, making operations more efficient. As a result, we've seen better cost control."

Coats Digital's GSD Cost method analysis and pre-determined times solution is widely acknowledged as the de-facto international standard across the sewn products industry.

The solution supports a more collaborative, transparent and sustainable supply chain, in which brands and manufacturers establish and optimise 'International Standard Time Benchmarks' using standard motion codes and predetermined times.

This use of a common language and standards supports accurate cost prediction, fact-based negotiation, and a more efficient garment manufacturing process, while concurrently delivering on CSR commitments.

Golam Mahbub Sikder, Customer Success Manager, Coats Digital said: “We are absolutely thrilled to see Cotton Club achieve such outstanding results with GSDCost. The company’s remarkable improvements in efficiency, cost accuracy, and profitability highlight the vital role of scientifically backed, data-driven solutions in today’s fashion industry.



With growing pressure to produce complex styles faster while maintaining competitive pricing, manufacturers must embrace digital transformation to stay ahead. Cotton Club has done exactly that—enhancing capacity planning, streamlining costing, and boosting production efficiencies to become a more agile, competitive, and future-ready business.

We are proud to be playing such an important role in Cotton Club (bd)’s digital transformation journey and look forward to supporting its continued success.”

Key Benefits and ROI for Cotton Club (bd) Ltd.

- Costing accuracy increased by 90%
- Core style Improvement of SMVs of 25.6%
- Increased productivity by 5%
- Reduction in overtime costs of 8%
- Reduction in material waste of 10%
- Increase in OTDP by 7%
- Annual profit increase of 0.25 million USD
- Improved profit margin at product costing
- Enhanced communication between management and team members
- Increased team members’ earning capacity with realistic productivity bonus system
- Ability to deal with complex orders
- Fact-based stable manufacturing costs



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Eco-Fashion on the Rise: Can Supply Chains Keep Pace?

Demand for sustainable fashion is at an all-time high, driven by growing consumer awareness and a new wave of conscious shoppers seeking brands that prioritise ethical production and circular fashion practices.

The latest figures show that the local green fashion – or slow fashion – market is currently valued at \$1.98 billion, with a projected growth rate of around 7% projected by 2028.

“However, this figure is most likely underrepresented given that a lot of retail exchange takes place through small businesses and is also linked to thrifting and upcycling,” says Julie Holt, Global Exhibitions Director at Global Sourcing Expo which takes place at the ICC Sydney from 17 – 19 June.

Anaita Sarkar, Co-Founder and CEO of Hero Packaging and speaker at the Global Sourcing Expo underscores a clear shift from sustainable items being viewed as a luxury to a key differentiator, adding: “ Additionally, a PwC survey revealed that consumers are willing to spend an average of 9.7% more on sustainably produced or sourced goods, even amidst economic concerns.

Interestingly, in challenging economic times, consumers gravitate toward brands that align with their values.”

However, a projected growth rate of 7% shows that there is still a lot of work to do in this space.

“To grow beyond this, sustainable fashion needs to become more accessible and affordable, and herein lies a key hurdle for brands trying to compete with cheaper, fast fashion brands,” says Holt.

Let's Talk DPPs

Holt shares that there is mounting pressure on ethical brands to lead the charge in consumer education, accessibility and transparent practices.

Digital Product Passports (DPPs) is one such way that brands will be held accountable, and while there is no set roll out date for Australia, Holt does believe that it is coming.

“Implementation of DPPs in Europe is set for 2030 with many local brands currently taking stock of their supply chain, from the first thread to the finished product and packaging.”

DPPs are essential for tracing a product's composition, lifecycle and sustainability.

“With a unique identifier like a QR code, it ensures transparency and supports circular economy goals through high-quality, accessible data.

However, the traceability process cannot be underestimated, and more conversations need to be had around it.”

Sustainability and Product Packaging

At the very end of the product cycle lies the packaging process – another key differentiator for brands and a vital component for both ethical and consumer reasons.

Sarkar echoes this sentiment, saying: “According to Trivium Packaging's Buying Green Report, 82% of consumers across age groups are willing to pay more for products with sustainable packaging, marking an increase from previous years.”

However, Robert Lockyer, Founder & Chief Client Officer of Delta Global and speaker at the upcoming Global Sourcing Expo believes that while Australia is uniquely positioned to lead the global shift towards sustainable packaging, limited access to sustainable materials, cost pressures and supply chain complexities are some of the key stumbling blocks faced.

“There's a significant opportunity for Australian brands to lead by example – particularly in showcasing how luxury and sustainability are not mutually exclusive,” says Lockyer.



“Investing in packaging that is not only recyclable or reusable but also beautifully designed and responsibly sourced creates a competitive edge, builds consumer trust and contributes to long-term brand equity.”

He adds that to move toward truly sustainable packaging, brands must rethink the entire lifecycle—from sourcing recyclable materials to designing for reuse without compromising quality. “Mono-material packaging plays a key role in simplifying recycling, making it easier to process at the end of its life while maintaining a premium feel.”

Central to the success of sustainable packaging is consumer education. “Digital touchpoints like QR codes can guide consumers in reusing or recycling packaging, while also enhancing traceability and streamlining returns,” he adds.

Growing Sustainably

Sarkar shares a few top tips for brands looking to grow under a sustainable banner as follows:

1. Adopt Social Listening:

“Treat customer feedback on social media and reviews as a live focus group.

Use these real-time insights to guide meaningful product and sustainability decisions.”

2. Strive for Continuous Innovation:

“View every product launch as a chance to improve—invest in better materials, smarter logistics and sustainable processes to reduce environmental impact.”

3. Nurture Purpose-Driven Partnerships:

Collaborate with artists, charities and like-minded brands to stay creative, community-focused and culturally relevant while expanding your impact.

Looking ahead, Holt is excited about future prospects for the slow fashion sector.

“This is an opportune time to capitalise on demand however a brand is only as good as its supply chain.

We like to think of the Global Sourcing Expo as a platform where manufacturers from

around the world can come together to collaborate and connect ensuring a more resilient, more transparent supply chain,” she says. “Growth in this space can only take place when we lean on our suppliers and build mutual trust.”

Global Sourcing Expo kicks off its 2025 portfolio in Sydney from 17 – 19 June 2025.



AFRI CONVERSE 2025 to Celebrate African Textiles at Osaka Expo with Fashion Shows and Dialogue

The 22nd edition of AFRI CONVERSE, a collaborative initiative by UNDP and JICA, will take center stage at Expo 2025 Osaka under the theme “Interwoven Cultures: Exploring the Power of African Textiles.”



Scheduled for May 25—also observed as Africa Day—the event is part of the “Celebrate Africa 2025” program and aims to highlight the cultural, historical, and economic significance of African textiles through fashion and open dialogue.

The immersive program will feature interactive sessions and fashion shows, showcasing iconic fabrics such as Ghana’s Kente, Mali’s Bogolanfini, and Nigeria’s Adire, which are celebrated as “talking textiles” for their rich symbolism and heritage.

Highlights:

. Fashion Shows:

Fabric in Motion (Kimono × African Textiles) by ODASHO – WAFRICA

Fabric with NexGen (Harajuku Culture × African Textiles) by Melanger Etranger

. Talk Sessions:

Textiles as First Step into Africa

Fashion as a Force for Social Change

. Notable Speakers & Moderators:

Naoki Ando (JICA), Anieheobi Frances Chinwe (Nigeria’s Ministry of Planning), Mika Shimojo (ODASHO), Yuka Kobayashi (Melanger Etranger), among others.

This hybrid event—held both on-site at Festival Station, Expo 2025 Osaka, and online—underscores the visions of TICAD9 and Expo 2025 to promote cultural dialogue, sustainability, and youth-driven innovation.

It reflects Japan and Africa’s shared commitment to co-creation and cultural exchange, especially in textiles.

Event Details:

- May 25, 2025
- 13:40–15:10 JST
- Festival Station, Expo 2025 Osaka

Admission is free (on-site attendees must hold an Expo 2025 ticket). The event will offer simultaneous interpretation in English, French, and Japanese.

Join this vibrant celebration where fabric tells stories and bridges cultures—weaving a shared future for Japan and Africa.



Turkey's Apparel Export Sector Faces Decline: İHKİB Proposes Four Solutions for Recovery

As Turkey prepares to host the 28th Eurasian Economic Summit under the theme “Dialogue for a Livable World,” Mustafa Paşahan, Vice Chairman of the Istanbul Ready-to-Wear and Apparel Exporters’ Association (İHKİB), addressed the challenges confronting the Turkish apparel industry and outlined a strategic action plan for recovery.

Speaking during the summit’s promotional event, Paşahan emphasized the strategic importance of Turkey’s fashion and textile sector, noting that the country ranks as the world’s sixth-largest apparel exporter and the European Union’s third-largest supplier.

However, he warned that surging production costs and unfavorable exchange rates have significantly eroded the industry’s global competitiveness.

“Today, Turkey’s production costs are 50–60% higher than countries such as Vietnam, Bangladesh, and India.

Disturbingly, we are even more expensive than many European countries,” Paşahan stated.

Turkey’s ready-to-wear exports, which peaked at \$21.2 billion in 2022, declined to \$17.9 billion in 2024.

The contraction has continued into the first quarter of 2025, while apparel imports neared \$4 billion, dealing a blow to local production and employment.

The sector’s workforce has shrunk from over

738,000 employees at the end of 2022 to fewer than 564,000 in January 2025.

In response to this alarming trend, İHKİB has proposed a four-point plan to revitalize the sector:

- Restoring balance between input costs and exchange rates to regain international competitiveness.
- Expanding access to the Employment Protection Support Program for all firms without discrimination.
- Increasing the social security premium discount from 5% to 10% for two years in labor-intensive sectors.
- Providing low-interest loans below 20%, with a two-year grace period for

labor-intensive industries.

With the implementation of these four measures, we can rapidly restore momentum in our apparel exports," Paşahan concluded.

Meanwhile, the 28th Eurasian Economic Summit, organized by the Marmara Group Foundation, has confirmed participation from 44 countries, including China, Taiwan, Russia, and Ukraine.

However, Austria, Italy, Germany, and France have reportedly withdrawn from the summit, citing recent political developments in Turkey.

Despite these challenges, the Turkish apparel sector remains committed to adapting and thriving in an increasingly competitive global marketplace.



ITCPE 2025: Two Decades of Innovation in Textile and Printing

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2025, the International Textile, Clothing, Printing & Embroidery Industry Expo (ITCPE) has grown into one of Asia's most influential platforms for the textile and apparel sectors.

In this exclusive interview, the organizers reflect on two decades of progress—from a regional show to a 60,000-square-meter global event featuring over 1,000 exhibitors and 60,000 professional visitors.

With a renewed focus on digital printing, intelligent manufacturing, and sustainable innovation, ITCPE 2025 promises cutting-edge technologies, strategic partnerships, and a powerful roadmap for industry transformation.

This dialogue offers a deep dive into the expo's vision, evolution, and global impact.

1. ITCPE is celebrating its 20th edition in 2025. How



has the exhibition evolved over the past two decades in terms of size, focus, and international influence?

Scale Expansion: Starting from a small regional exhibition in the first session, it has developed into an international platform covering an area of 60,000 square meters, attracting over 1,000 exhibitors from around the world and more than 60,000 professional visitors.

It has become one of the large-scale exhibitions in the field of textile, garment and printing in Asia.

Field Focus: In the early days, the exhibition mainly featured traditional print-

ing equipment, fabrics and accessories.

Gradually, it has expanded to high-value-added fields such as digital printing, intelligent sewing, embroidery, dyeing and finishing, and environmentally friendly materials.

It has also deeply integrated cutting-edge technologies such as intelligent manufacturing and green production.

International Influence: It has leaped from a regional exhibition to an important vane in the global textile industry, attracting international exhibitors and buyers from regions such as Europe, America, Southeast

Asia and the Middle East, and has become an important hub for global supply chain cooperation.

2. What makes ITCPE stand out compared to other textile and printing exhibitions in China and globally?

Technology-driven:

Focusing on subdivided fields such as digital printing and intelligent manufacturing, bringing together high-quality equipment suppliers globally (such as MI-MAKI and KORNIT DIGITAL) and technical solutions to drive the technological iteration of the industry.

Full industrial chain coverage:

From fabrics and accessories to finished garments and equipment, covering the entire process of textile and garment manufacturing, providing one-stop solutions to help enterprises reduce costs and increase efficiency.

International cooperation network:

Cooperating with institutions such as WTIN (World Textile Information Network), hold-

ing global forums (such as the World Textile Digital Printing Conference), and establishing a platform for cross-border technical exchanges and trade.

Regional industrial linkage:

Relying on the advantages of the textile industry cluster in Guangzhou and the Pearl River Delta, promoting collaborative innovation among upstream and downstream enterprises and forming an ecological system with in-depth integration of “exhibition, production and research”.

3. With over 800 exhibitors and tens of thousands of visitors every year, what new experi-

ences or features can participants expect at the 2025 edition?

Display of Cutting-edge Technologies:

1. Digital Printing Equipment:

The globally premier “SDouble One-step Double-sided Digital Printing Technology” enables precise alignment of patterns on both sides, enhancing production efficiency and quality.

2. Intelligent Sewing and Automation:

Enterprises like Tajima and Dahao Technology showcase AI-driven embroidery machines and intelligent template machines, promoting unmanned production processes.



3. Environmentally Friendly Materials and Processes: Keduo displays degradable printing materials, and Ruien Chemical Industry introduces low-energy-consumption dyeing technology, facilitating enterprises' green transformation.

High-end Forums and Trend Insights:

1. Guangzhou Summit of the World Textile Digital Printing Conference: Focusing on topics such as AI color separation and flexible supply chains, it explores how digital printing empowers fast fashion and personalized customization.

2. Guangdong Province High-quality Development Conference for the Denim Industry: Cultivating and strengthening the new productive forces of traditional industries, accelerating innovation-driven development and the integration of "Artificial Intelligence +", and promoting the high-quality development of the textile and garment industry.

Precise Matching and Business Cooperation:

1. International Buyer Matching Meeting: In response to the market demands of Europe, America, and Southeast Asia, one-on-one procurement negotiations are organized to help enterprises expand overseas markets.

2. Industrial Matching Meeting: E-commerce platforms and clothing brands are invited to participate, promoting the transformation of exhibits into commodities.

4. How is ITCPE 2025 addressing the growing importance of digitalization, sustainability, and smart manufacturing in the textile and garment sectors?

Digitalization:

1. AI and Big Data: Showcase AI-driven pattern design and intelligent production scheduling systems to shorten the product development cycle.

2. Industrial Internet: Promote the Internet of Things platform for textile and garment equipment to achieve remote operation and maintenance and energy consumption optimization.





Greening:

1. Environmentally Friendly Materials: Launch low-carbon products such as water-based inks and bio-based fabrics to reduce pollution emissions.

2. Circular Economy: Display the technology of recycling and remanufacturing of used clothing to promote the recycling of resources.

Intelligent Manufacturing:

1. Unmanned Factory: Demonstrate the fully automated production line from fabric to finished garments to improve production efficiency.

2. Flexible Supply Chain: Through the digital collaboration platform, achieve quick response to small orders and large-scale customization.

5. Can you share more details about how the “World Textile Digital Printing Conference” will contribute to advancing innovation and green development in the industry?

It will promote the innovative and green development of the textile digital printing industry in terms of technological breakthroughs, cross-border cooperation, and the construction of an industrial ecosys-

tem. For example:

1. Focus on the latest progress in digital printing technology and showcase breakthrough technological achievements such as high-speed digital printing equipment and new environmentally friendly inks.

2. Invite numerous industry experts to give themed presentations. At the summit, they will share the research results of the cross-border integration of nanomaterials and digital printing, promoting close cooperation between the academic and industrial sectors and accelerating the transformation of technological achievements.

3. The summit brings together upstream and downstream enterprises in the industrial chain, including equipment suppliers, material suppliers, and brand owners, to promote the digital and intelligent upgrading of the entire process from fabrics to finished garments.

It jointly explores new models such as production on demand and personalized customization, combines AI prediction with digital printing technology, and achieves a “zero inventory” supply chain to meet the diversified needs of the market.

4. The summit collaborates with international institutions such as WTIN, attracts enterprises from regions such as Europe, America, and Southeast Asia to participate, and promotes global technical exchanges and trade cooperation.

At the same time, relying on the advantages of the textile industry clusters in Guangzhou and the Pearl River Delta, it integrates resources such as equipment, materials, and design to form an industrial ecosystem with in-depth integration of “exhibition, production, and research”.

6. How does ITCPE help international buyers and suppliers build lasting partnerships with Chinese textile and garment companies?

1. Precise Matching of Demands: Analyze the procurement preferences of international buyers through big data and push the lists of suppliers that meet the demands.

2. Customized Services: Provide one-stop services such as translation, logis-

tics, and legal consultation for international exhibitors to reduce the exhibition participation costs.

3. Long-term Tracking and Support: Continuously conduct matchmaking through the online platform after the exhibition and assist enterprises in solving problems related to technology, trade, financing, etc.

4. Regional Cooperation Network: Cooperate with textile associations in Southeast Asia and the Middle East, organize inspection delegations, and promote cross-border capacity cooperation.

7. Digital printing is a key theme this year. What major breakthroughs or new solutions do you expect will be showcased at the exhibition and the conference?

1. High-precision nozzles: The single color domain covers more than 1,000 colors, meeting the needs of high-end design.

2. Multi-functional all-in-one machine: Integrates the functions of printing, drying and color fixation, reducing processes and energy consumption.

3. Elastic ink: Suitable for sports fabrics, and the pattern will not deform after stretching.

4. Luminous/temperature-changing ink: Develop functional printing materials to increase the added value of products.

5. AI color separation system: Automatically identifies the colors of patterns, optimizes the usage of ink, and reduces costs.





6. Cloud design platform: Designers can collaborate remotely, modify patterns in real time and issue production instructions.

8. What is your vision for ITCPE over the next 5-10 years, especially considering the rapid technological transformations happening in the textile and printing industries?

It is earnestly hoped that both the scale and scope of the Guangzhou Textile Expo can be expanded. Specifically, the number of exhibition halls should be increased from the current four to six, with a total area exceeding 100,000 square meters.

The exhibited commodities should cover the entire industrial chain of the textile industry, ranging from raw materials to finished garments.

Furthermore, it is anticipated that the expo can effectively accelerate the intelligent transformation of small and medium-sized textile

and garment enterprises, thereby significantly enhancing the global competitiveness of China's textile and garment industry.

In addition, it is sincerely desired that sub-venues be established in Southeast Asia and Africa. Through these sub-venues, it is expected to vigorously promote technology transfer and capacity cooperation.

9. What key message would you like visitors and exhibitors to take away from ITCPE 2025?

1. Understand the latest breakthroughs in digital printing, intelligent manufacturing, and green materials, and promote the technological upgrading of enterprises.
2. Grasp market trends such as fast fashion, personalized customization, and the circular economy, and optimize product strategies.
3. Connect with global buyers and supply chain resources, expand order channels, and enhance brand influence.
4. Learn the experience of carbon footprint management and the construction of green supply chains, and fulfill corporate social responsibilities.



INVITATION



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A.Celli and Ahlstrom Strengthen Partnership with New Nonwoven Rewinder for Scotland Facility

A.Celli and **Ahlstrom** have renewed their long-standing partnership through a new contract for the supply of an advanced nonwoven rewinder for Ahlstrom's production site in Chirnside, Scotland.

The order includes a customized A.Celli E-WIND® RAPID rewinder designed to process 11–40 gsm wetlaid reels with a maximum width of 3600 mm at a design speed of 850 m/min.

The system will support the production of filters for the food and beverage industry and features an integrated shaft and reel handling solution.

In addition to the rewinder, the agreement includes dedicated maintenance and spare parts contracts, ensuring maximum equipment availability and operational efficiency.

"This is not the first time we have partnered with A.Celli, and we've always reached great results together," said Stuart Nixon, Head of Projects and Managing Director at Ahlstrom Chirnside.

"We appreciate the company's dedication in delivering machinery tailored to our production needs and look forward to continuing our partnership."

This latest collaboration underscores A.Celli's continued role as a trusted technology partner to leading nonwovens producers worldwide.



Sustainable Luxury and Biancalani's Commitment to the Terry Towel of the Future

From eco-bleaching to energy-efficient drying, discover the technologies behind the probably softest, most environmentally friendly towels in the world.

Cotton terry fabric has long been the most significant segment in the home textile sector. Over the years, it has evolved from a simple functional necessity to a design element and a source of domestic comfort.

Portugal, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Vietnam, Egypt, China, and Brazil – the world's major terry producers – have all chosen Biancalani textile machinery.

Why? The answer is simple: Biancalani offers the solutions these companies are looking for, guaranteeing minimal production costs and reduced environmental impact.

The comfort and furnishing of one's home are fundamental elements on which people increasingly invest, re-discovering the simple pleasures of domestic life.

Bathrooms are not just "toilets" but genuine wellness spaces furnished with the same care as an elegant living room.

This perception of everyday luxury has significantly increased the demand for terry towels, which are not only useful but also represent important style elements.

Traditionally, the processing of cotton terry fabric begins with preparation (for example, to remove sizing agents),

continues with bleaching, necessary to prepare the fabric for the dyeing phase, followed by a washing process after dyeing, before moving on to the actual drying and finishing treatment in a tumbler, where the terry fabric transforms into that magnificent work of art that enriches our eyes by beautifying our homes, and pampers us daily with infinite softness.

But all of this comes at a price, which we have always been paying with a gigantic environmental debt:

water. To produce a single towel, current processes require up to 5,000 liters of water.

Of these, a good portion is used in cotton cultiva-

tion, but a non-negligible amount is employed in traditional preparation and finishing processes. To these environmental costs must be added those related to energy and chemical products, which are also quite significant.

Biancalani's solutions for sustainable Terry Fabric treatment

The true revolution in the sector begins with the introduction of AQUARIA®, Biancalani's continuous open-width washing system, which brings the concept of sustainability to levels never reached before, allowing necessary treatments to be performed on the fabric before and after dyeing in a completely sustainable and economically competitive manner.

After washing, the revolution continues with the use of AIRO®24, the open-width dryer that has completely redefined the concept of tumble drying, introducing an innovative drying system capable of considerably increasing terry quality while simultaneously reducing energy consumption and chemical products.

Eco-bleaching in AQUARIA®: The ecological breakthrough

The process called eco-bleaching represents a turning point in the preparation and bleaching of terry fabric to make it suitable for dyeing.

Using the unique combination of mechanical action and total water recycling (Zero Water), this innovative, totally sustainable process allows:

- Drastic reduction of water consumption (up to 90% compared to traditional systems)
- Almost complete elimination of the use of chemicals



that may be harmful to the environment, using only eco-compatible substances

- Ensuring homogeneous absorption characteristics and a perfectly intact fabric structure with total uniformity and superior quality.

AQUARIA® and post-dyeing washing: water conservation

Even in the washing phase after dyeing, AQUARIA® demonstrates once again – through its water efficiency – its superiority compared to traditional systems.

The post-dyeing washing process in AQUARIA® guarantees:

- Water consumption reduced by up to 70%
- Optimal color stability
- Total safety of the treatment, which is performed completely in open width

This combination of efficiency and safety ensures a great reduction in environmental impact and production costs, giving the terry fabric the best quality characteristics, and – thanks to the me-

chanical action that AQUARIA® applies during washing – an increase in softness, which will find its apotheosis in the subsequent drying in AIRO®24.

Drying and tumbling in AIRO®24: the winning hand

Terry fabric dried with Biancalani's AIRO®24 stands out for its velvet-like appearance, with perfectly vertical loops and without residual tensions, for a soft and gentle hand and an incredible volume that persists even after washing.

And let's not forget sustainability: thanks to Research & Development – just take a look at Biancalani's T-Clab to get a complete idea of what we're talking about – and to more than 1,700 machines sold based on the AIRO® principle, Biancalani guarantees energy efficiency and respect for the environment.

The mechanical action of AIRO®24 ensures the formidable characteristics of hand, softness, and volume of terry fabrics using few or no chemical products, and thanks to its high efficiency also from a thermal point of view, with energy consumption reduced to a minimum.





Furthermore, the modularity and scalability of AIRO®24 reign unmatched, thanks to the availability of auxiliary machines such as the high-efficiency pre-dryer AIRBOX, which allows production capacity to be increased in a granular manner, or versions such as AIRO®24 DUETTO, which offers double production volumes in the same space as a single machine.

Touching the soul with softness: the true value of sustainable Terry Towels

Biancalani has always offered green solutions, working side by side with those who are committed to a more sustainable future.

Thanks to this type of synergy, end customers are increasingly informed and

aware and can make a difference, choosing terry towels produced with respect for the environment, processed with eco-friendly processes and with minimal use of chemicals.

Those who buy a towel demand a style offering to decorate their home, comfort to dry their body with softness, safety to tenderly wrap their children after bath time, and commitment to the future so that both these children and their children one day can continue to enjoy the pleasure of pampering and being pampered with the fluffiness of a soft and absorbent terry.

Those who produce the towels, for their part, demand versatile, high-efficiency solutions with low production costs, an atten-

tive and ever-present assistance and consulting service, and a relationship of trust based on shared values that are stable over time.

And the answer is simple: Biancalani. The only partner that combines tradition, innovation, and sustainability to provide effective, efficient, and ethically conscious solutions.

Because where there's terry, there is Biancalani!

Biancalani committed to low-impact textile machinery:

- Clima Certified continuous tumble dryer in open-width AIRO®24
- Clima Certified open-width continuous washing range AQUARIA®





Egypt Launches Two Massive Textile Cities in Minya and Fayoum Spanning 11 Million sqm

In a bold move to revitalize Upper Egypt's industrial landscape and boost textile exports, the Egyptian government has announced the establishment of two integrated textile cities in Minya and Fayoum, each spanning 5.5 million square meters.

Together, the developments are expected to attract \$3.5 billion in investment and generate around 400,000 direct and indirect jobs.

The announcement was made by Deputy Prime Minister for Industrial Development and Minister of Industry and Transport, Kamel Al-Wazir, during a national press

conference outlining Egypt's strategic plan to strengthen its textile and apparel sector.

Driving Growth and Industrial Expansion

Al-Wazir emphasized that the initiative is part of Egypt's broader plan to raise textile and garment exports from \$2.8 billion to \$11.5 billion within five years.

"Industry is one of the main sources of strength for any economy," he stated, highlighting plans to raise industry's contribution to GDP from 14% to over 20%.

Both cities will be developed through a public-private partnership model under the industrial developer system. Private developers will oversee planning, infrastructure development, operation, and international marketing of the industrial zones.

Minya: A Textile Renaissance in Upper Egypt

The Minya textile city, located in Wadi El-Saririya, is positioned to rekindle the governorate's historic role in

textile manufacturing.

With EGP12 billion in planned investments, the project is forecast to draw \$1.5 billion in local and foreign capital and create approximately 250,000 job opportunities.

Strategically located near key transport corridors—including the Upper Egypt Free Road and multiple Red Sea ports—the Minya city is designed to facilitate efficient supply chain and export operations, benefiting nearly one million local residents.

Fayoum: A Central Textile Hub for Upper Egypt

The second textile city, in North Fayoum's industrial zone, will be developed with over EGP 15 billion in investments.

It will serve as a pivotal manufacturing and logistics center, supported by its proximity to the Giza/Fayoum Road, the regional ring road, and the high-speed electric train network.

The project aims to attract \$1.5 billion in investments and generate around 150,000 jobs. Located just 30 kilometers from the New October dry port, the city is expected to serve a regional market of nearly 50 million people across six governorates.

Integrated Value Chain and Sustainable Infrastructure

Minister Al-Wazir highlighted that both

cities will be fully integrated, encompassing the entire textile and apparel value chain—from spinning and weaving to dyeing, tailoring, and furniture manufacturing.

Complementary services such as logistics hubs, textile training schools, health clinics, R&D centers, and investor support offices will also be embedded in each city's infrastructure.

The government has pledged efficient administrative support, streamlined licensing procedures, and fast-track execution to ensure timely delivery and early production launch.

A Strategic Leap for Upper Egypt's Economy

This dual project marks a significant milestone in Egypt's efforts to decentralize industrial development, attract sustainable investment, and provide high-quality jobs outside the capital region.

With strong transport connectivity, skilled labor potential, and robust government support, Minya and Fayoum are set to become pillars of Egypt's textile industry and major contributors to national economic growth.

Nigeria Spends \$4 Billion Annually on Clothing Imports, Say Experts at CTG Stakeholder Meeting



Despite Nigeria's significant potential in cotton, textile, and garment (CTG) production, the country spends a staggering \$4 billion annually on clothing imports, according to industry experts speaking at a recent stakeholder engagement in Abuja.

The forum, hosted by the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment, brought together key CTG players under the theme "Co-Creating Solutions to Grow CTG Industry in Nigeria."

The event aimed to finalize a strategic roadmap to revive Nigeria's ailing textile sector and unlock its full economic potential.

Adenike Ogunhesi, President of the Garment and Accessories Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, emphasized the importance of prioritizing garment manufacturing as the starting point of the entire CTG value chain.

"Garments do not just close the loop; they create the loop," she said, calling for a paradigm shift that places garment production at the heart of Nigeria's industrial revival.

Ogunhesi highlighted that, despite interventions over the years, the industry remains fragmented and underperforming.

Drawing parallels with Bangladesh, which generates over \$43 billion annually from ready-made garment exports, she urged stakeholders to seize the opportunity to capture a share of the global market.

"If Nigeria captures just 10% of Bangladesh's export market, we could generate \$3.3 billion in exports and create over one million direct jobs," she stated.

Ogunhesi also emphasized the broader socio-economic benefits such a shift could bring, including empowerment of women and youth, stimulation of MSMEs, and revitalization of upstream sectors like cotton farming and textile weaving.



John Enoh, Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment, reaffirmed the government's commitment to promoting Made-in-Nigeria products.

He announced a national campaign to encourage the use of locally produced garments in public institutions, inspired by Ogun State's mandate requiring over 70,000 public servants to wear Nigerian-made clothes weekly.

However, Enoh acknowledged that promotion alone

isn't enough.

He cited the need to resolve infrastructure and financing challenges and pointed to the newly formed Industrial Revolution Work Group, tasked with assessing and supporting the revival of dormant textile facilities across the country.

"We must ask ourselves: do we prioritize cotton, textile, or garments? Garmenting stimulates the entire chain," he remarked, referencing success stories from countries like Bangladesh

and Kenya that began by building garment export capabilities.

To demonstrate personal commitment, Enoh pledged to exclusively use Nigerian-assembled vehicles once the campaign is launched, underscoring the importance of leading by example.

Also speaking at the event, Bala Mohammed, Director of Industrial Development at the Ministry, reflected on Nigeria's textile golden era, when over 180 mills employed half a million workers.

Today, the sector is a shadow of its former self, with fewer than 25 firms operating, most at below 20% capacity.

"The sector works. It works for everyone, and it works for Nigeria," Enoh concluded, calling for unified efforts, reduced fragmentation, and swift execution of strategic plans to restore Nigeria's CTG industry to its former glory.

Groz-Beckert Showcases Latest Spinning Innovations at Dhaka Seminar

Groz-Beckert, a global leader in textile machinery components, hosted a Spinning Components Product Seminar in Dhaka, drawing over 360 industry professionals.

The seminar served as a platform to present the company's latest product developments, notably the CMF (Maintenance-Free) cylinder wire and SmartTop™ magnetic tops, both engineered to enhance efficiency, minimize machine downtime, and elevate yarn quality.

Leadership and Focus on Innovation

The seminar was led by Gerrerd R. Taylor, Senior Sales Manager at Groz-Beckert, who emphasized the company's ongoing investment in research and development, as well as its dedication to customer-focused services.

Product Highlights and Technical Training



A key part of the event was the presentation of next-generation G Series flats, demonstrating improvements in durability and performance.

Additionally, Groz-Beckert highlighted its localized service capabilities in Bangladesh through its partner, Spintech Associates, and introduced attendees to the company's comprehensive training programs designed to support operational excellence.

Customer Feedback and Industry Commitment

Participants provided positive feedback, citing the reliability, cost-efficiency, and long-term value of Groz-Beckert's components.

The event reaffirmed the company's commitment to innovation, technical support, and sustainable development in Bangladesh's spinning industry.





Groz-Beckert is your everyday companion

Our precision tools serve the textile world. With the help of our around 70,000 products and comprehensive services that support the knitting, weaving, nonwovens, tufting, sewing and spinning industries, textiles are created that are indispensable for our daily life: from clothing or carpets to technical textiles for vehicles or the medical sector.

170 years after its founding, Groz-Beckert is based on the Swabian Alb and yet at home everywhere in the world. At our headquarters in Albstadt, we currently employ over 2,200 of our approximately 9,500 employees.

Sharing challenges and making progress together.

www.groz-beckert.com

GROZ-BECKERT



BTMA Highlights UK Advances in Composites & Fibres

In the build-up to this year's ITMA Asia + CITME exhibition, which takes place in Singapore from October 28-31, the British Textile Machinery Association (BTMA) reports that many of its members are increasingly involved in projects aimed at the further development of advanced technical textiles and reinforcements for composites.

As the association continues to expand its membership, newly-developed high performance fibres, technical textiles and composite materials are finding success through meeting the demand for them in high value industries such as aerospace, renewable energy, automotive and the medical sector.

"These are certainly areas of high

growth and opportunity and an important factor underpinning the success of our companies here is the strong collaboration between industry and the many universities and institutes in the UK," says BTMA CEO Jason Kent.

"There has never before been such a high level of close collaboration between companies, academia and research institutes in the UK as at present."

Advanced composites

Cygnat Textkimp, for example, is currently leading the design and build of the UK's first carbon fibre research lines for a project led by the National Composites Centre (NCC) in Bristol to accelerate the development of more sustainable carbon fibres.

The company has also been part of the £39.6 million Ascend advanced composites initia

which recently completed, involving 16 partners led by GKN Aerospace in collaboration with McLaren Automotive.

Prepregs

Cygnet is the world's largest independent manufacturer of machines for the production of prepregs – integrated rolls of fabrics and resins which are widely employed in the composites industry – in addition to a portfolio of related handling and converting machines.

“Decarbonisation is a major priority for manufacturers globally,” says Cygnet CEO Luke Vardy.

“We’re developing the capability to process technical fibres in ways that enable lightweighting, hydrogen power and electrification, reduce waste and revolutionise the end-of-life management of composite materials and parts.

In collaboration with our industry partners, we’re bringing to market some of the most innovative new fibre processing technologies ever developed to deliver real-world benefits that support the sustainability agenda.”

In addition, Cygnet is licensed to design and build the DEECOM composite recycling system developed by new BTMA member Longworth Sustainable Recycling Technologies, the first of which was recently commissioned by the Henry Royce Institute in Manchester.

DEECOM is a zero emission, low carbon pressolysis solution using pressure and steam to reclaim pristine condition fibres and resin polymers from production waste and end of life composites.

National Materials Innovation Strategy

At the start of 2025, the Henry Royce Institute announced its National Materials Innovation Strategy in the House of Commons, aimed at further boosting an integrated approach to materials science that can address critical national challenges and boost economic growth.

“UK decision makers are now looking to support machinery innovation and development where it is intrinsic to realising the vision of the government-backed strategy,” observes Jason Kent.

“The BTMA is playing an active role in representing the textile machinery sector within its various expert working groups.”

Prepregging

Another new BTMA member, Emerson & Renwick (E+R), a specialist in print, forming, vacuum and coating technologies, also supplies technology for the production of carbon fibre preregs.

Its most recent 1.7-metre-wide line supplied to a customer in Italy operates at speeds of 40+ metres per minute for web coatings or prepreg fibre and resin consolidation, or a combination of both processes.

It is distinguished by an ultra precise three-roll reverse roll coater for the processing of high viscosity thermo-activated resins and enables the automatic changeover of sensitive woven fabric materials at zero tension, with three high precision calendaring nips with hot/cool plates.

Multiple unwind and rewind systems for intermediate lamination steps include side loading and reliable lap splicing and zero speed splicing with a web accumulator for the main

product rewind.

E+R has also been part of a consortium working on the development of lithium-sulphur (Li-S) batteries within the £540 million UK Faraday Battery Challenge. Once commercially viable, Li-S batteries promise to provide relatively high energy density at low cost for sustainable electric vehicles of the future – inevitably starting with F1.

Filament intermingling

Resource efficiency in the processing of extremely expensive carbon and aramid fibres is a key benefit of the latest splicing technologies of Airbond.

Pneumatic yarn splicing is a process established in the textile industry for joining yarns and works by intermingling individual filaments closely together, to make joints which are stronger and flatter than knots.

The patented splicers in Airbond's latest range are 3D printed, making them both lighter and stronger than competing products, and they now enable the splicing of yarns in sizes of up to 16,000 tex – compared to the 1,200 tex most splicing machines can handle.

"We are continuing to find new partners in the wind turbine, hydrogen and aerospace industries and are doing a lot of developmental work with research institutes and universities," says technical director Carwyn Webb.

"This is leading to us expanding our portfolio and we are currently working on systems for carbon tape splicing, for example, as well as an automated system for full weaving beams."

Medical devices

Fibre Extrusion Technologies (FET) works closely in collaboration with its customers on the development of specific multifilament, monofilament and nonwoven polymers and fibres for niche applications – over 70 to date – and designs the bespoke fibre extrusion and spunbond and meltblown nonwoven systems to successfully produce them.

Following the opening of its expanded Fibre Development Centre at the start of 2023, with considerably enhanced facilities more than doubling capacity and increasing efficiency, FET has also significantly accelerated the number of technical trials it has conducted for clients.

One particularly successful area for the company has been in melt spinning systems for the production of precursor absorbable yarns that go into all kinds of implantable medical devices.

“We’ve built up a solid client base in this field, where regulations and validation are particularly important and establishing trusting and reliable partnerships is crucial,” says FET MD Richard Slack.

“We’re currently working on an exciting new parallel development we believe will be game changing for the medical devices industry, and we’ll be announcing full details prior to ITMA Asia in Singapore this October.”

Simple, fast and intuitive

Sophisticated systems for the testing of fibres and advanced materials are also the speciality of key BTMA members such as James Heal, which has established strong ties with major producers of technical textiles over many years and with its latest Performance Testing collection of instruments has put the emphasis on making testing simple, fast and intuitive.

The latest James Heal AirPro air permeability tester is used to test the resistance of the flow of air through woven, knitted or nonwoven textiles.

Its software offers flexibility with standards and comprehensive reporting options and different test head sizes are available, making it suitable for a range of applications and standards.

The HydroView hydrostatic head tester is meanwhile designed to measure the penetration of water in materials which have an end use that requires water resistance, such as those in the medical, geotextiles and nonwovens sectors.

It is also proving essential in the testing of end-use applications for technical textiles ranging from protective gloves, diving suits and winter sports apparel to fishing waders, roofing, tenting, ground sheets and more.

Water repellency is another important function of technical fabrics from a safety and comfort perspective and with the TruRain, James Heal has reduced the volume of wastewater and energy consumed in water repellency tests to a fraction of that of competing products.

Visual accuracy

Colour is the prime focus of VeriVide and its systems are widely employed by manufacturers of technical textiles for end-use applications including automotive, aerospace and other transport interior materials, seat belts, airbags, helmets and gloves, and even medical implants and prosthetics where colour accuracy remains important.

For non-contact colour measurement and digital imaging, VeriVide's established DigiEye system collects and processes data that can be communicated and shared instantly, enabling manufacturers, producers and processors to speed up quality control, sus-

tain product integrity and reduce waste.

DigiEye also enables the non-contact measurement of curved and textured parts and provides objective and accurate colour data.

Patterned fabric inspection

The precise detection of defects during the production of technical fabrics has recently been significantly advanced with the introduction of the latest WebSpector automated fabric inspection system by Shelton Vision.

Building on its market leading vision system for plain, single colour textiles, Shelton's patent-pending image processing techniques now recognise and adapt to complex patterns such as camouflage and even on fabrics with significant distortion and deformation.

Fabrics are not rigid and can be sheared or stretched while also being subject to local distortion, but the WebSpector system now successfully deals with such anomalies in real time to provide a reliable inspection process at the same levels as plain fabric.

The unique and advanced software techniques ensure a totally clean image, allowing the full detection of faults on fabrics running at high speeds.

While the automotive interiors and one-piece woven airbag sectors remain major destinations for this advanced technology, further finished fabric WebSpector systems are now currently being supplied to manufacturers of performance wear and high-end fashion, denim, outdoor upholstery, sunscreen, mattress ticking, window dressings and even carbon fibre composites.

From lab to line

What Shelton is doing for defects meanwhile, C-Text is also doing for inline colour variations, either from an approved standard or within a batch.

“What mills would typically do in the past is take a colour swatch from a fabric production run every 200 metres or so, and hope that it represents the entire run,” explains C-Text MD Rob Ricketts. “What we are doing is now taking a lab capability and putting it into production.”

Working with Shelton, C-Text has now combined fabric fault detection and colour variation as key quality components of batches.

“How people have used our technology before has been within departments and they have kept that quality control knowledge very close to their chests,” Ricketts says. “What’s happening now is this data is being seen across a full supply chain.

So when a fabric leaves the textile mill and is delivered to the garment, car seat or sofa maker, they know exactly what’s coming to them and if they can produce what they need from that batch, given the recognised defects and colour variations.

“This visibility is a big breakthrough.

It already happens a lot more freely in the automotive industry, for example, but now it’s coming to technical textiles supply chains too.”

Towards ITMA Singapore

“Many BTMA members are currently developing new technologies, either in-house or increasingly through joint projects, and there will be much to reveal by the time of ITMA Asia in Singapore this October,” says Jason Kent in conclusion.

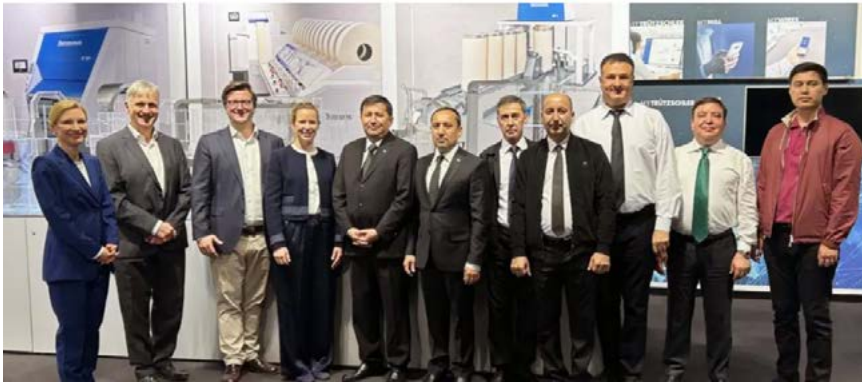
“There’s a new spirit of openness and adventurous interaction in the UK right now – especially in the fields of technical textiles – which I find very encouraging.”

Founded in 1940, the British Textile Machinery Association actively promotes British textile machinery manufacturers and their products to the world.

The non-profit organisation acts as a bridge between its members and the increasingly diverse industries within the textile manufacturing sector.

Trützschler Welcomes Delegation from Turkmen Ministry of Textiles to Headquarters in Germany

Trützschler Group, a global leader in textile machinery and innovation, recently had the honor of hosting a high-level delegation from the Ministry of Textiles of Turkmenistan, led by Minister Nurmuhamet Orazgeldiyev, at its headquarters in Mönchengladbach.



The visit marked a significant step in strengthening the growing partnership between Trützschler and Turkmenistan's dynamic textile sector.

The delegation's objective was to gain deeper insights into the production processes and technological capabilities of key suppliers supporting the Turkmen textile industry.

The delegation was warmly received by Charlotte Fontaine and Florian Schürenkrämer, both Shareholders and Members of the Supervisory Board.

Dr. Bettina Temath, Head of Global Marketing, provided an overview of Trützschler's global operations, highlighting the company's commitment to innovation, sustainability, and customer-centric solutions across all markets.

A lively and insightful technical discussion followed,

during which both parties exchanged knowledge on industry trends, production efficiency, and future collaboration opportunities.

The visit concluded with a guided tour of Trützschler's technical center and production facilities, led by Gerold Gonska, Regional Sales Manager.

"We are proud to support the development of Turkmenistan's textile sector and are pleased to showcase our advanced technologies and expertise," said Dr. Bettina Temath.

"We thank the delegation for their visit and valuable dialogue, which reflects our shared vision for innovation and international cooperation in the textile industry."

Turkmenistan is one of Central Asia's most promising textile-producing nations, and this visit reinforces the growing collaboration between Turkmen institutions and leading global technology providers such as Trützschler.

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Afreximbank Reaffirms Support for Cotton Sector Transformation Across Africa

The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) has renewed its commitment to advancing Africa's cotton value chain, pledging continued support for the transformation of raw cotton into finished textiles and garments through its involvement in the C4+ initiative.

Speaking at the opening of a two-day Steering Committee meeting of the Partenariat pour le Coton (PPC) at Afreximbank Headquarters in Cairo, Kanayo Awani, Executive Vice President for Intra-African Trade and Export Development, emphasized the bank's dedication to building a modern, integrated cotton-textile-garment (CTG) industry in Africa.

The PPC, a global platform aimed at supporting value addition in developing countries' cotton sectors, is initially focused on the C4+ countries — Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Côte d'Ivoire.

Awani highlighted that cotton already contributes between 45–60% of GDP and foreign exchange earnings in some of these nations, signaling a significant opportunity for growth and transformation.

“By working with strategic partners, Afreximbank is committed to helping establish competitive textile and garment industries across Africa to support the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,” Awani stated.

She pointed to major challenges revealed in a recent Steering Committee study, including

low cotton yields, limited processing capacity, infrastructure weaknesses, global market fluctuations, and climate change impacts—all of which must be addressed for Africa to become a global player in the cotton industry.

Afreximbank plans to deploy a wide range of tools to meet these challenges, including:

- . Project preparation funding
- . Tailored debt and equity financing
- . SME support and export advisory services
- . Insurance and digital market access platforms
- . Trade facilitation and investment promotion

The bank also reaffirmed its US\$ 80,230 grant to finance a baseline

study essential to mapping out value chain development under the PPC.

This grant, formalized during the meeting via an amendment to the Trust Fund Agreement with UNIDO, is part of the WTO-FIFA cooperation framework.

Jean-Marie Paugam, Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Chair of the Steering Committee, welcomed the move and expressed hope that the discussions would lead to tangible progress in industrialising and processing cotton locally in C4+ countries.

The Cairo meeting gathered high-level stakeholders from across the African and global textile sectors, reinforcing the growing commitment to industrial transformation through sustainable value addition in Africa's cotton industry.



Biancalani's Innovative Textile Machinery in Brazil



Biancalani's values in the local market

Its unique blend of family-run values and industrial vision sets Biancalani apart, particularly in the Brazilian context.

"This combination resonates deeply with our clients, who appreciate both the personal commitment and the professional competence the brand embodies," says the agency's founder.

Serving forward-thinking clients

In Brazil, Biancalani typically attracts medium to large companies, well-structured organizations seeking cutting-edge, safe fabric treatment solutions.

These clients value innovation and reliability, qualities that Biancalani consistently delivers.

A strong cross-continental partnership

Collaborating with the Biancalani team in Italy is marked

Competitive advantages through a powerful Italian-Brazilian partnership built on excellence. Founded in 1996, the Brazilian agency and local partner of Biancalani, Lamperti America, has carved a solid reputation in the textile machinery sector.

Rooted in a family tradition of machinery building, its founder, Michele Lamperti, brings a deep, hands-on understanding of both the construction and the practical applications of industrial equipment.

This technical heritage, combined with a growing and talented team, including Catulina Santos and Amanda Santos, forms the backbone of the agency's

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by seamless communication and mutual respect.

Whether interacting with technical, technological, or commercial departments, the agency receives quick, knowledgeable support, even across different time zones.

“The team’s responsiveness and expertise are invaluable. Their support is one of the greatest strengths of our partnership.”

A memorable moment in the field

Among the many experiences shared with clients, one unforgettable episode stands out.

“I’d say the most interesting episode I’ve had with Biancalani was when a Brazilian client came intending to buy 2-3 AIROR24 open-width continuous tumble dryers, and ended up purchasing 8 Biancalani machines! It was unforgettable.

I still remember when the Biancalani area manager called me and said, ‘Sit down and listen carefully.’”

“This moment reflects the deep trust clients place in both the technology and the people behind the Biancalani name.

Spotlight on AQUARIA®

Among Biancalani’s machinery, AQUARIAR currently garners the most attention in Brazil.

Originally designed for enzymatic treatments, it has proven itself highly versatile, excelling in special washes and other innovative processes.

Its unique capabilities are helping redefine fabric treatment standards for the future.

Why Biancalani?

With a legacy dating back

to 1957, Biancalani offers not just equipment but trust, innovation, and performance.

“Choosing Biancalani means investing in solutions that are not only advanced but also certified and backed by decades of experience,” emphasizes Lamperti.

A final word

To those in Brazil who may not yet know Biancalani, the message is clear: “Biancalani machines represent a powerful combination of quality, innovation, and dedicated support.

They provide a real competitive edge for those ready to meet the challenges of tomorrow.”



Biancalani

TEXTILE MACHINERY

The Antelope Canyon (USA Southwest, Navajo land east of Page, Arizona) is formed during million of years because of the erosion of the sandstone from the water and of the wind.



AIRO® 24 HARNESS THE WIND

As wind and water forge nature, our AIRO®24 open-width continuous tumbler endlessly processes your fabrics, shapes them and moulds them, tames them and naturally improves their quality while drying them, giving them an appeal that makes them unmistakable!

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HUGO BOSS Launches NovaPoly: A Breakthrough Yarn Made from Recycled Textile Waste



HUGO BOSS has announced the launch of NovaPoly, a cutting-edge recycled polyester yarn developed in collaboration with Jiaren Chemical Recycling and NBC LLC.

The innovative yarn, created from both pre- and post-consumer textile waste, will debut in BOSS Green products globally in October 2025.

NovaPoly is enhanced with a natural additive that enables degradability, aligning with HUGO BOSS's broader sustainability strategy and its fight against microplastic pollution.

The yarn marks a major step under the company's BOSS THE CHANGE initiative, which emphasizes circularity and responsible innovation in fashion.

Initially exclusive to the HUGO and BOSS brands, HUGO BOSS holds the trademark and exclusive rights to NovaPoly for the first year.

However, the company plans to open licensing opportunities to the broader fashion industry, aiming to make the technology accessible to more partners and amplify its

environmental impact.

As part of the Spring/Summer 2026 collection, NovaPoly will be integrated into select BOSS Green performance wear.

Products featuring the new yarn will be available online, at BOSS retail stores, and through select global wholesale partners.

This launch builds on HUGO BOSS's previous fiber innovation efforts, including its partnership with HeiQ AeoniQ, and reinforces the brand's commitment to pioneering sustainable textile alternatives in the global fashion sector.

Tunisia Weaves Its Way Into Major European Markets as a Textile Powerhouse



Tunisia has firmly established itself as a leading player in Europe’s textile and apparel supply chain, ranking as the 9th largest apparel supplier to the European Union.

According to Industry Minister Fatma Thabet Chiboub, textiles accounted for 16% of Tunisia’s total industrial exports in 2024—valued at TND 9 billion—with a 127% coverage rate, marking a robust performance in the sector.

Speaking at the Tunisian-European Textile Summit in Monastir, Minister Thabet highlighted the strategic importance of the textile industry, which represents 29% of Tunisia’s industrial employment, supporting over 150,000 jobs and comprising 1,400 industrial companies—more than 30% of the country’s industrial base.

The summit, organized to deepen Euro-Mediterranean partnerships, focused on advancing a sustainable, innovative, and environmentally responsible textile industry.

The Minister also reviewed progress on the Global Textiles and Clothing Programme (GTEX/MENATEX)—a Swiss-funded initiative implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC) to boost textile export competitiveness in five countries, including Tunisia.

Denim and Workwear: A Key Growth Segment

According to the Textile Technical Centre (CETTEX), Tunisia has a promising opportunity to expand exports of jeans

and workwear, especially to Germany and other traditional European markets.

The centre estimates this could result in €160 million in additional exports and the creation of over 25,000 new jobs.

Tunisia already holds a strong position in the European denim market, ranking as the 4th largest supplier of denim trousers to the EU, with an 8.63% market share in 2021, up from 8.46% in 2020.

In that year, Tunisia exported 17.76 million pairs of jeans to the EU, worth €322 million, marking a 14% increase in volume compared to 2020.

The EU imported 438 million pairs of jeans in 2021, with an average unit price of €8.53. Tunisia, by contrast, had the highest average unit price in the EU at €18.14, reinforcing its positioning as a premium, high-value supplier. This average price grew by 0.22% over 2020 and 3.93% over 2019.

A Call for Technical and Financial Support



CETTEX underlined the need for increased technical and financial assistance to enable SMEs in the sector to undergo a sustainable and digital transformation, aligning with EU environmental and traceability regulations.

The centre also stressed the importance of tailored support for new investors, strategic diplomatic engagement to promote Tunisia as a sourcing destination, and market-specific promotional plans to increase global visibility.

Tunisia's strength lies not only in its competitive pricing and geographical proximity to Europe, but also in its deep-rooted expertise in high-quality garment production, particularly in denim.

As the European demand for traceable, eco-friendly, and ethically made apparel grows, Tunisia is positioning itself as a strategic textile hub capable of meeting future industry demands.

With the continued support of international development programs and proactive national policies, Tunisia's textile sector is poised for sustained growth, further weaving its legacy into the fabric of the European apparel market.



Solena Materials Secures \$6.7M to Scale Sustainable Protein-Based Textile Fibres

Solena Materials, a London-based bi-materials startup spun out of Imperial College, has raised \$6.7 million in seed funding to develop and scale next-generation biodegradable protein fibres designed for high-performance textiles.

The round was backed by high-profile investors including Sir David Harding, SynBioVen, and Insempra.

Using cutting-edge artificial intelligence and bioengineering, Solena is pioneering protein-based fibres that combine technical durability with environmental responsibility.

These novel fibres are not only tough and

soft to the touch, but also biodegradable—positioning them as a sustainable alternative to conventional petroleum-based synthetics such as polyester and nylon, which contribute significantly to microplastic pollution and water contamination.

Founded in 2022 by Dr. James MacDonald, Professor Paul Freemont, and Professor Milo Shaffer, Solena's proprietary deep learning platforms enable the design of bespoke protein structures at the molecular level.

This allows for precision-tuning of fibre properties including tensile strength,

elasticity, and functional performance, offering tailor-made textile solutions for apparel, technical wear, and other demanding applications.

“This investment is a strong vote of confidence in our mission to deliver the next generation of textile fibres,” said Dr. MacDonald, Solena’s CEO.

“It will allow us to expand production, reduce costs, and begin partnering with fashion brands to bring Solena fibres to market within the next three years.”

The funding will support Solena’s move into larger R&D and production facilities, strengthen its intellectual property portfolio, and kick-start commercial collaborations across the fashion

and textile sectors.

Commenting on the investment, Sir David Harding said: “Solena’s technology offers an answer to the question of how fashion can ever be compatible with sustainability.

Most clothing today is made from fossil fuels. Hopefully, the materials of the future will be grown in vats.”

Jens Klein, CEO of Insempra and Chairman of Solena Materials’ board, added: “This investment reflects our commitment to driving a regenerative revolution.

Solena’s biodegradable, non-oil-derived fibres hold the potential to transform the textile industry.”

With the apparel sector under increasing pressure to curb environmental impact, Solena Materials’ innovation offers a promising path forward—where performance and sustainability are no longer at odds.





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Registration Opens for Summer 2025's Must-Attend Sourcing Events in New York City and Los Angeles



Texworld NYC, Apparel Sourcing NYC, Home Textiles Sourcing, Printsource, and their West Coast counterparts, Texworld LA, Apparel Sourcing LA, and Printsource return, back-to-back this July.

Registration is officially open! Industry professionals from across the fashion textile, apparel, home textile, and print design sectors are invited to register online today for the Summer 2025 editions of Texworld NYC, Apparel Sourcing NYC, Home Textiles Sourcing, and Printsource in New York City, as well as Texworld LA, Apparel Sourcing LA, and Printsource in Los Angeles.

Join thousands of buyers, designers, and industry experts on both coasts to discover offerings from hundreds of manufacturers and suppliers repre-

senting over 21 countries.

Whether sourcing on the East or West Coast, attendees can expect the same expansive offerings and exclusive features, including premier education and networking opportunities, the latest trends and innovations inside the Texworld Trend Showcase, Trend+ in partnership with Material Exchange, the Next-Gen Innovation Hub, and more to come.

Buyers can also take advantage of tailored Special Itinerary sourcing, offering streamlined access to exhibitors specializing in sustainability, small-quantity production, domestic solutions, and deadstock offerings.

Registration for each co-located event can be found at the links below or online at texworldnyc.com and texworldla.com.

T-REX Project Presents Circular Textile Innovations at Textile ETP Annual Conference 2025

The Horizon Europe-funded T-REX (Textile Recycling Excellence) Project took center stage at the 19th Annual Textile ETP Conference, held in Alcoy, Spain, from May 12–14.

The conference, organized in partnership with AITEX, focused on ecodesign and sustainable solutions for technical and smart textiles, gathering industry leaders, researchers, and innovators to explore circularity strategies for the European textile sector.

During a session on Ecodesign for Sustainable Textile Products, Drishti Masand of adidas formally introduced the T-REX Project, highlighting its mission to promote textile-to-textile recycling and circular product design.

This session opened the floor to deeper conversations on



how garments can be designed for recyclability and circularity from the outset.

T-REX also hosted a breakout session titled “Ecodesign for Circularity: Designing Apparel and Fashion Products to Enable Effective Circularity and Recyclability.” Highlights included:

- Natalia Mena (adidas) presented the T-REX Blueprint, a framework for scaling closed-loop sorting and recycling of household textile waste.
- Anja Kossel-Scharf (adidas) and Doris Hondtong (Arapaha) offered technical

design guidelines supporting recyclability standards.

. A panel featuring Mamoon Ahmed Cheema (adidas) and Iro Kofokotsiou (Fashion for Good) explored circular business models and how strategic collaboration can drive scalable, economically viable systems.

The T-REX consortium brings together 13 leading organizations across the European textile value chain, working to transform post-consumer textile waste into high-quality raw material—contributing to a circular textile economy aligned with EU environmental goals.



Dilo Systems GmbH and Kansan Group Partnership Announcement

Dilo Systems GmbH, a Germany-based manufacturer specializing in complete nonwoven lines, and Kansan Group, a Turkish manufacturer specializing in nonwoven converting lines, end-of-line solutions, and Wetlaid Nonwoven machinery, have signed a strategic partnership agreement to supply custom nonwoven lines.

As part of this partnership, comprehensive solutions will be offered by integrating fiber preparation and carding equipment, wet-laid, hydroentanglement and needling lines, as well as converting and end-of-line equipment.

Engineering work will be carried out by Dilo Systems GmbH as the main contractor.

This collaboration primarily focuses on specialized nonwoven markets, particularly for hygiene, medical, and technical applications.

The production of specialized nonwovens consisting of short and long staple fiber layers is the goal.

These nonwovens are typically made from cellulose pulp and carded materials.

In hygiene and medical applications, short-cut cellulose materials play a critical role in absorbing and retaining liquids.

When the fiber length drops below 12 mm, the faster flushability of cellulose material offers a significant advantage in terms of waste management.

Wetlaid pulp can be hydrodynamically shaped using headbox technology (flowlip, inclined wire), which can be designed according to demand.



Wetlaid products can be further processed with carded web layers and hydroentanglement, integrating into different production processes.

Kansan Materials has successfully established a production line capable of processing hybrid raw materials developed based on the latest hydrodynamic simulation calculations.

This line is equipped with advanced software technologies that assist operators in managing production processes in a fully automated, computer-supported mode.

As the main contractor, Dilo Systems GmbH aims to enhance the efficiency

of nonwoven production for the hygiene and medical sectors by integrating Kansan's wet wipe converting lines and end-of-line equipment.

In this scope, the integration of materials produced with Dilo's "CycloPunch" and "MicroPunch" needling machines into Kansan's wet wipe converting lines is planned.

Kansan is a strong partner in this field, with its expertise and leading position in the industry.

This joint development process and marketing efforts lay an excellent foundation for offering complete lines that can produce carded and needle-punched, card-

ed and hydroentangled, carded and wetlaid nonwovens, as well as combinations of these techniques.

With a vision of offering innovative and sustainable solutions in the nonwoven sector, this partnership aims to increase production efficiency while minimizing environmental impact.

Dilo Systems GmbH and Kansan's technical expertise provides faster, cost-effective production processes tailored to customer needs.

Furthermore, solutions have been developed in line with sustainability goals, such as energy efficiency and the use of recyclable materials.

This collaboration is designed to create new opportunities in global markets, particularly in the hygiene, medical, and technical sectors, while expanding our reach to a broader customer base.



Reju Partners with Rematrix for Sustainable Textile Sourcing

Reju has officially announced a strategic partnership with Rematrix, a leading Italian platform for textile sourcing, to strengthen its commitment to sustainability in the fashion industry.

This new collaboration is focused on creating a transparent, traceable, and environmentally responsible supply chain for second-hand textiles—a growing area of importance for brands aiming to reduce waste and support circular fashion.

A digital solution for textile sourcing

Rematrix operates as a digital sourcing platform that connects fashion brands with reliable suppliers of second-hand textiles.

Through its global network, the platform helps companies find high-quality used materials that meet both environmental and production standards.

Its system supports smart decision-making by offering verified data on fiber content, material condition, and origin.

Empowering Reju with traceable materials

By partnering with Rematrix, Reju gains access to these advanced sourcing and verification tools.

This enables the company to meet increasing demand for sustainable materials while maintaining high standards of quality and transparency.

The integration of Rematrix's platform into Reju's workflow supports its long-term environmental goals.

Global network, local impact

Rematrix collaborates with certified suppliers and sorters across the world. These partners specialize in sorting and supplying quality second-hand textiles.

Each supplier follows strict guidelines to ensure traceability,

making it easier for brands like Reju to track the origin and lifecycle of their materials with confidence.

Driving innovation in sustainable fashion

This partnership is also set to fuel innovation within Reju's product development. It creates opportunities to replace traditional raw materials with recycled options while staying aligned with modern design and fashion standards.

It's a big step toward reducing Reju's carbon footprint and contributing to a more circular fashion system.

Both Reju and Rematrix are committed to transforming the fashion industry.

They envision a system where textiles are re-used, repurposed, and continuously kept



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Yibin Grace Opens First Recycled Textile Pulp Facility in China

Yibin Grace – a leading producer of man-made cellulosic fibre (MMCF) products (viscose staple fibre/filament yarn and lyocell) – opened the first recycled textile dissolving pulp facility in China.

This marks a significant milestone in the fashion industry's shift to more resilient, circular viscose supply chains. Using post-industrial and post-consumer textile waste from supply chain partners, the new pilot facility is expected to produce high quality, low-carbon dissolving pulp, which can be used in a variety of MMCF products.

With an initial capacity of 1500 tonnes per year, Yibin's facility is built to address the growing need for circular materials to replace the use of high-carbon forest fibre in the fashion sector.

Aligned with China's national goals of achieving a 30% reduction in textile waste by 2030, and building on the pioneering work done by Next Gen innovators such as Circulose, Yibin



intends to expand its Next Gen production to 60,000 tonnes by 2027 with market support.

“Canopy is thrilled with Yibin Grace's leadership with the launch of China's first Next Gen textile dissolving pulp mill,” said Nicole Rycroft of Canopy.

“Expanding circular production positions the sector to withstand supply volatility associated with increased forest fires and to capture markets looking for low-impact materials.

We look forward to Yibin scaling this technology to commercial levels and being an early-solution provider to the textile sector. This is just the beginning!”

Yibin Grace is located in Sichuan, China and has a combined production capacity of 450,000 tonnes/year of viscose staple fibre, viscose filament yarn, and lyocell products.

It was also one of the first MMCF producers to use Circulose recycled pulp in its viscose staple fibre and viscose filament lines, under the brand name ReGracell.

Yibin Grace has been working collaboratively with Canopy since 2018 and earned a Dark Green Shirt in the 2024 Hot Button Report.

It has no known risk of sourcing from Ancient and Endangered Forests.

Towards Zero Waste in Fashion: Kenya's Bold Move for a Sustainable Textile Future

Over 40 participants gathered in Nairobi's Embakasi East Constituency to celebrate the International Day of Zero Waste.

The workshop, hosted by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) in partnership with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Alliance of Nairobi Metropolitan Residents Associations (ANMRA), focused on promoting sustainable fashion and tackling the growing issue of textile waste in Kenya.

This unique event aimed to shine a light on the environmental impact of fashion and the steps communities can take to shift toward a circular textile economy—an economy where products are reused, recycled, and reimagined instead of discarded.

Why Fashion Waste Matters

Globally, the fashion indus-



try is a major contributor to pollution and waste. It generates around 92 million tonnes of textile waste per year and is responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions.

The demand for clothing is skyrocketing—expected to increase from 62 million tonnes in 2019 to 102 million tonnes by 2030.

Producing a single cotton shirt requires 2,700 litres of water, enough to sustain one person for over two years.

In Kenya, the situation mirrors this global crisis. In 2021, the country import-

ed nearly 900 million pieces of second-hand clothing, and shockingly, nearly half of these items—about 458 million—ended up in landfills due to poor quality.

Second-hand clothing, or “mitumba,” may seem like a solution, but many traders report that 20–50% of the items in a bale are unusable. This places a massive strain on waste systems and the environment.

Nyayo Estate: A Community Leading by Example

One of the most inspiring examples of action against textile waste is Nyayo Estate, the largest gated communi-

ty in East and Central Africa, located in Embakasi.

With approximately 30,000 residents, Nyayo Estate has become a hub of environmental activism, largely thanks to ANMRA's leadership.

In 2020, ANMRA began implementing circular economy projects focused on plastic and electronic waste. By 2023, they expanded these efforts to include textile waste.

The 2024 workshop was the latest milestone in this journey, promoting knowledge-sharing and practical action.

Practical Steps Toward Sustainable Fashion

Residents of Nyayo Estate are already embracing practices that reduce textile waste:

- **Charity Drives:** Twice a year, residents donate gently used clothes to children's homes and those in need. This not only extends the life of clothes but also fosters a culture of giving.

- **Hand-Me-Downs:** Many families, especially those with children, regularly pass down clothing items to younger siblings or relatives. It's a traditional, sustainable way to reduce clothing waste.

- **Upcycling:** Some community members, particularly the youth, are turning old clothes into new fashion items or household products.

For example, ripped jeans have been reused to create vertical gardens on apartment balconies—innovative and eco-friendly.

- **Entrepreneurship:** Young people in the estate are also exploring small businesses centered on repairing and

redesigning clothes.

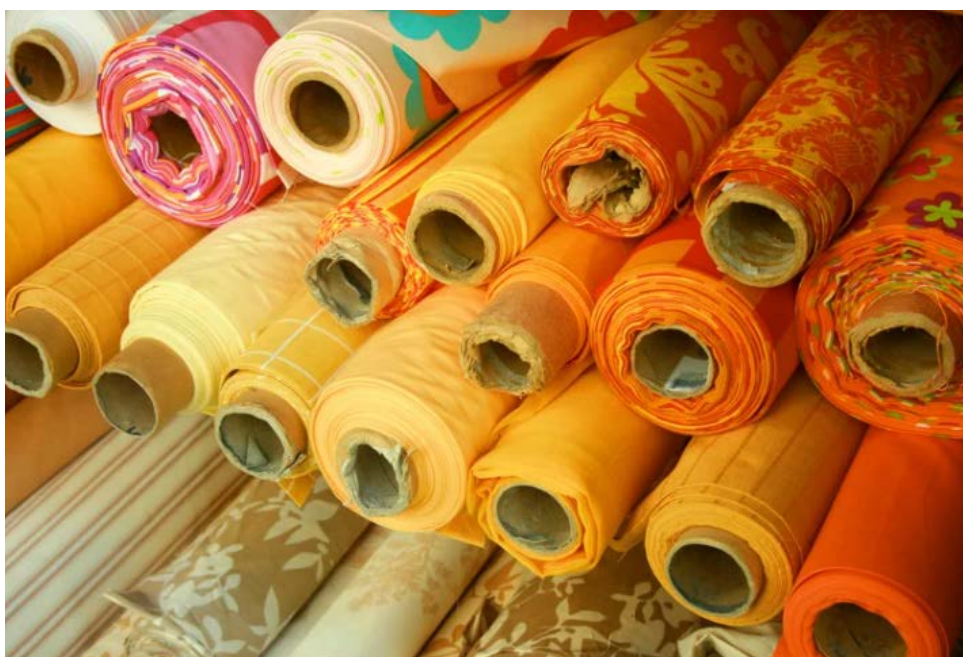
This not only cuts waste but also opens new income opportunities.

These simple but effective actions show that sustainability isn't just about government policy—it starts at home and grows through community effort.

Key Challenges

Despite this progress, several barriers still exist:

- 1. **Cost of Locally Made Clothes:** Locally produced fashion is often more expensive than imported second-hand items.



High production costs and taxes make it hard for local brands to compete.

2.Lack of Awareness: Many people do not separate clothing waste from general trash, making it difficult to recycle or repurpose materials.

There's a clear need for public education campaigns about textile waste and circular economy principles.

3.Policy Gaps: Although community action is strong, more government support is needed in the form of incentives, subsidies, and regulations that support sustainable fashion businesses.

Innovation in Environmental Monitoring

Beyond clothing, Nyayo Estate is also embracing innovation in air quality monitoring.

As part of an initiative supported by SEI and UNEP, two sensors were installed to monitor carbon dioxide, particulate matter (PM), temperature, humidity, and air pressure.

These sensors help residents and local administrators understand the environmental impacts of human activity and make data-driven decisions

to improve community health.

A Scalable Model for Other Communities

Nyayo Estate's approach to zero waste fashion offers a blueprint for other communities across Kenya and beyond.

By combining grassroots action with technical support and international partnerships, they are proving that real change is possible.

The transition to a circular textile economy is essential—not only to reduce pollution and landfill waste but also to create new jobs and support local creativity.

If supported by national policies and public awareness, Kenya can become a regional leader in sustainable fashion.



RE&UP and Marchi & Fildi Unite for Recycled Cotton Yarn Innovation



RE&UP announces a new partnership with Marchi & Fildi to co-develop a new generation of premium recycled cotton yarns.

The collaboration – currently at the pre-industrial stage – combines RE&UP’s cutting-edge textile-to-textile recycling technology with Marchi & Fildi’s deep expertise in sustainable yarn development and manufacturing.

With the goal of reaching all levels of the textile value chain, the project represents a key milestone in the evolution of circular innovation.

The recycled cotton fibers used in the initiative come from RE&UP’s fully integrated process, which transforms post-consumer waste into high-quality raw materials ready for industrial application.

As leaders in their respective fields, RE&UP and Marchi & Fildi bring together a powerful blend of innovation and excellence.

This collaboration is driven by a shared belief: that circularity must go hand in hand with uncompromising quality.

By combining RE&UP’s breakthrough recycling technology with Marchi & Fildi’s expertise in premium yarn development, the two companies are laying the groundwork for scalable, high-performance solutions that can elevate the entire textile value chain.

“Partnering with Marchi &

Fildi means joining forces with a company that shares our commitment to quality, innovation, and circular transformation.

This collaboration allows us to push the boundaries of what’s possible with recycled cotton fibers and move one step closer to making Next-Gen yarns a scalable reality for the entire industry.”

said Marco Lucietti, Head of Global Marketing and Communications, RE&UP.

“The evolution of our yarns from recycled fibers requires continuous investment in technical expertise and advanced technologies.

What truly makes the difference are synergies with partners like RE&UP, who share our vision of quality and circularity, opening new opportunities for joint development.”

said Alberto Grosso, Business Development Manager, Marchi&Fildi Group.

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ARISE IIP Adopts SAP Cloud to Advance Textile Decarbonisation in Africa

SAP SE (NYSE: SAP) today announced ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms (ARISE IIP) has chosen digital innovations including SAP S/4HANA Cloud, SAP Sustainability Control Tower, and SAP Environmental Health and Safety to help decarbonise the textile industry by using cloud sustainability to transform the value chain in Africa.

Based in Dubai, ARISE IIP designs, finances, builds and operates industrial and manufacturing ecosystems in Africa.

Working in partnership with governments and investors, ARISE IIP currently works in 11 countries including Benin, Togo, and Gabon.

“The textile industry is responsible for up to 10% of global emissions,” said Vinodanand Jha, Group

CIO, ARISE IIP.

“From producing the raw fibres for textiles to processing, dyeing, production, and distribution, there is a great opportunity to improve sustainability across the entire textile value chain in Africa.

That’s why we’re working with SAP integrate sustainability data across our operations.”

Sustainable innovation

ARISE IIP has identified 108 key performance indicators measur-

ing carbon neutrality, circular economy, diversity and inclusion, and responsible supply chain management. The SAP solutions offer a single platform to track and report on traceability, sustainability, circularity, efficiency, and social compliance.

“At ARISE IIP, sustainability and digitalisation are not parallel tracks—they’re interconnected drivers of how we operate and grow,” said Bhavin Vyas, Chief ESG Officer at Arise IIP.

“Through the integration of SAP’s Sustainability Control Tower into our textile platform, we’ve developed a system that brings ESG data to life.

It is real-time, reliable, and aligned with global frameworks such as the GRI and EU Taxonomy. This strengthens our ability to manage, measure, and continuously improve.

Transparency, accountability, and innovation are the principles that turn sustainability into a true business advantage.”

Sustainability in action in Africa: Benin Textile

Benin is one of Africa’s largest cotton producers of cotton.



Supported by ARISE IIP, Benin Textile produces high-quality home textiles like bed linen and towels using locally sourced cotton.

These products are distributed to a range of leading European retailers.

Benefiting from ARISE IIP’s commitment to reducing carbon emissions, Benin Textile is aiming to lower its emission per garment by 60% – from 4.9 KG CO₂e to 1.9 KG CO₂e*.

It is also committed to achieving full cotton traceability to the farm level, as well as implementing zero liquid discharge technology, boosting water recycling to 90%, and recovering chemicals used in its process.

“The SAP platform is helping manage resources more efficiently and ensure greater transparency with our partners,” said Vireshwar Joshi, Benin Textile CEO.



“It represents a major step forward in building a responsible and future-ready textile value chain.”

Using SAP sustainability and ERP solutions, Benin Textile is integrating sustainability into its core business processes.

It can process high-quality data and streamline reporting, aligned to key compliance standards including the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), the EU Taxonomy, and the European Sustainability Reporting Standard (ESRS).

The platform also helps track progress against ESG targets, improves com-

pliance while reducing costs related to risk management and data management, and automates occupational health and safety reporting.

“Benin Textile is an incredible example of how new innovation can improve sustainable outcomes that benefits not just Africa, but the world,” continued Jha.

“Only by transparently and reliably understanding the data can we make decisions that improve both financial, social, and environmental outcomes.

Using SAP solutions, ARISE IIP is making Africa thrive through sustainable, green

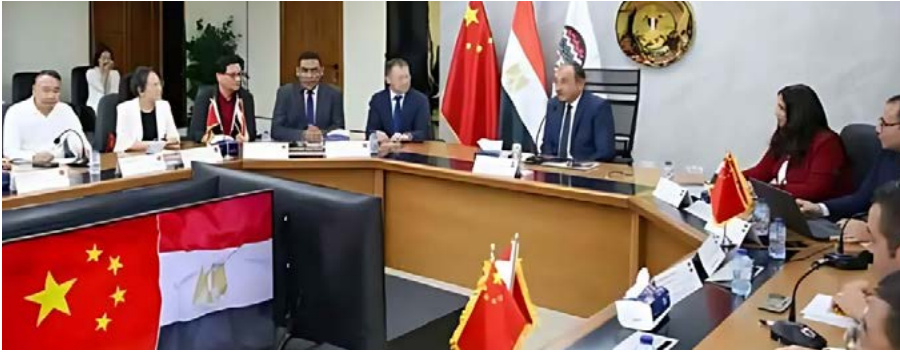
industrial ecosystems.”

Commenting on the announcement, SAP’s Head of Sustainability for Asia Pacific, Susanna Hasenoe-hrl, said, “Sustainability isn’t just a big challenge for organisations, it’s an incredible opportunity for growth.

With the aim of sustainably transforming the textile value chain, ARISE IIP is also investing in Africa and ultimately creating jobs and revenue, and aiming to reduce its carbon footprint.

That’s a win-win for its business, for its customers, and for the world.”

25 Chinese Textile Companies Explore Investment Opportunities in Egypt's Revitalized Sector



A high-level Chinese business delegation representing 25 leading textile and garment companies visited Egypt this week to explore investment and partnership opportunities in the country's revitalized textile sector.

Led by Zhang Tao, Deputy Marketing Director of the China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC), and Xu Yingxin, Vice President of the China Textile Association, the 37-member delegation met with Minister of Public Business Sector Mohamed Shimy at the headquarters of the Cotton, Spinning, Weaving, and Garments Holding Company.

Minister Shimy affirmed Egypt's readiness to foster strategic partnerships, outlining the national textile strategy aimed at restoring Egypt's leadership in the industry.

This includes the modernization of 10 public-sector companies through technology upgrades, financial restructuring, and global market integration.

"This is about building a future-ready, export-oriented manufacturing base," Shimy said, emphasizing Egypt's strategic location, premium cotton, and extensive trade agreements as major investment incentives.

The delegation reviewed Egypt's diverse textile port-

folio—yarns, fabrics, garments, home and medical textiles—and received updates on infrastructure initiatives, including seven industrial complexes and upgraded ginning facilities.

A large portion of production is targeted for export to help increase foreign currency reserves.

The visit supports broader efforts to deepen Egypt-China economic ties under a strategic partnership.

In December 2024, Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly confirmed that the first phase of Egypt's EGP 56 billion textile modernization program is complete, with EGP 22 billion spent on infrastructure and EGP 640 million on advanced machinery.

Additionally, a national retail network promoting Egyptian textile products is being launched by ECH, the marketing arm of the holding company.

This visit signals China's growing interest in Egypt as a competitive hub for textile production and exports.



Indorama Ventures Expands deja™ Portfolio to Boost Textile Industry Sustainability

Introducing PET fibers and filament yarns made solely from discard textile waste, lower carbon bio-fibers, and more

First presentation of enlarged portfolio at 'Textiles Recycling Expo' in Brussels on June 4-5

Indorama Ventures Public Company Limited, a global sustainable chemical company, expands its fiber and filament yarn portfolio called deja™ to boost sustainability.

The goal is to actively drive circularity and decarbonization efforts in the global textile industry and to prepare for supporting the upcoming European Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR).

Three key offerings add to the company's deja portfolio, addressing customers' main sustainability

challenges:

On-demand solutions for textile circularity, providing deja PET fibers and filament yarns made solely from enhanced recycled textile waste that was being discarded.

Products available on customers' request are high-tenacity yarns and cords for technical applications like airbags and seat belts, as well as fibers and filament yarns for lifestyle applications, such as apparel and home textiles. Customers interested to drive circularity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while keeping performance equal to standard solutions, are encouraged to request more information at enquiry.fibers@indorama.net.

deja Bio: Solutions to help customers reduce their carbon footprint.

Thanks to its fully integrated, in-house PET supply chain, Indorama Ventures can deliver high-performing deja PET yarns out of Europe and Asia that have a substantially reduced carbon footprint.

All of them comply with the accounting methodology of the 'Together for Sustainability' industry initiative.

Indorama Ventures takes a mass balance approach to increase the use of renewable sources, benefitting from eleven ISCC+ (International Sustainability and Carbon Certification) certified sites across its entire business, including PTA, PET chips, fibers, and technical fabrics.

The mass balance approach is a chain-of-custody method that allows manufacturers to mix sustainable and conventional inputs like renewable and fossil-based materials in a shared production system, while still allocating the environmental benefits of the sustainable inputs to a portion of the output.

High-tenacity yarns and tire cord fabrics available in the bio-based deja portfolio allow for a progressive bio-content introduction into customers' products.

Customers can benefit

from avoiding or simplifying qualification procedures and receive the same performance as from fossil solutions.

Further, these products can be given new life through mechanical or enhanced recycling.

deja Enhanced: Products that give hard-to-recycle packaging and textile waste new life.

In close collaboration with like-minded partners along the value chain, Indorama Ventures is also looking at ways to convert hard-to-recycle packaging into fibers and yarns through enhanced recycling. These solutions are readily available at similar level of performance as fossil solutions.

In future, these products will also be supplied with flexible proportions of reprocessed textile feedstock to accommodate customers' circular targets.

Customers and brand owners are invited to take a closer look at what the expanded deja™ fibers & yarns portfolio offers during Textiles Recycling Expo on June 4-5 in Brussels, booth no. 1825.

As one of the leading events dedicated to textile recycling and circularity, this expo brings together industry leaders, innovators, and decision-makers to shape the future of sustainable textiles.



Claire Mattelet, Global Sustainability Program Head for Indorama Ventures' Fibers Business, says: With the expanded deJa portfolio, we are turning ambition into action – empowering our customers to meet their circularity and decarbonization goals through innovative, high-performance PET fibers and yarns made from textile waste, bio-based inputs, and hard-to-recycle materials.

This is how we shape the future of sustainable textiles without compromising on quality or performance.”

With most of the textile waste globally being incinerated or landfilled, the global fashion industry accounts for an estimated 3 to 8 percent of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

According to recent reports^{1,2}, the industry's emissions are expected to

increase by about 30 percent by 2030 if no further action is taken¹.

In response, Indorama Ventures has set a 2030 target of 40% of recycled and bio-based feedstock of its current commodity feedstock.

Taking a leading role and collaborating along the entire value chain to drive sustainable practices in the man-made fibers industry is at the core of Indorama Ventures' commitment to shaping the future of textiles.

1. Global Fashion Agenda and McKinsey, 2020: Fashion on climate: How the fashion industry can urgently act to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

2. The business of fashion and McKinsey, Nov 29 2023: The state of fashion 2024: Finding pockets of growth as uncertainties reigns



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TRUECYCLED Yarn is Driving Sustainability in Lotus Cars

Thanks to Trützschler's advanced TRUECYCLED process, high-quality recycling yarn has now entered Lotus electric cars.

Together with the German company Brain of Materials, Trützschler played a crucial role in ensuring that the so-called WYRON truecycled® yarn meets the strict requirements of the automotive sector.

Featured in the Lotus Eletre and Emeya models, this innovative material proves that sustainability and top performance can go hand in hand.

Brain of Materials, located in Mönchengladbach, Germany, produces the WYRON truecycled® yarn for Lotus, using state-of-the-art Trützschler technology.

The open-end yarn consists of 50 % post-consumer textile waste and 50 % recycled polyester, Nm 15.

It is used for the back sections of car seats, providing a sustainable solution without compromising the standards expected by Lotus, a prestigious car brand known for its high-performance sports cars and electric vehicles.

According to Lotus, the yarn's premium haptics, lightweight properties, and sustainability attributes perfectly suit the spirit of its Emeya and Eletre models.

Adding to its sustainability credentials, the production process – from collecting post-consumer waste to spinning the yarn – takes place entirely in Western Europe.

“At Lotus, we take a holistic design approach, with a commitment to true innovation and sustainability, whilst maintaining a luxury look and feel.

WYRON truecycled® yarn demonstrates that dedication, and we’re thrilled to be the first automotive brand to bring the material to life in our cars” said Marie-Camille Lecoq, Head of CMF Sustainability at Lotus.

The heart of this success: Trützschler’s recycling expertise

Achieving such a breakthrough requires cutting-edge recycling technology and deep expertise. “At Trützschler, we are proud to contribute our decades of know-how in textile recycling and innovative machinery solutions to this pioneering project,” says Christian Franke, Head of the Project Department at Trützschler.

“By working closely with Brain of Materials for many years, we’ve ensured that the WYRON truecycled® yarn meets the demanding standards of the automotive industry, while offering high quality and durability.”

This is made possible by the comprehensive TRUECYCLED process, which provides a system solution for textile recycling.

Covering every step from cutting and tearing textile waste to carding and drawing secondary fibers, TRUECYCLED enables the efficient production of sustainable, reliable yarns that serve as a premium alternative to conventional materials.

Driving sustainability forward

The integration of WYRON truecycled® yarn into Lotus vehicles marks a milestone in both the textile and automotive sectors.

It proves that (textile) recycling can produce high-quality materials suited for the most demanding applications – showcasing its potential to shape the future of mobility and beyond.



Korean Textile Giant YongWan to Create 2,000 Jobs in Kenya with New Manufacturing Plant



In a major boost to Kenya's textile industry and employment sector, South Korea's textile manufacturer YongWan is set to create at least 2,000 jobs for Kenyans through its soon-to-be-completed manufacturing plant in the country.

The announcement was made by Kang Hyungshik, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Kenya, during a meeting with the Kenya-Korea Parliamentary Friendship Group.

The envoy revealed that construction of the state-of-the-art facility is in its final stages, marking a significant step in strengthening economic ties between the two nations.

"This is just the beginning," said Ambassador Kang. "We look forward to building a longstanding, dynamic partnership between Korea and Kenya."

The YongWan project is part of a broader initiative by South Korea to deepen its investment footprint in Kenya across various sectors.

Both countries are actively working to expand collaboration in areas such as textile manufacturing, the blue economy, maritime development, and water and irrigation infrastructure, particularly through development aid and strategic cooperation.

Kenya is also set to make history by hosting the 11th United Nations Ocean Conference in Mombasa in 2026, the first African country to do so.

Malindi MP Amina Mnyazi highlighted the event as a powerful opportunity to scale up maritime partnerships with South Korea.

"This landmark event will allow us to strengthen cooperation in maritime innovation, sea farming, and shipbuilding," she stated.

Chair of the Kenya-Korea Parliamentary Group, Aldai MP Mary Keitany, emphasized the need for

Kenya to adopt South Korea's economic strategies.

"Twenty years ago, our economies were at par. Today, Korea is among the world's leading economies.

We must learn from their model and focus on economic and knowledge exchange," she said.

Lawmakers also pointed to further areas of potential collaboration, including agriculture, health research, and industrial partnerships.

Mwea MP Mary Maingi noted the role of institutions like KEMRI and emerging projects such as a botanical garden and graduate institute as possible touchpoints for bilateral development.

With the backing of institutions like Exim Bank and renewed focus on reviving Kenya's cotton and textile value chains, the YongWan investment is poised to be a transformative force in boosting local manufacturing, job creation, and Kenya's global trade competitiveness.



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Heimtextil 2026 Revamps Layout to Spotlight Smart Bedding Sector



Heimtextil, the leading international trade fair for home and contract textiles, will unveil a redesigned layout for its 2026 edition, placing a stronger emphasis on the rapidly growing Smart Bedding category.

The event will be held from January 13 to 16, 2026, at Messe Frankfurt.

A major highlight of the revamped format is the new Sleep & Meet area, which will occupy approximately 25% of Hall 4.0.

This dedicated zone will bring together key suppliers catering to volume retail, bedding retail, and hospitality sectors, offering a dynamic space for networking, product discovery, and business development.

Several renowned German mattress and bedding brands are set to make their first-time appearance at Heimtextil in 2026, including Auping Germany, Bettwaren Stendebach, Er-

ich Werkmeister, ergomed, Femira, Rummel, and Schwarzwald Schlafsysteme.

Industry giant EuroComfort Group—featuring Badenia, Brinkhaus, Lück, and fan frankenstolz—will significantly increase their exhibition space.

Olaf Schmidt, Vice President of Textiles & Textile Technologies at Messe Frankfurt, emphasized the strategic importance of the expansion:

“The new layout offers the ideal framework for establishing new business relationships, recognizing trends early, and gaining fresh inspiration for product development.”

The German trade association Matratzen-Industrie will also maintain its presence with a dedicated stand, spotlighting the innovation and diversity of German mattress manufacturers to an international audience.

With the Smart Bedding segment gaining global momentum, Heimtextil 2026 aims to serve as a key platform for innovation, collaboration, and insight in the sleep solutions space.

Hanover Gears Up to Welcome ITMA Participants After Three Decades

The city of Hanover is eagerly waiting to welcome participants of the world's largest textile and garment technology exhibition – ITMA 2027.

The exhibition will be held from 16 to 22 September 2027. It is expected to gross 200,000 square metres, occupying 13 exhibition halls at the Messegelaende Hanover.

Held once every four years since 1951, ITMA was last staged in the German city in 1991.

The bid for ITMA 2027 was submitted by the venue owner Deutsche Messe in close cooperation with the capital of Lower Saxony and the office of the Lord Mayor.

Belit Onay, Mayor and CEO of the City of Hanover enthused, “We are elated to have successfully bid for ITMA 2027.

A bustling hub for trade fairs and congresses, the city looks forward to welcome ITMA back to Hanover after more than 30 years.

“We will spare no effort to ensure the hosting of an excellent ITMA. Hanover is a green and efficient city with a relaxed atmosphere.

As a major trade fair city, Hanover is organised, and easy to navigate, making it a stress-free destination for visitors.



Its blend of history and modernity makes it a hidden gem for those seeking a well-balanced urban experience.”

Interesting accommodation options

Hanover is no stranger to hosting mega trade shows.

Supporting this established trade fairs destination is an ample and diverse range of accommodation options, including hotels, guesthouses, inns and private apartments. Each of these options caters to different needs and offers a unique experience.

Currently, the city of Hanover offers over 18,000 hotel beds, ranging from budget to premium options. In the surrounding districts and metropolitan region, an additional 54,000 beds are available.

According to Deutsche Messe, the exhi-

bition venue operator, around 4,000 private accommodations can also be found throughout the city, nearby areas, and the broader metropolitan region.

The majority of the accommodation allow you to get to the fairground within 30 to 90 minutes.

In addition, we have a campground opposite the exhibition venue that is open to participants who bring their motorhomes and caravans.

ITMA 2027 participants can expect to have more options when another 700 rooms are made available in the city centre next year," said Dr Jochen Koeckler, chairman of Deutsche Messe's Board.

To further assist ITMA participants, the organiser ITMA Services has appointed accommodation specialist bnetwork to provide hotel and vacation apartment booking services.

Backed by nearly two decades of experience, the destination management company has handled two past ITMA exhibitions in Barcelona and is attuned to the needs of participants.

A dedicated website is being set up for ITMA participants to book their accommodation.

Meanwhile, to enquire about accommodation or to book rooms, please

contact itmahotels@bnetwork.com.

While Hanover may not be a primary global gateway in Germany, it is exceptionally well-connected within Europe and beyond.

With direct high-speed train links and a well-connected airport, it serves as a convenient transit point for business travellers.

The fairground is accessible by public transport.

It has two modern light rail stations that provide direct connections to the city centre. It also has direct links to the motorways, and around 39,000 car parking spaces.

Alex Zucchi, president of CEMATEX which owns ITMA 2027, said, "We look forward to staging our exhibition in Hanover. The city has the necessary infrastructure to support a huge congregation of exhibitors and visitors of a mega ITMA exhibition.

The organising team is working with the venue owner to ensure that all participants will have a seamless experience akin to what they have been used to at past editions.

More exhibition information will be available from the ITMA 2027 website which will be launched this July, ahead of the opening of stand space application in September.

The last ITMA exhibition was held in Milan in 2023. Grossing 200,000 square metres, it featured the participation of 1,709 exhibitors from 47 countries, and visitorship of over 111,000 from 143 countries.



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