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JOURNAL

# KOHAN TEXTILE

MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA TEXTILE JOURNAL

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# Groz-Beckert Unveils Advanced Knitting, Weaving and Nonwovens Solutions at ITM 2026

**F**rom June 9 to 13, 2026, Groz-Beckert will present its latest innovations and solutions across the product areas of Knitting, Weaving and Nonwovens at ITM in Istanbul (Hall 3, Booth 304B).

## Knitting

In the Circular Knitting segment, Groz-Beckert will spotlight the LCmax™, the next generation of energy-saving needles.

Featuring a pioneering wave-shaped shank geometry, the LCmax™ delivers optimized energy efficiency, reduced friction, and easy handling — enabling maximum performance with lower energy consumption.

**For Flat Knitting, Groz-Beckert will present two specialized needle solutions:**

SAN™ TT – developed for particularly tight loops and ideal for technical and medical textile applications.

SAN™ FY – engineered for processing uneven effect yarns, ensuring a flawless fabric appearance even in demanding and complex designs.

In the Legwear segment, visitors can discover the dur™ needles, recognized for their exceptional durability and precision in the production of fine hosiery.

For Warp Knitting, Groz-Beckert will showcase its continuously expanding

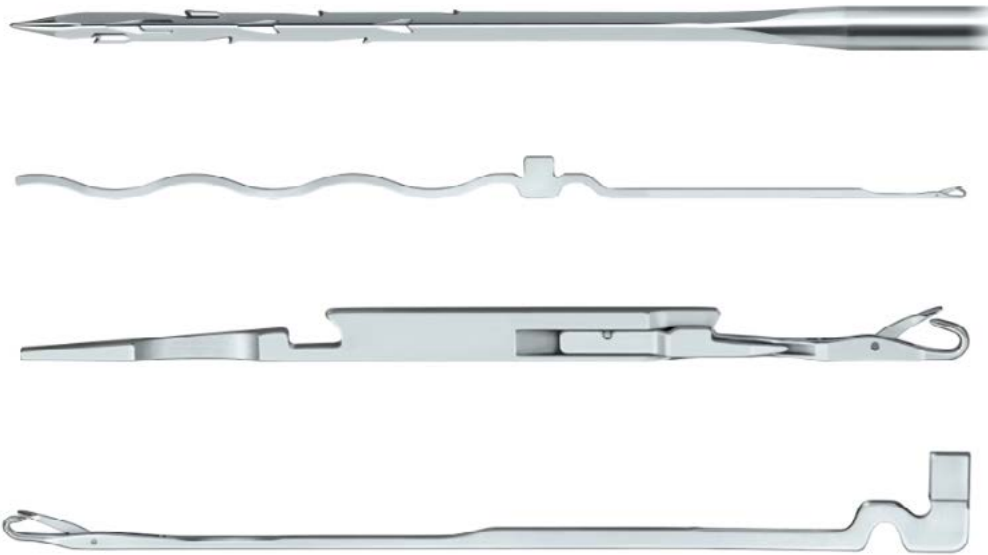
module portfolio, setting new benchmarks in precision, stability, and efficiency for loop formation processes.

## Weaving

The Weaving product area will present the KnotMaster tying machine — a high-performance solution for efficient and flexible weaving preparation.

Thanks to its modular and compact design, the KnotMaster enables fast warp changes and reduced processing times, helping weaving mills achieve higher productivity.





The system reliably handles complex patterns as well as demanding upholstery yarns, covering a broad range of standard and special applications. These capabilities will also be demonstrated live at the booth during ITM 2026.

In addition, Groz-Beckert will showcase its comprehensive portfolio of reeds, healds, and drop wires, optimized for a wide variety of applications and tailored to meet diverse production requirements.

Another highlight is the PosiLeno® system, which offers virtually unlimited patterning possibilities, maximum flexibility, optimized shed formation movements, and easy installation — making it an efficient solution for modern leno weaving applications.

### **Nonwovens**

The Nonwovens product area will present its latest innovations, ranging from a needle designed to significantly reduce insertion and removal times, to the Digital Ecosystem, which enables nonwovens manufacturers to optimize and automate their production processes.

Furthermore, the unique Groz-Beckert Mounting Service for the Nonwovens Carding product group will be showcased, as well as our newly developed CB-barb felting needle.

**GROZ-BECKERT®**



## 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](http://www.groz-beckert.com)

**GROZ-BECKERT**

**ITM 2026**  
9-13 JUNE 2026  
Hall 3, Booth 305

**TEKSEL**  
TEKSTİL

**Biancalani**  
TEXTILE MACHINERY

## Biancalani welcomes you at ITM Istanbul 2026

**ITM International Textile Machinery Exhibition Tüyap Fair Convention and Congress Center, Istanbul, Turkey 9-13 June 2026 | Hall 3, Booth 305**

Istanbul has long been a crossroads between worlds, and this June, it becomes the meeting point for the global textile industry. ITM 2026 at the Tüyap Fair Convention and Congress Center is where Biancalani will bring two of its most advanced finishing technologies face-to-face with the professionals who matter most: the ones running production lines every day.

If you work in textile preparation and finishing, these are the five days in 2026 you won't want to miss.

### **AIRO@24: speed, air, and results you can feel at first touch**

Fabric finishing at 2,800 m/min. Not a concept, not a projection: a working reality. AIRO@24 uses high-velocity air flows to deliver fabric speeds which can reach 160 km/h as the sole transport and treatment medium, delivering a strong and, at the same time, extremely safe mechanical action that has no equivalent in conventional finishing.

The performance figures are precise and independently verified:

- Evaporation capacity, which in some cases can reach 1,400 kg/h
- C.L.I.M.A. certification: third-party validated environmental performance
- Modular design spanning SINGLE, DUETTO, TANDEM, and TRIPLEX configurations
- SMART-SWITCH 2.0, allowing the operator to adjust mechanical intensity and drying power independently
- Overall efficiency of 95%

What the numbers don't capture is what Biancalani calls the AIRO® HAND: a distinctive fabric feel that has become a recognised mark of quality among premium textile brands worldwide.

It's certified, consistent, and immediately perceptible to the touch.



At ITM Istanbul, visitors will be able to experience this firsthand rather than read about it on a data sheet.

### **AQUARIA®: washing reimagined for a water-scarce world**

The textile industry's relationship with water has long been one of its most pressing challenges. Conventional washing processes typically can consume way over 20-30 litres per kilogram of fabric. AQUARIA® can operate as low as 2-5 L/kg.

This incredible reduction is achieved through the same patented working principle that defines the AIRO® system.

Fabric moves exclusively through air. Two large accumulation chambers, connected by a pneumatic ejector, deliver effective mechanical washing without the water volumes that define traditional systems.

#### **Key performance specifications:**

- Near-zero water discharge (under 1 L/kg) for several processes, such as Eco-Bleaching, performed without chlorine and without caustic soda
- Efficient and intense mechanical action with complete removal of harmful chemical agents across many standard processes
- Fully open-width process (up to 3600 mm) with air transportation for total safety
- Production speed up to 80 m/min

The specialised process portfolio includes enzymatic bio-polishing, fibrillation, and defibrillation of cellulosic fabric such as lyocell, full treatment of PES/modal for cupro-like effect, indigo-specific AQUASTONE and AQUA+FLAT treatments, relaxed mercerization, washing after dyeing, and washing after printing.

### **Every fibre, every construction**

Both machines are designed without compromise on versatility.

Whether the production line handles silk, linen, cotton, modal, lyocell, cupro, wool, polyester, or heavy upholstery and terry towel, AIRO®24 and AQUARIA® are engineered to perform across the full spectrum of textile constructions, from the lightest apparel fabrics through to home textiles and automotive applications.

AIRO®24 is particularly valued for terry towel processing, mechanical softening of woven fabric (from upholstery to automotive, uniforms, and apparel), volume and aspect enhancement, dimensional stabilization of stretch fabric, and specific aesthetic effects in combination with previous AQUARIA® washing treatments.



## What ITM Istanbul means for your business

The Tüyap Fair Convention and Congress Center in Istanbul is one of the most significant venues on the international exhibition calendar, and ITM is one of the sector's most important gatherings.

Thanks to its strategic position, the exhibition provides a unique platform to engage with textile professionals from Europe as well as from regions spanning nearby Asia and further afield.

At the booth, visitors will be able to meet Biancalani's experts from Italy and Turkey, for focused technical conversations, discussing specific fabric types, production volumes, sustainability targets, and integration with existing lines. So don't miss the chance to get in touch with us and our local partner, Teksel Tekstil.

### Concrete areas to explore together:

- Live assessment of fabric quality results: seeing and touching the output directly
- Configuration analysis matched to your production needs
- Real-world case studies from clients already running these technologies, with documented performance and economic outcomes

## Sustainability that passes independent scrutiny

C.L.I.M.A. certification is more than a claim. It is a third-party validation by R.I.N.A. and ACIMIT of the actual environmental impact reduction achieved through Biancalani's approach to combining thermal and mechanical action with efficient air-to-fabric heat exchange.

For manufacturers facing tightening regulatory requirements, customer expectations around environmental performance, and pressure on operating costs, the metrics behind AIRO®24 and AQUARIA® are the kind that translate directly into commercial advantage: lower energy bills, dramatically reduced water consumption, and consistent process quality that eliminates costly rework.

### Find Biancalani at ITM 2026 in Hall 3, Booth 305

Tüyap Fair Convention and Congress Center, Istanbul, Turkey 9-13 June 2026

Bring your samples. Bring your production data and your ideas. Bring your most demanding technical questions. The Biancalani team will have the time and the expertise to work through them properly.

Istanbul in June. The appointment for textile finishing innovation is confirmed. We look forward to seeing you there.



# Biancalani

TEXTILE MACHINERY



find out more



## AIRO<sup>®</sup>24

**Dryer for continuous and open-width tumbling treatments of woven, non-woven and knitted fabrics**

## AQUARIA<sup>®</sup>

**Open-width continuous tumble washing range for any kind of textile wet treatment**



find out more



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# China Plans \$2 Billion Carbon-Neutral Textile Industrial City in Egypt

China is set to make one of its largest industrial investments in the Middle East and Africa's textile sector through a proposed \$2 billion carbon-neutral textile industrial city in Egypt, a project expected to strengthen Egypt's position as a regional manufacturing and export hub while creating up to 80,000 direct jobs.

The ambitious development, led by China Enterprise Cloud Chain, aims to establish the first fully integrated carbon-neutral textile industrial city in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

The project was recently discussed during a meeting between representatives of the Chinese company and Egypt's Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade, Mohamed Farid.

If completed, the project will become one of the largest textile-focused industrial developments in the region, reinforcing Egypt's growing importance as a destination for international textile investments.

## **A New Textile Manufacturing Hub for Three Continents**

The proposed industrial city will cover approximately 4.5 million square meters and will be developed in two phases over an estimated four-year period.

Strategically positioned at the crossroads of Africa, Europe, and the Middle East, Egypt has increasingly attracted foreign textile investments thanks to its competitive labor costs, access to major export markets, and favorable trade agreements.

Egyptian authorities view the project as a significant opportunity to strengthen the country's role in global textile supply chains while supporting economic growth and industrial diversification.

According to government estimates, the development could create between 50,000 and 80,000 direct jobs, in addition to approximately 60,000 indirect employment opportunities across logistics, transportation, services, and supporting industries.

### **First Phase to Attract Dozens of Textile Manufacturers**

The initial phase of the project will cover approximately 2 million square meters and focus on the construction of environmentally sustainable textile manufacturing facilities. The developers aim to attract between 30 and 50 textile and apparel companies to establish production operations within the industrial zone.

In addition to manufacturing facilities, the first phase will include logistics centers, commercial infrastructure, and technical training institutions designed to develop a skilled workforce capable of supporting the industry's long-term growth.

The inclusion of vocational and technical education facilities reflects increasing recognition that workforce development is essential for maintaining competitiveness in modern textile manufacturing.

### **Building a Fully Integrated Textile Value Chain**

The second phase of the project will expand the industrial city by an additional 2.5 million square meters.

Unlike traditional industrial parks that focus primarily on manufacturing, the development aims to create a fully integrated textile ecosystem by bringing together suppliers,

manufacturers, logistics providers, and supporting businesses within a single industrial cluster.

Industry analysts note that integrated textile hubs can significantly improve efficiency, reduce production costs, shorten lead times, and enhance supply chain resilience.

The project's carbon-neutral design also aligns with growing global demand for sustainable textile production and increasing pressure on brands and manufacturers to reduce their environmental footprint.

**Egypt Targets Leadership in Sustainable Manufacturing**  
The proposed investment comes at a time when Egypt is actively promoting itself as a regional manufacturing destination amid shifting global sourcing strategies and increasing diversification away from traditional production centers.

Government officials have highlighted Egypt's Special Investment Zones as a key attraction for international investors, offering various incentives aimed at supporting export-oriented manufacturing.

During discussions with China Enterprise Cloud Chain, Minister Mohamed Farid emphasized the government's commitment to facilitating the investment process and supporting the project's implementation.

The ministry has instructed relevant authorities to continue technical evaluations and investment discussions through Egypt's commercial office in China as negotiations move forward.

### **Growing Chinese Investment in Egypt's Textile Sector**

The project reflects a broader trend of increasing Chinese investment in Egypt's textile and apparel industry. Rising production costs in some traditional manufacturing centers, combined with Egypt's strategic location and trade advantages, have encouraged international companies to explore new investment opportunities in the country.

If realized, the carbon-neutral textile industrial city could become a model for sustainable industrial development in the region, while further strengthening Egypt's ambition to become a major textile production and export center serving markets across Africa, Europe, and the Middle East.

As global brands increasingly prioritize sustainability and supply chain diversification, large-scale projects such as this are expected to play an important role in shaping the future landscape of international textile manufacturing.



INTERVIEW

## Jutta Stehr: Flexibility Is the New Investment Driver in the Nonwovens Sector

Jutta Stehr, Head of Marketing  
at Trützschler Nonwovens

The global nonwovens industry is navigating a period of uncertainty, shaped by geopolitical tensions, cautious investment decisions, and changing market demands. While some regions are slowing down, others continue to invest aggressively in new technologies and production capacities.

At INDEX 2026, one of the world's leading exhibitions for nonwovens technologies, Behnam Ghasemi, Editor in chief at Kohan Textile Journal had the opportunity to speak with Jutta Stehr, Head of Marketing at Trützschler Nonwovens, about the company's experience at the show, current market developments, emerging technologies, and the strategic priorities guiding Trützschler through today's challenging business environment.

In this exclusive interview, Ms. Stehr shares valuable insights into the growing demand

for hygiene nonwovens, the rise of flexible production concepts, the increasing role of digitalization, and why customer proximity remains at the heart of Trützschler's global strategy.

### **What is your overall evaluation of Trützschler Nonwovens' participation at INDEX 2026?**

Our impression from Techtextil was confirmed at INDEX. For us as a machinery supplier, activity was rather limited.

Many of our existing customers were present with their own booths, which led to good discussions, but the usual number of new contacts was clearly lower.

Overall, it was a quieter show, reflecting the current market situation rather than the importance of the industry itself.

**How was the atmosphere at the exhibition, and what were the general expectations of investors and customers regarding the future of the nonwovens market?**

The atmosphere was a bit cautious. Especially producers from Europe and the Americas are holding back on new investments, and some even decided not to attend due to the high costs.

At the same time, there are regions moving ahead: China in particular, and to some extent India and South Asian countries, are less affected by geopolitical tensions and continue to invest.

This was visible at INDEX—for example, our Chinese sister company Trützschler Textile Machinery (Jiaxing), short TTMJ, signed several contracts for new production lines for innovative products.

So while uncertainty dominates in some regions, others are clearly in a growth phase.

**How do you evaluate current market trends in the nonwovens sector?**

Discussions at INDEX were very strongly focused on hygiene nonwovens—mainly air-through bonding, which is currently one of the hottest topics in the market for producing ultra-soft, voluminous nonwovens used in diaper topsheets and back-sheets, as well as hydroentangling.

We also see rising interest in flexible production concepts based on pulp composites such as CP (Card-

ed/Pulp), CPC (Carded/Pulp/Carded), and SPC (Spunlaid/Pulp/Carded).

In uncertain times, these solutions offer manufacturers a good balance.

They allow producers to manufacture both composite and single-layer nonwovens and adapt more easily to changing market demand. That flexibility is currently a key driver behind many investment decisions.

**Which technologies, solutions, or innovations presented at your stand attracted the most interest from visitors?**

Two areas attracted particularly strong interest at our booth.

First, our solutions for finest-fiber air-through bonding generated significant attention.

These technologies are currently in high demand, especially in China, where ultra-soft and bulky hygiene nonwovens are becoming an important differentiator. We expect this trend to gradually spread to other regions as well.

Second, our digital solution T-ONE, especially the camera-based anomaly detection system, attracted considerable interest from visitors.





Similar to what we experienced at Techtextil, many nonwoven producers are actively searching for ways to optimize production through preventive actions and early issue detection.

For us, this confirms that digitalization in nonwovens production is no longer a future topic—it is something the industry is ready to implement today.

**In today's uncertain and challenging market environment, what is Trützschler's strategy for maintaining stable growth and supporting customers worldwide?**

The last two to three years have been challenging for the industry, and we have taken several measures to respond to changing market requirements.

Our local structures have become increasingly important. The Trützschler Group has always focused on staying close to customers and providing the right level of solutions for each market.

Today, market responsibility lies with our regional companies, including TTMJ in China, Trützschler Tekstil Makinalari in Türkiye, and American Trützschler in the United States.

Sales and service are managed locally, while engineering, prod-

uct adaptations, and new developments continue to be coordinated from our German sites in close cooperation with regional teams.

At the same time, we have broadened our portfolio. In addition to the flexible high-tech and high-performance solutions for which Trützschler is known, we now also offer fit-for-purpose machinery—quality-driven, reliable, and application-focused solutions with optimized complexity and cost.

This means placing greater emphasis on machinery business alongside complete production lines. One example is our fine-fiber air-through bonding concepts, where customers can combine our fiber preparation and carding technologies with selected third-party equipment.

We also see strong demand for upgrading existing assets. Many customers are not ready to invest in entirely new lines but want to make their current production facilities future-ready.

To address this need, we have significantly expanded our service offering, including consulting, comprehensive modernizations, complete refurbishments, and retrofits.

In one recent project, replacing the dryer in a hydroentangling line with the latest model increased production capacity by around 30% while reducing energy consumption by up to 40%.

Overall, our strategy is straightforward: stay flexible, stay close to the market, and support customers with practical solutions—regardless of their starting point.

# T-SUPREMA

Needle-punching  
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**TRÜTZSCHLER**  
NONWOVENS

In cooperation with:



# The Future of Spinning Will Be Driven by Automation, Digitalization and Sustainability

Exclusive Interview by Behnam Ghasemi, Editor-in-Chief of Kohan Textile Journal

**T**he global spinning industry is navigating one of its most challenging periods in recent years.

Economic uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, rising energy costs, labor shortages, and increasing sustainability requirements are forcing spinning mills to rethink their strategies and investment priorities.

At the same time, digitalization, automation, recycling, and intelligent production systems are opening new opportunities for manufacturers seeking to improve productivity and remain competitive in a rapidly changing market.

To gain deeper insights into these developments, Kohan Textile Journal spoke with Maren Schubert, Corporate Communications & Social Media Manager at Trützschler, one of the world's leading suppliers of spinning preparation, card clothing, and nonwovens technologies.

In this exclusive interview, Ms. Schubert shares her perspective on the current state of the global spinning industry, investment trends in Türkiye, opportunities across the Middle East and Africa, the future of non-wovens and recycling, and the technologies that are expected to shape the next generation of textile manufacturing.

**Q: The global spinning industry is navigating a period of economic uncertainty and geopolitical tensions. From Trützschler's perspective, what are the most pressing challenges facing spinning mills today?**

Geopolitical tensions, such as the conflict in the Middle East, and a volatile global economy are reducing consumption and investment in new machinery.

Nevertheless, Trützschler remains focused on delivering innovation and added value.

At the same time, our customers face challenges such as labor shortages and rising energy costs.

Our R&D activities are running and we are investing in automation solutions like T-CAN, which help reduce dependency on manual labor and increase efficiency.

By staying close to our customers and developing value-adding technologies, we support them through these challenging times.



**Q: Türkiye remains one of the world's leading textile manufacturing hubs. Why does Trützschler continue to view Türkiye as a strategically important market?**

Türkiye offers many strategic advantages: its geographic proximity to key European markets, a strong domestic cotton production including recycling initiatives and a modern infrastructure for textile manufacturing.

The country is also known for its high-quality textile products and the strong expertise of its textile companies.

Thanks to these strengths, we continue to see Türkiye as a powerful and future-oriented textile hub.

However, spinners in Türkiye are currently facing challenges such as inflation, difficulties in obtaining loans, a decline in exports due to weak global demand, rising labor costs and low capacity utilization in spinning mills.

At the same time, the Turkish market has always been very resilient. Our Turkish customers are constantly finding ways to adapt to their challenges.

We help our clients in Türkiye to stay competitive by investing heavily in R&D and offering cutting-edge technology as well as excellent local service.

**Q: What investment trends are you currently observing among Turkish spinning mills? Which technology areas are attracting the greatest interest?**

We are seeing great interest in our carding technology, especially our next generation TC 30i card in combination with our IDF 3 integrated draw frame for direct spinning and IDF vortex spinning, resulting in higher quality and increased production.

We are also developing automation solutions supported by digital systems that simplify operations and reduce personnel needs.

Our automated can transport system T-CAN was developed in response to growing labor costs and labor shortages in the textile industry.

Digitalization also continues to be a trend. This includes both the digitalization of machinery itself as well as new business models and digital services. With MyMill, our cloud-based platform, customers can monitor and optimize their spinning mill operations.

**Q: Digitalization, automation, sustainability, and energy efficiency are increasingly shaping investment decisions in textile manufacturing. How is Trützschler helping mills improve productivity while reducing costs and environmental impact?**

We see digitalization as a key enabler for smarter, more efficient textile production. We are already applying this in our products through monitoring systems.

Our digital innovation for spinning mill optimization, MyMill, enables internal benchmarking of shift data and machine productivity, delivers machine status updates, and supports fast, data-driven decision-making through transparent analytics and predefined reports.

In automation, T-CAN is a strong example of how we respond to customer needs. Our goal was to create a solution that not only reduces operational costs but also enhances quality and consistency in sliver handling.



It's a leap forward in making spinning mills smarter. We will build on this in the future and continue to develop cutting-edge innovations that respond to the needs of our customers.

Sustainability is equally important. We are advancing more sustainable fiber processing technologies and, with TRUECY-CLED, we offer a dedicated solution in spinning preparation for the recycling of textile waste.

Energy efficiency is another important pillar. For instance, our Pre-Cleaner CL-X processes up to 2,000 kg per hour while consuming 30% less energy than the current benchmark.

Where previously two machines were needed to clean cotton effectively, the CL-X now handles the task alone.

The TC 30i also contributes significantly: in customer applications, it achieved up to 40% higher productivity while reducing energy consumption per kilogram of output.



**Q: How do you see the future of the spinning industry in Türkiye, the Middle East, and Africa over the next few years?**

Türkiye offers many strategic advantages: its geographic proximity to key European markets, strong domestic cotton production and a modern textile manufacturing infrastructure.

The country is also well known for producing high-quality textiles and for the deep expertise of its textile companies. Building on these strengths, we continue to view Türkiye as a powerful, future-oriented textile hub.

At the same time, geopolitical tensions, particularly the ongoing conflicts in parts of the Middle East, make it difficult to provide reliable short-term forecasts for the region.

There are encouraging developments, especially in North Africa. Egypt, for example, is seeing significant investment, supported by its excellent cotton production, skilled workforce, and continuous adoption of state-of-the-art machinery.

Other markets such as Ghana, Ethiopia, South Africa, and Kenya also hold considerable long-term potential.

With a large, eager workforce, good cotton production, and the possibility for greater industrial activity, we remain hopeful that these markets will start to capitalize on the opportunities available.

Our expectation is that Africa's textile sector will experience a positive development in the future, and we're optimistic about the prospects.

**Q: How do you evaluate the future of the nonwovens industry and related investments in Türkiye and the Middle East?**

Türkiye remains the largest nonwovens producer in Europe and a key hub between East and West.

At the same time, the current geopolitical situation in neighboring regions creates uncertainty, increasing costs for resources and thus affects investment decisions.

In the Middle East, the situation is different: there are only very limited local nonwovens capacities, but strong raw material availability for petroleum-based fibers and clear ambitions to develop the industry.

We see interest in both hygiene and technical applications, in Türkiye as well as in the Middle East. However, projects often move forward slowly due to questions around security, financing, and long-term stability.



**Q: Africa is increasingly being viewed as a promising market for recycling and nonwovens. Do you agree with this perspective?**

We see Africa as a promising long-term market for nonwovens. The growing population and the emergence of a middle class will increase demand, especially for hygiene products such as baby diapers and later also dry and wet wipes.

There are interesting opportunities in technical applications like construction and filtration as well.

However, building a competitive nonwovens industry requires significant investment, stable infrastructure, and reliable supply chains – so development will likely start with smaller, local initiatives.

When it comes to recycling, I would take a realistic view. Nonwoven recycling is still at a very early stage globally. Post-consumer products often are contaminated and made from complex material combinations and fiber blends.

It is not yet clear how efficient, scalable recycling into high-quality fibers for new nonwovens will look.

So while the potential is there, it will take time and significant technological progress to unlock it.

**Q: Looking ahead, what major technological developments do you believe will shape the future of spinning over the next five to ten years?**

Close collaboration with our customers and a deep understanding of market trends remain essential.

By focusing on smart solutions that enhance productivity, quality, and sustainability, we stay at the forefront of technological developments.

We believe excellent spinning preparation is crucial for yarn quality, which is why we've developed intelligent, self-optimizing machines – and connect them through digital monitoring systems.

**Editor's Insight**

What stands out most from this discussion is that the future competitiveness of spinning mills will not depend solely on

machinery investments, but on how effectively manufacturers integrate automation, digital intelligence, sustainability, and operational efficiency into their production strategies.

While challenges such as geopolitical uncertainty, rising costs, and labor shortages continue to affect textile producers worldwide, the industry is clearly moving toward smarter and more connected manufacturing environments.

Technologies that reduce dependency on manual labor, improve transparency through data, and support sustainable fiber processing are becoming essential rather than optional.

For textile manufacturers in Türkiye, the Middle East, and Africa, the coming years may present both challenges and significant opportunities.

Those willing to invest in innovation and modernization will likely be best positioned to benefit from the next phase of growth in the global textile industry.



# Textile supply chains are changing. Spain's textile technology sector is ready to respond

**G**lobal textile manufacturing is entering a new phase. After years marked by rising costs, longer delivery times and pressure to make production more sustainable, companies are once again reviewing how and where they source technology, machinery and industrial partners.

Recent instability affecting international trade routes has reinforced a trend that was already underway: textile manufacturers need supply chains that are not only efficient, but also resilient, diversified and closer to reliable partners.

Maritime transport continues

to face volatility, with geopolitical tensions affecting routes such as the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, while global shipping patterns are being redrawn.

## **Spain's Textile Technology Sector Steps Forward**

In this context, Spain's textile technology sector has a clear role to play. Spain has a long industrial tradition in textile machinery, equipment, accessories and advanced solutions for the textile and apparel industry.

Spanish companies are known for their technical expertise, flexibility and capacity to adapt solutions to the real needs of manufacturers.

For international companies, this means access to European partners with experience, proximity and a strong export mindset.

## **Spanish Solutions for Textiles Connects Global Buyers with Spanish Manufacturers**

Spanish Solutions for Textiles was created to make this industrial ecosystem more visible abroad.

The platform brings together the main Spanish manufacturers of equipment and technology for the textile industry and helps foreign companies find suppliers, discover technological trends and connect with internationally active manufacturers.

According to the platform, it gathers 62 companies, 45 of them with outstanding international presence, and 65% of their turnover comes from exports.

Behind the platform is amec amtex, the Spanish Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association. amec amtex represents Spanish manufacturers of technologies, solutions and accessories for the textile sector, and plays an important role in promoting the industry internationally, opening new markets and strengthening competitiveness.

### **ITMA 2027 Creates New Opportunities for Spanish Textile Technology**

This positioning is especially relevant as the sector looks ahead to ITMA 2027, which will take place in Hannover from 16 to 22 September 2027.

ITMA is the world's leading textile and garment technology exhibition, owned by CEMATEX and held every four years, with a strong focus on sustainability, digitalisation and automation.

For foreign manufacturers looking to modernise their production, Spain offers more than machinery. It offers a network of companies able to

provide textile technology, technical support, tailor-made solutions and a practical understanding of industrial challenges.

This is particularly valuable in areas such as finishing, printing, weaving, knitting, automation, technical textiles and more sustainable production processes.

### **Building a More Resilient and Sustainable Textile Future**

The future of textile manufacturing will depend on innovation, but also on trust. Companies need partners who can respond quickly, understand their production reality and help them build more efficient, flexible and sustainable operations.

That is why Spanish Solutions for Textiles aims to become a reference portal for international companies interested in discovering the capabilities of Spain's textile technology sector.

As global supply chains continue to evolve, Spain is well positioned to contribute to the next stage of textile manufacturing: more resilient, more sustainable and more connected to the needs of the international market.





# 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

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# Spanish Solutions for Textiles

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sustainable  
than ever

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## 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](#)





# ITCPE

Textiles, Garment Manufacturing, Textile Printing, Embroidery, Sewing, Knitting, Dyeing, Fabrics and Accessories, All in ITCPE

16 - 18 Sept, 2026

WTC International Expo Center,  
Binh Duong Province, Vietnam

## 2026 (The 9th) ASEAN (Vietnam) International Textile, Clothing and Printing Industry Expo



Textile Printing Industry Technology Exhibition

Intelligent Sewing, Embroidery, Knitting Industry Technology Exhibition

International Printing, Dyeing and Finishing Industry Technology Exhibition

Apparel Fabrics, Accessories, and Yarn Exhibition

## The 21st Guangzhou International Textile, Clothing & Printing Industry Expo 2026 has concluded successfully! See you in 2027!

**O**n May 21, 2026, the three-day 21st Guangzhou International Textile, Clothing & Printing Industry Expo (ITCPE Guangzhou) came to a successful conclusion at Poly World Trade Center Expo, Pazhou, Guangzhou.

Under the theme “Smart Global Linkage, Innovation Leads the Future”, the expo leverages the strategic advantages of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

It gathered around 800 premium exhibitors across four exhibition halls, with a total display area of nearly 50,000 square meters.

The event attracted nearly 40,000 professional visitors from the textile, garment, printing and embroidery industries, setting a new record in scale.

### **01 Overseas Buyers Flock In, International Influence Hits New Record**

The expo stood out prominently for its strong international atmosphere. Professional visitor arrivals exceeded 20,000 on the opening day.

According to the organizer's statistics, the total number of visitors rose by 37.14% year on year.

Despite rainy weather throughout the event, visitor enthusiasm remained high, with robust growth recorded across all three days.

Specifically, attendance surged by 42.57% on Day 1, 24.04% on Day 2 and a remarkable 74.13% on Day 3 compared with the previous edition.

The expo achieved a new all-time high in international participation. Statistics for the three-day event show that the number of registered overseas buyers rose by 92.97% year on year.

Multiple languages including Chinese, English, Vietnamese, Hindi, Russian and Bengali could be heard across the halls.

Negotiation areas were fully occupied and popular booths saw long queues, with the atmosphere far more bustling than previous editions.

Many exhibitors noted a sharp increase in overseas visitors this year.

They have secured numerous overseas orders on site, while a great number of potential deals are in the pipeline with strong purchasing intentions.



Large numbers of professional buyers and industry practitioners from the Middle East, Africa, South America, Southeast Asia and other regions gathered at the venue.

Eager to explore new technologies and products in the textile and garment sector, they conducted in-depth exchanges and cooperation with exhibitors.

### Domestic Delegations

Domestically, multiple delegations from industrial clusters came to visit, including Haicheng Printing Industry Association of Liaoning, Jinhua Printing Industry Association of Zhejiang, Caoxian Digital Printing Association of Shandong, Anyang Printing Association of Henan, as well as groups of printing and embroidery enterprises from Hubei and enterprises from Hebei.

The expo has forged a new international landscape featuring gathered global buyers, integrated industrial chain resources and comprehensive technology displays.



The online performance was equally impressive. Live streaming garnered over 30,000 views, while the photo live broadcast accumulated more than 300,000 page views.

These remarkable figures fully demonstrate the irreplaceable appeal of ITCPE Guangzhou within the global textile and garment industry.

### Overseas Delegations

A host of professional overseas purchasing groups attended the expo, including delegations from the Indian Textile and Apparel Association, Bangladesh Textile & Garment Association, Uzbekistan Textile and Garment Industry Association, Brazilian Textile Quality Association and Russian Textile Association.

Also present were representatives from A.MC Precision Machinery Co., Ltd., Binh Duong Textile Association (BDTAS), Ho Chi Minh City Apparel and Garment Association (AGTEK) and Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS).



## 02. Exhibitors Showcase Strength and Expertise

A great number of exhibitors took part in ITCPE Guangzhou. The expo featured five specialized zones for digital printing, sewing & embroidery, eco-friendly dyeing & printing, intelligent seamless processing, as well as apparel fabrics and accessories, covering the whole industry chain comprehensively.



### 1. Digital Printing Zone

Industrial direct-to-garment printers, digital transfer printing equipment, intelligent printing solutions and printing consumables.

### 2. Sewing & Embroidery Zone

High-speed computerized embroidery machines, laser embroidery machines, intelligent sewing equipment and seamless machinery.

### 3. Eco-friendly Dyeing & Printing Zone

Environment-friendly dyeing and printing technologies, chemical dyes and auxiliaries.

### 4. Intelligent Seamless Processing Zone

Seamless sewing technologies, personalized customization solutions and DTF transfer solutions.

### 5. Apparel Fabrics & Accessories Zone

Fabrics, accessories, as well as various garment parts and supplies.

It realizes one-stop procurement services covering the whole process from fabric to finished garments, presenting the industry's latest technologies, equipment, materials and concepts to visitors in all aspects.

## Highlights of 2026 ITCPE Guangzhou

### 03. Insightful Forums & Stunning Fashion Shows

Combining conferences and fashion shows, the expo perfectly integrated wisdom and trendiness, standing out as one of the major highlights.

#### 2026 Intelligent Seamless Textile & Apparel Forum

It focused on cutting-edge technologies for intelligent seamless sewing, exploring how traceless craftsmanship sets new benchmarks for garment manufacturing.

#### 2026 Digital Textile Innovation Summit

Hot topics including AI-enabled textile industry, personalized customization and intelligent manufacturing sparked lively discussions among all attendees, with the venue fully occupied.

#### 2026 ITCPE Guangzhou Apparel Industrial Chain Innovation Forum

It focuses on collaborative innovation across the entire industrial chain, exploring the intelligent upgrading pathway from fabrics to finished garments.



## 2026 World Digital Textile Conference Guangzhou Summit

It brings together the latest insights from the global printing industry to discuss technological innovations and future market trends of digital printing.

## 2026 GBA Printing, Embroidery & Fashion Trend Show

Blending traditional embroidery and modern craftsmanship perfectly, the shows ran for three consecutive days, fully showcasing the profound heritage and innovative vitality of China's textile and apparel culture.

## The 3rd Guangdong Textile Auxiliary Industry Association Work Report & Election Conference



### 04 Booming Signings & Robust Equipment Sales

While visitor turnout reflects the exhibition's popularity, deal closures embody its real strength.

This edition saw booming on-site signings. A large number of printing and embroidery machines were successfully sold, with the transaction rate rising sharply compared with previous events.

On the first day of the exhibition, numerous exhibitors of printing equipment reported frequent good news and closed deals one after another.

Even right after the show hours ended, new orders kept coming in. Some exhibitors joked that they talked nonstop until their throats were sore, while the back-office staff were kept busy processing orders.

They expressed hope for more of such "pleasant troubles".

Embroidery machine exhibitors were equally impressive. Intelligent equipment including multi-head embroidery machines and garment computerized embroidery machines drew great attention.

One exhibitor revealed that its new-generation high-speed embroidery machines secured multiple intended orders on the first day, with additional orders coming in afterwards.

In addition, enterprises specializing in laser equipment, inks and garment accessories also reaped fruitful results and secured a host of tentative orders.

Statistics show that on-site orders rose markedly, with the transaction rate up by 42% year on year. The growth is attributed to precise business matching and efficient communication at the exhibition.



The expo earned high praise from exhibitors and visitors alike. Attendees shared positive comments: “This is the most fruitful textile expo I have ever participated in.

It features high-caliber clients, strong transaction volumes and remarkable international engagement.” “The four forums were full of practical takeaways, and the fashion shows were breathtaking. This visit has been well worthwhile.”

“We welcomed a great many overseas buyers this year, many of whom came with orders ready. The overall performance far exceeded our expectations.”

“ITCPE Guangzhou goes from strength to strength. We will definitely return next year.” All participants reaped rich rewards at the event.

### 05 Looking Ahead, Forging Ahead Hand in Hand

Since its inaugural edition in 2006, ITCPE Guangzhou has witnessed 21 fruitful years. As China’s pioneering and influential professional exhibition covering textile & garment manufacturing, printing, embroidery, sewing, dyeing & finishing, as well as garment accessories, it is far more than a trade show.

It serves as a vital hub for exchanges and cooperation across the global industrial chain of textile, garment, printing, sewing, embroidery, dyeing, fabrics and accessories.

Going forward, ITCPE will continue to uphold the core philosophy: Boost Clients’ Competitiveness, Power All-in-one Forward.

We will focus on cutting-edge sectors including textile printing, intelligent sewing & embroidery, eco-friendly dyeing & finishing, functional fabrics and accessories.

We strive to build an elite international industry event with more professional visitors, larger exhibition scale and better participation outcomes.

Let us look forward to the grand opening of the 22nd ITCPE Guangzhou in 2027! We sincerely thank all exhibitors, visitors, partners and media friends for your support and attention to the 2026 edition. See you in 2027!



# emtec Showcases Tactile

## Sensation Analyzer at ITM 2026

**E**mtec Electronic GmbH is set to present its TSA Tactile Sensation Analyzer at ITM 2026, introducing a data-driven approach to evaluating textile hand feel and wearing comfort.

The company will exhibit at the Istanbul TÜYAP Fair and Congress Center from June 9–13, alongside the Hightex exhibition for technical textiles and nonwovens, reinforcing ITM's position as a key global meeting point for the textile machinery sector.

### Addressing Subjectivity in Textile Evaluation

One of the longstanding challenges in textile development has been the subjective nature of fabric assessment.

Characteristics such as softness, smoothness, and comfort are often interpreted differently across the value chain, leading to inconsistencies, repeated sampling, and increased development costs.

emtec's TSA system aims to eliminate this subjectivity by converting tactile properties into measurable, standardized data.

### From Touch to Data

The TSA Tactile Sensation Analyzer captures key haptic parameters, including:

- Surface softness and smoothness
- Stretch and recovery
- Compressibility
- Thermal behavior

These properties are translated into reproducible values, enabling consistent communication between manufacturers, suppliers, and customers worldwide.

### Digital Integration with Virtual Haptic Library

The system is complemented by emtec's Virtual Haptic Library, a cloud-based platform that allows users to store, compare, and retrieve digital fabric profiles.

This integration reduces reliance on physical samples and helps minimize delays caused by logistics and miscommunication—two of the most persistent inefficiencies in textile product development.

### Accelerating Development Cycles

According to emtec, traditional textile development processes can take up to 20 weeks due to multiple sampling iterations and global shipping requirements.

By adopting TSA technology, companies may reduce development timelines to as little as two weeks, while also lowering courier costs and supporting sustainability through reduced material waste.

### A Tool for the Entire Value Chain

The TSA system is designed for use across multiple stages of the textile value chain, including research and development, quality control, sourcing, and sales.

Visitors to ITM 2026 will have the opportunity to explore the technology and engage with emtec representatives at Hall 10, Stand 1002C.

### A Shift Toward Data-Driven Textile Development

The introduction of objective hand feel measurement reflects a broader industry shift toward digitalisation and standardisation.

As textile supply chains become more global and complex, technologies like TSA are expected to play a critical role in improving efficiency, reducing costs, and enabling more consistent product development outcomes.





## Andreas Rass of ZIMMER AUSTRIA: Camouflage Printing Is Becoming a Serious Industrial Growth Area

**A**s part of our coverage of Techtextil and the upcoming ITM 2026 exhibition in Istanbul, I had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Andreas Rass, CEO of Zimmer Austria, about the current transformation of the textile printing and technical textile industries.

During our discussion, Mr. Rass shared valuable insights regarding the growing importance of camouflage and military-related textile printing, the evolution of digital printing technologies, sustainability challenges, and the future direction of carpet, home textile, and technical textile production.

He also discussed ZIMMER AUSTRIA'S

strategic focus for upcoming exhibitions, including ITM 2026 in Istanbul, where the company will showcase its latest developments in digital printing, coating, and carpet technologies.

In this interview, Andreas Rass explains how global market conditions are reshaping investment priorities in the textile industry and why technologies such as camouflage printing, integrated process solutions, and advanced carpet printing systems are becoming increasingly important for manufacturers worldwide.

### **Overall Experience at Techtextil 2026**

How would you evaluate Zimmer's overall participation at Techtextil 2026? What were your key takeaways from this year's edition?

We evaluate our participation at Techtextil 2026 very positively.

The exhibition again confirmed its importance as a leading international platform for technical textiles, coating, and advanced production technologies.

What stood out to us was not only the international reach of the show, but also the quality of discussions: many conversations were concrete, technically informed, and directly linked to real business opportunities and development projects.

Techtextil and Texprocess 2026 brought together more than 36,000 visitors and 1,700 exhibitors from 112 countries, which underlines the scale and relevance of the platform.

For our Digital Printing Systems division, one topic stood out very clearly above all others: camouflage and military-related textile printing was the number one discussion topic at the booth.

That was a very important signal for us. It showed that the market is increasingly looking at resilient, regional, and trusted production structures for technical and protective textile applications.

For ZIMMER AUSTRIA, this confirms that digital printing for camouflage is no longer a niche subject, but a serious industrial growth area.

### **Market Atmosphere & Industry Sentiment**

Despite global uncertainties and ongoing geopolitical challenges, how would you describe the overall business atmosphere at the exhibition? Did you observe confidence in investment and new projects?

The atmosphere was serious, but constructive. Everyone in the industry is aware of the broader challenges — geopolitical tensions, cost pressure, and uncertain market conditions — but at the exhibition we clearly saw that companies are still investing where technology creates strategic value.

In that sense, the mood was not overly optimistic, but it was focused, realistic, and solution-driven. Messe Frankfurt's final report also reflected this, highlighting strong visitor satisfaction, increased exhibitor confidence in post-show business, and a clear focus on market-ready innovation.

We did see confidence in new projects, especially where customers can strengthen flexibility, improve efficiency, and build more resilient supply chains. This is particularly relevant in technical and military textiles.

For many Western textile producers, camouflage printing represents an opportunity to move into more advanced, specification-driven, and higher-value applications.

At the same time, it is also a major opportunity for Western machinery manufacturers, because these applications require dependable industrial systems, strong process know-how, and long-term service support.

### **Product Highlights & Market Interest**

Which of Zimmer Austria's technologies or solutions attracted the most attention during the exhibition?

On the digital side, camouflage printing clearly attracted the strongest interest.



Customers were highly engaged by our positioning in military and defense-related textiles, especially because digital printing offers flexibility, fast design adaptation, and controlled, repeatable production on demanding technical substrates.

That combination of customization and industrial repeatability is exactly what many producers are looking for today.

Alongside this, our COLARIS-TeX also attracted strong attention, as did the full-scale COLARIS print carriage with up to 96 printheads, because both demonstrate where industrial digital printing is heading: toward more usability, better serviceability, stronger connectivity, and higher productivity.

In addition, we also saw continued strong market interest in our carpet printing solutions, where the combination of COLARIS and CHROMOJET remains a major differentiator for customers looking for either high-resolution design freedom or robust, high-penetration carpet printing performance.

### Key Industry Trends

From your perspective, what are the key trends currently shaping the technical textiles and coating segment?

From my perspective, four trends are especially important right now. First, the market is moving decisively toward connected and smarter production, where ease of operation, data availability, automation, and machine uptime become just as important as print quality itself.

Second, sustainability and efficiency remain central, but customers are increasingly demanding measurable industrial benefits — lower water use, lower energy consumption, and fewer process steps.

Third, we see strong momentum in advanced materials and functional applications, including mobility, protection, outdoor, and industrial textiles and fourth, there is a very clear shift toward complete process solutions.

Customers do not want isolated machines; they want partners who understand printing, coating, fixation, drying, and end-use performance as one integrated production concept.

This is particularly true in camouflage printing, where digital printing becomes valuable only when combined with the right application know-how and process control.



### Focus for Upcoming Exhibitions

Which key technologies or solutions will Zimmer focus on in upcoming exhibitions, particularly in Istanbul?

In upcoming exhibitions, we will continue to focus on the technologies that best represent our strength as a complete solution provider: digital textile printing, carpet printing, coating, finishing, and technical textile applications.

After Techtexil, camouflage printing will certainly remain one of our strategic topics, because it clearly resonates with the market and represents a long-term industrial opportunity.

For Istanbul, however, the emphasis will be broader and more region-specific.

There we will put stronger focus on carpet printing, carpet coating, and home textile applications, because these are highly relevant segments for Türkiye and the Middle East.

At the same time, we will continue to address military and camouflage-related printing as an additional opportunity for producers in the region to establish higher-value and more specialized textile supply chains.

### **Booth Highlights**

What can visitors expect to see at Zimmer's booth in Istanbul? Are there any specific highlights or new developments you plan to showcase?

Visitors to our booth in Hall 4, Booth 404C can expect a very application-oriented presentation of ZIMMER AUSTRIA's capabilities across digital printing, carpet printing, coating, and finishing.

Our Digital Printing Systems team as well as our Screen Printing & Coating Systems specialists will be present, and the focus will be on real customer applications and complete production concepts rather than stand-alone components.

The strongest emphasis in Istanbul will be on carpet and home textile solutions, because these are core industries in the region and important growth areas for us.

That includes applications such as rugs, runners, tiles, mats, contract carpets, towels, blankets, upholstery, and other home textile products.

At the same time, we will also continue to highlight military and camouflage-related digital printing as a pathway for regional producers who want to move beyond volume manufacturing and into more advanced, value-added segments.



### **Message to the Market**

What message would you like to share with textile manufacturers and industry professionals following Techtextil 2026?

My message is that this market still offers real opportunities for companies that invest with focus and industrial clarity.

Even in a difficult environment, we see strong potential wherever manufacturers improve flexibility, shorten response times, and move into higher-value applications.

That is true in traditional strengths such as carpet and home textiles, but also in more specialized areas such as technical and military-related textiles.

For Western textile producers, camouflage printing is a strong example of how new, higher-value supply chains can be built around trusted production capability and application know-how and for Western machinery producers, it is a clear opportunity to provide the industrial platforms that enable such production reliably and at scale.

At the same time, in regions such as Türkiye and the Middle East, we believe the combination of strong carpet and home textile know-how with emerging military and technical applications can create a very attractive path toward more differentiated and resilient manufacturing.

# FIND THE PERFECT TECHNOLOGY FOR YOUR APPLICATION

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# ITM 2026

09. - 13. June 2026  
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HALL 4

BOOTH 404C



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# Rieter at ITM 2026: Spinning Redefined with Automation and Intelligence

- . Barmag and Rieter exhibit side by side
- . Barmag showcase innovations across all man-made fiber processes
- . Towards the fully automated spinning mill with automation and digitization
- . Universal compacting solution COMPACT4
- . Leading the way in combing preparation with the OMEGAlap E 40
- . Convincing customer results with rotor spinning machine R 70
- . AI solutions for most productive card C 81
- . Latest technological breakthroughs in spinning recycled fibers

**S**pinning mills need solutions that deliver stability, efficiency and future-proof performance. Rieter has put together a powerful portfolio for ITM 2026 in Istanbul, Türkiye. These innovations give customers the tools to enhance cost efficiency, improve responsiveness and actively develop their competitive edge.

Step-by-step, Rieter is moving closer to its Vision 2027 – the fully automated spinning mill.

With each new technology, Rieter enables spinning mills worldwide to operate with greater precision and reliability, ensuring they remain at the forefront of an increasingly demanding global market.

This year marks a milestone: Rieter and Barmag are exhibiting side by side for the first time. By combining 230 years of Rieter's spinning innovation with Barmag's world-class man-made fiber technologies, customers can make full use of Rieter's leadership as system provider for natural and man-made fibers.

## **Barmag showcases innovations across all man-made fiber processes**

As a technology leader in chemical

fiber equipment, Barmag will present its complete portfolio of systems for filament yarn, staple fiber, and nonwoven production, as well as solutions for the net-worked factory.

Barmag will unveil the semi-automated winding machine WINGS POY 2.0, featuring an automatic string-up function – a long-awaited feature in the market.

In addition, Barmag will highlight the manual texturing machine eFK EvoSmart which enables energy-efficient yarn production while ensuring the highest yarn quality. Another focus will be on Neumag's EVOSteam process, which includes two new developments.



## **Towards the fully automated spinning mill with automation and digitization**

Rieter will be presenting solutions that enable a step-by-step implementation of the fully automated spinning mill for the production of ring and compact yarn.

Highlights include efficient bale transport, automated can transport and fully automatic packaging solutions, such as steaming, palletizing and labeling.

In the field of digitization, Rieter offers various ESSENTIAL modules to meet different requirements.

This gives spinning mill employees – from management to machine operators – a solid basis for making decisions on how to optimize yarn production.

### **Universal compacting solution COMPACT4**

COMPACT4 is the innovative compacting solution that sets new benchmarks for flexibility, reliability and spinning efficiency.

With a fine-tuned spinning geometry, it produces compact yarns with the best quality. The solution's extremely low maintenance, minimal downtime, and low energy consumption ensure spinning mills benefit from outstanding cost-effectiveness in daily mill use.

### **Leading the way in combing preparation with the OMEGAlap E 40**

The new combing preparation machine OMEGAlap E 40 produces 800 kg/h, 33% more than its predecessor – thanks to the rapid lap changing. At the same time, it has 30% lower energy and 63% lower compressed air consumption.

Maintenance and cleaning are especially easy, representing a clear advantage for operating personnel.

### **Convincing customer results with rotor spinning machine R 70**

The rotor spinning machine R 70 boosts productivity by 7 to 15% while reliably delivering superior yarn quality.



It processes high shares of non-virgin material mixes at full speed, supported by advanced fiber and air-guiding components.

Unique pneumatic rotor-cleaning at every piecing ensures consistent quality. Energy use drops by up to 10% thanks to innovative low-vacuum technology, and well-accessible components simplify maintenance to keep availability high.

### **AI solutions for the most productive card C 81**

The Rieter card C 81, equipped with artificial intelligence, is bringing about a revolution in fiber preparation. One groundbreaking feature is the Carding Gap Control CGC which creates ideal conditions for nep reduction and yarn quality.

In addition, the Trash Level Monitor TLM keeps the trash level under control when processing natural fibers, thereby unlocking maximum fiber yield and the full potential of the card. Both solutions are also available as retrofit.

### **Latest technological breakthroughs in spinning recycled fibers**

Rieter works closely with partners and fiber manufacturers on the topic of spinning recycled fibers. Latest technologies significantly increase the efficiency and quality of processing textile waste into valuable new yarns, supporting a more circular textile value chain.

Rieter and its subsidiaries Accotex, Bräcker, Graf, Novibra, Suessen, SSM and Temco will present its latest innovations at ITM 2026 in Istanbul, Türkiye, from June 9 to 13, in Hall 7, Booth 702, alongside Barmag in Hall 7, Booth 704.

By combining state-of-the-art technologies and products with top-quality services, Rieter empowers spinning mills to produce more efficiently, more flexibly and more cost-effectively.

# Can Africa's \$164 Billion Sovereign Wealth Funds Accelerate Textile Industrialization?

## Introduction: Africa's Industrial Story Is Beginning to Change

**F**or decades, Africa's position within the global economy was largely defined by the export of raw materials.

Minerals, metals, oil, agricultural commodities, and cotton left the continent in enormous volumes, while much of the value-added industrial production took place elsewhere.

Today, however, a different conversation is slowly emerging across the continent.

Governments, industrial institutions, and regional economic planners are increasingly discussing how Africa can move beyond the role of raw material supplier and build stronger manufacturing ecosystems capable of supporting long-term industrial growth.

One of the most important drivers behind this shift may come from a source that, at first glance, appears unrelated to textiles: sovereign wealth funds.

Across Africa, sovereign investment funds now control assets estimated at more than \$164 billion.

While much of the recent global attention surrounding these funds focuses on mining, energy, and infrastructure development, the broader implications for manufacturing industries—including textiles and apparel—could become highly significant over the next decade.

Because industrial transformation rarely remains limited to a single sector.

When countries begin strengthening industrial financing systems, infrastructure investment, logistics networks, and long-term development strategies, textile manufacturing often becomes one of the first industries capable of expanding rapidly alongside broader economic modernization.

## Why the Textile Industry Could Benefit From This Transformation

The textile and apparel sector has historically played a central role in industrial development across many emerging economies.

Countries such as China, Bangladesh, Türkiye, India, and Vietnam used textile manufacturing not only as an export engine, but also as a foundation for industrial employment, urban growth, technology transfer, and broader manufacturing expansion.





Textile production created industrial ecosystems that later supported more advanced sectors.

Africa already possesses several of the structural advantages necessary for textile growth.

**The continent has:**

- major cotton-producing regions,
- large labor availability,
- growing domestic consumer markets,
- strategic geographic positioning between Europe, the Middle East, and Asia,
- and increasing regional trade integration.

Yet despite these advantages, large-scale textile industrialization across many African economies has historically remained slower than expected. One of the main reasons has been financing.

Building a competitive textile industry requires far more than low labor costs.

Modern textile manufacturing depends heavily on infrastructure, logistics, energy reliability, machinery investment, industrial parks, transportation systems, and long-term capital availability.

Without these foundations, facto-

ries often struggle to scale efficiently even when labor advantages exist.

This is precisely where sovereign wealth funds could begin changing the industrial landscape.

**Africa Is Beginning to Focus More on Value Addition**

One of the most important economic shifts taking place across Africa is the growing emphasis on value-added production.

For many years, numerous African economies remained dependent on exporting raw commodities while importing finished industrial products at significantly higher value levels.

Increasingly, governments are now trying to reverse that imbalance by encouraging domestic processing and manufacturing development.

This transition is already becoming visible in sectors linked to mining, metals processing, fertilizers, and industrial production.

The same logic can eventually extend much more aggressively into textile manufacturing.

Cotton is perhaps the clearest example.

Africa is already an important global cotton producer, yet a large share of that cotton still leaves the continent without passing through advanced spinning, weaving, dyeing, or garment manufacturing systems. As a result, much of the higher-value textile production remains concentrated elsewhere.

If sovereign wealth funds begin supporting investments in spinning mills, textile parks, garment manufacturing hubs, logistics corridors, and industrial infrastructure, the continent could gradually capture larger portions of the textile value chain internally.

This would not only strengthen exports, but also increase industrial employment and reduce dependency on raw commodity exports alone.

**The Global Sourcing Landscape Is Also Changing**

The timing of this industrial discussion is particularly important because the global textile industry itself is entering a period of structural transition.



International brands and sourcing companies are increasingly reevaluating supply chain concentration risks after years of geopolitical instability, logistics disruptions, rising Asian production costs, and global transportation volatility. Many companies are now actively exploring supply chain diversification strategies to reduce dependence on a limited number of sourcing regions.

As a result, Africa is receiving growing attention as a potential manufacturing destination.

Countries such as Egypt and Morocco already play important roles in textile and apparel exports, particularly due to their geographic proximity to European markets.

Ethiopia, despite facing challenges in recent years, demonstrated how rapidly international apparel manufacturing investment could flow into African markets when industrial policy and infrastructure align effectively.

Meanwhile, countries across East and West Africa are increasingly positioning themselves as future industrial manufacturing destinations.

What has often been missing, however, is the large-scale financial structure capable of supporting long-term industrial ecosystems.

This is where sovereign wealth funds may become strategically important.

### **Industrial Financing Is Becoming a Competitive Advantage**

One of the major challenges in textile manufacturing is that industrial development requires patience.

Spinning mills, weaving facilities, dyeing operations, and integrated textile parks require significant upfront investment while returns may take years to fully materialize.

Many private investors remain cautious about entering markets where infrastructure development is still evolving or where industrial ecosystems are not yet fully mature.

Sovereign wealth funds operate differently from short-term speculative capital.

In many cases, these funds are designed specifically to support long-term national development objectives.

This allows them to participate in infrastructure-heavy sectors that may initially appear too slow or capital intensive for purely private financing models.

If parts of these investment structures begin supporting textile industrialization directly or indirectly, they could help create a more stable foundation for manufacturing growth across multiple African economies.

Even investments initially focused on mining or energy can indirectly support textile expansion by improving electricity access, logistics systems, transportation infrastructure, and industrial connectivity.

For textile manufacturing, these foundational improvements are often just as important as factory investment itself.

## **Can Africa Build Integrated Textile Ecosystems?**

The larger question is no longer whether Africa can participate in textile manufacturing. That question has already been answered.

African countries are already producing garments, processing cotton, and participating in global sourcing networks.

The more important question now is whether the continent can move beyond fragmented production structures and gradually build fully integrated textile ecosystems capable of competing internationally at larger scale. That would require much deeper industrial coordination.

Successful textile ecosystems depend on close integration between cotton production, spinning, weaving, dyeing, finishing, garment manufacturing, logistics, export systems, technical training, and energy infrastructure.

Countries that successfully developed textile industries in Asia spent decades building these interconnected industrial structures. Africa may now be entering an earlier version of that same process.

The growing role of sovereign industrial capital could become one of the missing pieces necessary to accelerate this transition.

### **The Future Textile Industry May Be Built Around Regional Industrialization**

Another important shift taking place globally is the increasing regionalization of manufacturing. faster delivery, lower logistics risk, improved sustainability and greater supply chain resilience.

Africa's geographic positioning gives it significant long-term potential in this environment.

North African countries already benefit from strong proximity to Europe, while East African regions increasingly attract attention for la-

bor-intensive manufacturing potential.

West Africa, with its cotton production capabilities and expanding infrastructure discussions, may also become more important over time.

If sovereign wealth funds begin supporting broader industrial strategies rather than focusing exclusively on extractive industries, textiles could become one of the sectors most capable of generating large-scale employment and export diversification simultaneously.

### **Conclusion: A Strategic Industrial Opportunity Is Emerging**

At first glance, discussions surrounding sovereign wealth funds may appear primarily connected to mining, energy, and infrastructure.

But the long-term implications may extend far beyond natural resources.

Industrial financing has the power to reshape manufacturing ecosystems, and textile production has historically been one of the industries most capable of translating industrial investment into large-scale economic activity.

Africa already possesses many of the structural ingredients necessary for textile expansion. What has often been missing is the financial and industrial infrastructure capable of supporting long-term manufacturing ecosystems at scale.

The emergence of stronger sovereign investment structures may now begin changing that reality.

Whether Africa can fully capitalize on this opportunity will depend on infrastructure development, industrial coordination, political stability, education systems, and long-term strategic planning. But one thing is becoming increasingly clear: the conversation around Africa's future is gradually shifting away from raw material exports alone and toward industrial transformation and textiles may ultimately become one of the sectors most capable of benefiting from that transition.

# Tradition and Innovation – Phoenix Textiles Ltd. relies on state-of-the-art carpet back-coating line from Brückner



**F**or more than 70 years, Phoenix Textiles Ltd. has been synonymous with quality, reliability, and innovation in the textile industry.

Founded in 1954 in Huddersfield (Yorkshire, UK), a region with a long tradition in textiles, this family-owned business has continued to evolve without losing sight of its roots.

Today, in its fourth generation under the leadership of the Mosley family, Phoenix successfully combines decades of experience with a clear, forward-looking corporate strategy.

Over the course of its history, Phoenix has increasingly specialized in the production of carpets, floor mats, and play rugs.

Approximately 80 percent of the product portfolio is still manufactured at the headquarters in Huddersfield—a clear commitment to the location and to creating value within the UK.

To meet the growing demands of the market, streamline production processes, and tap into new business areas, Phoenix decided to make a strategic investment in a state-of-the-art carpet back-coating line.

The goal was to expand production capacity while ensuring the highest quality standards on an ongoing basis.

Following intensive project planning and consultation, the leading textile machinery manufacturer Brückner was selected as the technology partner.

The decision to partner with the German family-owned company proved to be a gamechanger: the installed state-of-the-art coating line impressed with its performance and reliability shortly after commissioning.

Even during the start-up phase, the system not only met but actually exceeded the contractually agreed-upon production targets.

Throughout the entire project, Brückner proved to be an extremely competent, solution-oriented, and trustworthy partner.

In particular, the close collaboration, technical expertise, and high quality of service contributed significantly to the project's success.

Phoenix also looks to the future with optimism and is confident that it has a long-term partner in Brückner.

In addition to state-of-the-art plant technology, the collaboration also focuses on ongoing technical consulting, reliable maintenance, targeted upgrades, and rapid spare parts supply.

With this investment, Phoenix Textiles is making a strong statement of its commitment to combining tradition and innovation and continuing to operate successfully as a leading provider in the international market.



## 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



# Syre Expands Partnership with Target to Scale Recycled Materials



**S**yre has announced an expanded collaboration with Target to accelerate the adoption of next-generation recycled materials across global retail, marking a significant step toward scalable circular textile solutions.

The partnership focuses on integrating textile-to-textile recycled polyester into high-volume product categories, including apparel and home textiles.

## Driving Circularity at Industrial Scale

The collaboration is expected to enable the use of approximately 70,000 metric tons of polyester derived from end-of-life textiles, supporting the transition toward circular material systems across retail supply chains.

By embedding recycled polyester into mainstream product lines, the initiative aims to move beyond niche sustainability efforts and into large-scale commercial application, with meaningful product integration targeted by 2030.

## Strengthening Retail Supply Chains

Dennis Nobelius, CEO of Syre, emphasized the importance of scaling innovation through partnerships:

“This collaboration helps accelerate adoption and supports the continued development of circular textile solutions across the industry.”

From Target’s perspective, the initiative aligns with growing consumer demand for sustainable products without compromising design or affordability.

Stephanie Grotta, Vice President of Responsible Sourcing and Sustainable Capabilities at Target, highlighted the strategic importance of material innovation in strengthening supply chains.

## Building the Infrastructure for Next-Generation Materials

The partnership comes as Syre advances plans for its first large-scale textile recycling fa-

cility, expected to begin construction in Southeast Asia in 2027.

The facility will play a key role in scaling textile-to-textile recycling technologies and supporting global demand.

In parallel, Syre continues to expand its network of industry partners, including major brands such as H&M Group and Nike, all working toward accelerating circular textile adoption.

## A Strategic Shift Toward Circular Textiles

The expanded collaboration reflects a broader industry shift toward securing access to alternative materials and reducing dependence on virgin polyester.

As brands increasingly face regulatory pressure and sustainability expectations, partnerships like this are becoming critical to achieving both environmental goals and long-term commercial viability.

## Scaling the Future of Textile Recycling

While the initiative represents a major step forward, the real challenge will be execution at scale—particularly in building the infrastructure, supply chains, and cost structures required for widespread adoption.

If successful, the Syre–Target partnership could serve as a blueprint for how circular textile solutions move from innovation to industry standard.

# Itema to showcase Weaving Excellence at ITM 2026



**F**rom June 9 to 13, Itema will exhibit at ITM 2026 in Istanbul (Hall 8 – Stand 806D), unveiling a distinctive exhibition concept designed to highlight the Company's expertise across the entire weaving value chain.

For this year's edition, Itema will introduce an innovative stand experience built around two core areas: advanced weaving and spare parts solutions and an immersive textile gallery featuring fabrics produced by Itema Customers worldwide.

### **Textile Gallery Showcases Fabrics Produced on Itema Machines**

At the heart of the stand, the textile gallery will present a curated selection of fabrics woven on Itema machines, offering visitors the opportunity to experience first-hand

the versatility, quality, and textile capabilities of the Itema weaving machines, achievable across a wide range of applications and market segments.

The fabrics on display come from collections that our customers have presented to international brands, and feature particularly refined textile characteristics, such as complex constructions and the use of delicate, precious, or recycled yarns.

Alongside the fabric exhibition, the weaving solutions area will spotlight some of Itema's latest innovations, including the MEC-T mechanical tuckers and the iSAVER® waste selvedge removal system available up to 6 colors.

Developed to support more sustainable weaving processes, iSAVER® contributes to optimized resource usage and improved operational efficiency.

Special focus will also be dedicated to Itema's OEM spare parts offering – including components for legacy Itema brands – underlining the importance of genuine parts in ensuring long-term machine performance, reliability, and productivity.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to explore the HelloItema customer portal and discover the advantages of Itema's integrated spare parts ecosystem.

Türkiye has long represented a

strategic market for IteMa, with strong partnerships across key textile segments including curtains, home textiles, apparel, denim, and technical fabrics.

Through continuous technological innovation and customer support, IteMa remains committed to helping Turkish manufacturers achieve high-quality weaving performance and production efficiency.

Supported by the strong local organization of IteMa Türkiye, Customers benefit from responsive technical assistance, frequent on-site service visits, and rapid OEM spare parts availability, helping reduce unplanned downtime and support safe, reliable, and continuous mill operations.

Pamir Özaltan, IteMa Türkiye Managing Director commented: "ITM represents an important opportunity to meet with our Customers and part-

ners and strengthen the relationships we have built over the years.

The exhibition concept we are presenting reflects the close collaboration between IteMa and the Turkish textile industry, as well as the weaving excellence that this partnership continues to generate."

**Matteo Mutti, IteMa Group Chief Sales & Service Officer and IteMalab Head of Textile Innovation added:** "With this year's presence at ITM, we want to emphasize the tangible results our technology enables and the value we create throughout the weaving process – from machine performance to the final fabric."

**Visitors are invited to discover IteMa's textile gallery and weaving solutions at Hall 8 – Stand 806D.**





# Santoni China Group to showcase integrated technology ecosystem at ITM Istanbul 2026

**S**antoni China Group will participate in ITM Istanbul 2026, presenting a fully integrated technology ecosystem for the global circular knitting industry.

The group will showcase a comprehensive innovation strategy that spans machinery, digitalization, and production intelligence across the entire value chain.

Under the guiding theme “Machines Evolved · Intelligence Delivered”, Santoni China Group will demonstrate how advanced engineering, intelligent manufacturing, and digital infrastructure converge to enable more efficient, transparent, and futureready textile production.

At ITM 2026, the Group will unite its key brands under one roof, including Santoni (Shanghai) Knitting

Machinery Co., Ltd., Terrot Textilmaschinen GmbH, and Jingmei Science and Technology Co., Ltd., alongside additional specialized entities.

Together, they represent the full spectrum of circular knitting technologies and a unified global innovation approach.

**A key focus of the presentation will be a selection of flagship machines designed for high-performance double-knit and interlock applications, including:**

- Santoni PULSAR 2.8 OPEN 34" E24 96F – true double-face structure
- Terrot I3P 196-F BW-34" E24 108F (open width) – high-tech double-face fabric

. Jingmei JTB-P 34" E24 108F – interlock fabric technology

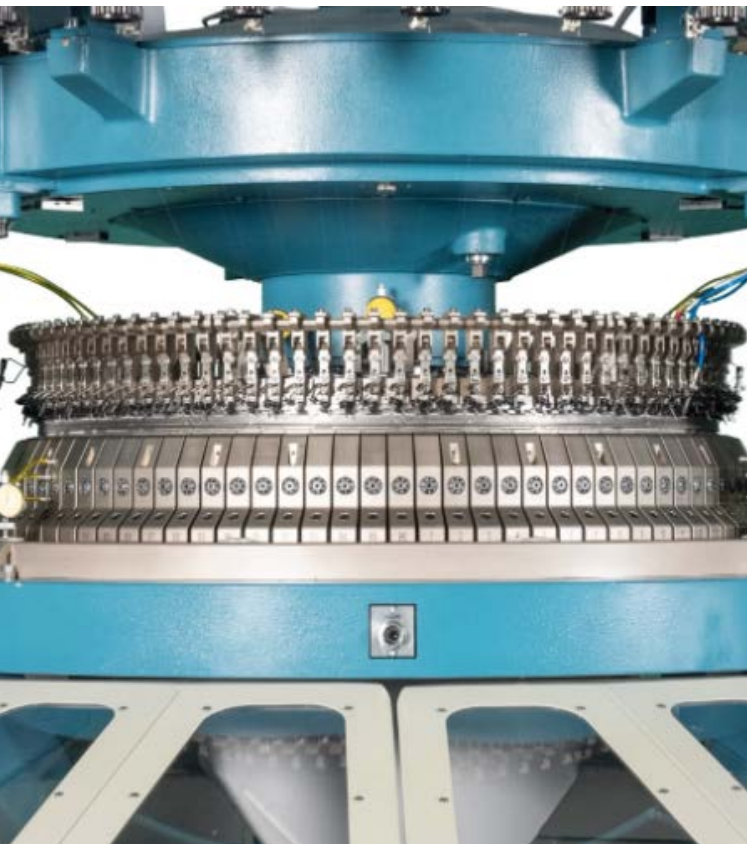
. Jingmei JTB-P 34" E24 (open width) – 5-layer fabric capability

These exhibits reflect the Group's differentiated brand positioning and application-driven engineering expertise across global markets.

### **Santoni Technology Expands Digital Textile Innovation**

In addition, Santoni China Group will present its advanced component and digital solutions. SMC/Qiguan cylinder manufacturing capabilities highlight high-precision engineering and global availability.

By combining German engineering expertise with strong local manufacturing structures, SMC delivers reliable cylinder solutions compatible with a wide range of circular knitting machines worldwide.



Complementing the hardware portfolio, the SANTONI KNITTING INDUSTRIAL INTERNET PLATFORM (KIIP) will demonstrate the Group's digital ecosystem, enabling real-time production monitoring, data-driven decision-making, and process optimization for modern textile manufacturing environments.

"By integrating machinery, material expertise, and digital intelligence, we are building a scalable and future-oriented production ecosystem for the textile industry," said a company spokesperson.

"ITM Istanbul provides an important international platform to present this approach to global industry stakeholders."

The participation also underscores the strategic importance of Turkey and surrounding regions as key growth markets in textile manufacturing.

ITM 2026 further offers a valuable opportunity to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new international collaborations.

Industry professionals are invited to visit Santoni China Group at Booth 314, Hall 3 to experience the latest innovations firsthand.

APPAREL | ACCESSORIES | TEXTILES | HOME FURNISHINGS | FOOTWEAR

# Australia's Ultimate Global Sourcing Destination



# GLOBAL SOURCING EXPO SYDNEY

16-18 JUNE 2026



# Global Sourcing Expo Sydney Returns with 600+ Exhibitors

**T**he highly anticipated Global Sourcing Expo Sydney returns on 16 to 18 June, delivering an unmatched opportunity for fashion brands, retailers, wholesalers and sourcing professionals to connect directly with global manufacturers, discover new suppliers, and gain critical industry insights, all without leaving Australia.

## **Global Sourcing Expo Sydney Arrives in Less Than One Month Featuring 600+ Exhibitors, Seminar Program and New Interactive Learning Lab**

Co-located with the China Clothing Textiles & Accessories Expo, the event will feature 600+ exhibitors from across the globe, transforming the International Convention Centre Sydney into a world-class sourcing destination.

Visitors can explore suppliers from countries including South Africa, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the United States, Vietnam, Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Japan, Nepal, Indonesia and Kenya, across textiles, apparel, accessories, footwear, and home furnishings.

The Expo's free-to-attend trade floor offers a rare opportunity for businesses to compare products, capabilities, pricing structures and MOQs side-by-side, while building genuine relationships directly with manufacturers and suppliers.

## **Global Sourcing Seminar Program Returns**

Beyond the expansive exhibition floor, the Global Sourcing Expo continues to deliver one of the industry's most respected professional learning programs, offering practical insights into the challenges and opportunities shaping the modern fashion and sourcing landscape.

Hosted across all three show days and MCed by renowned fashion business journalist Patty Huntington, the Global Sourcing Seminar program will feature leading voices from across the industry, including:



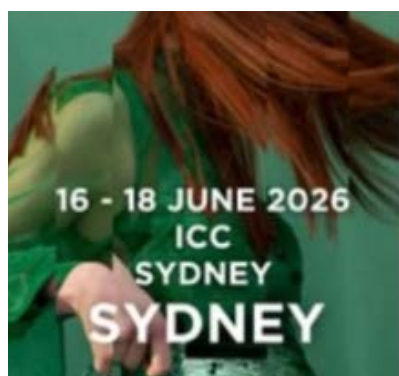


- Marianne Perkovic, Executive Chair, Australian Fashion Council (AFC)
- Alex Schuman, CEO, Carla Zampatti Fashion
- Natasa Pitra-Grbic, Creative Director, PI-TRA
- and many more industry experts and innovators.

Sessions will cover some of the industry's most pressing and relevant topics, including AI, sustainability, sourcing strategy, innovation and the future of fashion retail. Designed to provide practical and commercially relevant insights, seminar sessions are available for \$40 + GST per session.

New for this year is the Learning Lab Program, a free, interactive series of drop-in sessions designed for today's busy sourcing professionals. Positioned live on the show floor, the Learning Lab offers practical, bite-sized insights visitors can engage with between meetings and appointments.

Featuring Ask the Expert sessions, discussions and real-world case studies, the Learning Lab creates opportunities for attendees to interact more closely with industry leaders, ask questions directly and walk away with actionable ideas they can apply immediately to their business.



For businesses wanting a deeper strategic learning experience, the final day of the Expo will feature the Global Sourcing Summit Masterclass with industry expert Jude Kingston.

Titled From Concept to Commercial Success: Building a Scalable, Sustainable Fashion Business, the full-day masterclass is designed to help fashion brands transform creative ideas into scalable, commercially successful and sustainable businesses.

Through practical frameworks, guided exercises and real-world case studies, participants will strengthen sourcing decisions, refine sales strategies, embed sustainability in commercially viable ways and build the systems needed for long-term growth.

The session is interactive, highly practical and tailored to the realities of the modern fashion industry, with guided pathways suitable for both emerging designers and established brands. The full-day masterclass is priced at \$395 + GST.

The Global Sourcing Expo Sydney continues to cement its position as Australia's leading destination for global sourcing, industry education and meaningful business connections.

With the show taking place in less than one month, now is the time to explore the exhibitor list, secure your place at the Global Sourcing Seminars, plan your Learning Lab sessions, discover the full-day masterclass with Jude Kingston, and start mapping out your visit.



# Milano Fashion & Jewels at Seoul Fashion Week: opportunities for Italian brands in South Korea



MILAN  
*loves*  
SEOUL

**M**ilano Fashion & Jewels and Milan Loves Seoul are redefining the concept of internationalization through runway shows, networking, and new retail scenarios.

Milano Fashion & Jewels is heading to Seoul Fashion Week with a project dedicated to Italian brands, designed to support a structured entry into the Korean market.

Starting in February 2026, Milano Fashion & Jewels launched a collaboration with Milan Loves Seoul with the aim of strengthening the

dialogue between Italy and South Korea and fostering new international development opportunities for Made in Italy brands.

The Milano Fashion & Jewels x Milan Loves Seoul project offers Italian brands a comprehensive internationalization pathway combining exhibition, networking, and runway presence in Seoul.

A selection of five Italian brands will take part in an exclusive experience during Seoul Fashion Week, within a format designed to maximize visibility, relationships, and positioning.

## A project spanning late August to September 2026

The initiative unfolds between late August and September 2026 through a program of activities that includes:

- Curated exhibition in the heart of Seoul
- Networking with buyers and international industry professionals
- Participation in Seoul Fashion Week
- Retail opportunities in the Korean market

### Exhibition in the heart of Seoul

From August 26 to September 5, 2026, the brands will be hosted at the Seoul Jewelry Support Center, located in a traditional hanok in the historic city center.

The curated exhibition concept is designed to enhance product value through cultural storytelling rather than a traditional trade fair approach, strengthening brand positioning.

### Networking with key players at Seoul Fashion Week

On September 5, 2026, the venue will host a networking event with buyers, industry operators, and guests attending Seoul Fashion Week.



This represents a strategic opportunity to engage directly with the Korean market and build high-level international relationships.

### International runway visibility

On September 3, 2026, the brands will take part in a fashion show organized during Seoul Fashion Week.

Selected jewelry pieces will be styled with creations by Italian designers and showcased on the runway before a qualified audience of buyers, international press, and influencers, turning the product into an active element of a contemporary narrative.

Pop-up store in Gangnam: access to the Korean retail market  
From September 12 to 19, 2026, brands will also have the opportunity to participate in a pop-up store in Gangnam, one of Seoul's main shopping districts.

This initiative combines visibility with a concrete commercial dimension, allowing brands to directly test the potential of the Korean market.

**SAURER.**

# BD 8 – Think economically.



## The world's best doffer units

The outstanding semi-automatic rotor spinning machine BD 8 with the new automatic package doffer units (DU), finds its way into spinning mills worldwide. Equipped with up to four doffers, the BD 8 is providing sufficient doffing capacity even for coarse yarns. In a record time of 10 seconds, the packages are changed. Reduce your staff workload and optimise your workforce planning.

[saurer.com](http://saurer.com)



# Saurer at ITM 2026: Answering Markets Needs for Flexibility

**T**he textile industry is facing unprecedented challenges: geopolitical tensions, natural disasters and pandemics and are changing market conditions overnight. Today, flexibility is no longer an option, but a survival strategy.

At the ITM 2026 in Istanbul, Saurer will be demonstrating how modern machine technology delivers flexibility – from bale to yarn – in hall 7 at booth 709 A.

## **Five spinning systems for flexible decisions and a wide range of materials**

The Saurer machines follow the E<sup>3</sup> concept, being optimised for energy-saving, economics and ergonomics, and offering real customer value. As the only supplier in the industry to offer all five end-spinning systems, Saurer helps customers plan their optimised yarn production layout.

These are ring spinning (Zinser 51), compact spinning (Zinser

51 Zpact FX), worsted spinning (Zinser 451), air spinning (Autoairo) and rotor spinning (Autocoro 11 and BD 8).

In addition to production flexibility, the market demands the capability to process a wide range of fibres and yarn counts.

Saurer machines can process all of these, including cotton and wool, synthetic fibres, high-performance materials such as aramid, and recycled or regenerated fibres – from bale to yarn.

## **Pre-spinning for all applications**

The Saurer pre-spinning product portfolio offers several options for either mass production or flexible lots.

Different combinations of opening and carding, using modern technology and digital control, ensure the best possible quality of sliver for subsequent processes in the spinning mill.

At ITM, Saurer will present the **Autocard SC8**: a high-performance card designed to meet the demands for flexibility of modern spinning mills.

With a carding area of 4.8 m<sup>2</sup>, a carding width of 1.38 m, and a cylinder diameter of 1.46 m, the Autocard SC8 delivers superior sliver quality, higher productivity, while optimising energy efficiency.

Its smart design with optimised licker-in and doffer positioning extends the length of the carding section, giving spinning mills the flexibility to adapt to different raw materials and fibre types – including recycled fibres – without compromising on quality or output.

### **Zinser 51 Zpact FX for unlimited flexibility**

The Zinser 51 is the longest ring frame on the market, with up to 2,200 spindles for universal yarn counts (except for very coarse yarn) and is already running successfully in Türkiye.

The Zpact FX is the universal, modular, highly flexible compact system from

Saurer that can be used for a wide range of yarn counts and applications.

It is suitable for high-speed spinning, siro and core yarns. Even yarns with low twist can be spun at high speeds to fulfil customers' lower hairiness requirements on Zinser 51 Zpact FX.

Spinning mills can quickly adapt to market needs because they can easily switch between compact and conventional spinning.

### **Autocoro 11 with Duo Sliver Feeding at ITM**

Two slivers can be blended directly on the Autocoro 11 machine with the help of two opening rollers – adjustable in smallest increments. The result is cost-effective production of coloured mélange yarns, especially in smaller batches, with maximum reproducibility.

This is a revolution for manufacturers who need to react quickly to fashion trends, customer requirements, or the processing of recycled materials.

### **Fashionable yarns in flexible production**

Thanks to the Multilot function, multiple lots can be processed simultaneously on a single machine during rotor spinning (Autocoro 11 and BD 8), air-spinning (Autoairo) and twisting (TC2), allowing orders to be redistributed flexibly.





Short set-up times ensure that product changes keep pace with the market. Fancynation software enables any fancy yarns to be produced on ring and rotor spinning machines, providing a direct lever for differentiation and new market opportunities.

### Increased flexibility with world-class components

Components from the Texparts product line ensure excellence in spinning. The world's most versatile short-staple weighting arm series, the PK 2630, is available for both round and hexagonal support rods to ensure the highest stable yarn quality.

Various types of high-speed spindles are available for all applications, including the latest innovative Eshape spindle with the Spinnfinity Zero underwinding system to ensure maximum productivity. These spindles are complemented by a range of high-speed rings manufactured by Texparts.

### Digitalisation and automation

The Senses Mill digital control and monitoring solution provides real-time data for fast, informed production decisions. Saurer has been integrating automation into its machines for decades, including doffers in rotor spinning machines and automatic doffing in roving and ring spinning machines.

Today, modern automation is complemented by external solutions such as the Bobbin Transport System BTS, AGVs and cobots for mill automation. The new Hunter S1 can-transport AGV is designed to transport sliver cans from draw frames to roving or rotor spinning machines.

### Sun – Service Unlimited: lasting a lifetime

Saurer offers customised service solutions for its machines to ensure a long and productive lifespan. Customers can upgrade their machines with the latest technology to enhance productivity for processing recycled fibres.

These services help mills to improve quality, performance and profitability. rX Recycling Xtreme Autocoro upgrades allow customers to benefit from the latest Saurer developments, even in older machine generations.





# The Global Fabric Industry in 2026: Who Will Lead the Next Decade?

**T**he global textile industry has never been static. For decades, production shifted from one region to another, following labor costs, trade agreements, and evolving consumer demand.

Yet the changes taking place today are different. The fabric industry is no longer being reshaped by a single factor. Instead, it stands at the intersection of technology, sustainability, geopolitics, and supply chain transformation.

As we move through 2026, textile manufacturers around the world are facing a new reality.

Brands are demanding faster delivery, greater transparency, lower environmental impact, and more flexible production models. Governments are introducing stricter sustainability regulations.

At the same time, digital technologies

and automation are transforming how fabrics are designed, produced, finished, and delivered.

Against this backdrop, the question facing the industry is not simply who produces the most fabric. The more important question is which countries are best positioned to lead the next era of textile manufacturing.

**China Still Leads the Industry, But Its Role Is Evolving**  
China remains the undisputed leader of global fabric production.

No other country comes close to matching the scale, infrastructure, and integration of China's textile ecosystem.

From fiber production and spinning to weaving, knitting, dyeing, finishing, and garment manufacturing, China has built one of the most complete industrial supply chains in the world.

However, the story of China's textile industry in 2026 is no longer just about volume.

The country has spent years investing in automation, intelligent manufacturing, technical textiles, digital printing, and sustainable production technologies.



Chinese manufacturers increasingly compete through efficiency and innovation rather than simply through labor costs.

This transformation reflects a broader shift within the global textile market. While some buyers continue diversifying sourcing destinations, China remains the benchmark against which all other textile-producing countries are measured.

Its challenge is not maintaining production capacity; it is maintaining leadership in a market that increasingly rewards flexibility, sustainability, and technological sophistication.

### **India Is Becoming the Industry's Most Important Growth Story**

If China represents maturity, India represents momentum. Few countries have generated as much attention from global textile buyers and investors as India.

Supported by government initiatives, expanding manufacturing capacity, and a strong domestic raw material base, India is steadily strengthening its position across the textile value chain.

The country's natural advantage begins with cotton. As one of the world's largest cotton producers, India benefits from direct access to a critical raw material that continues to dominate global apparel and home textile markets.

Combined with a vast labor force and growing industrial investment, this creates a powerful foundation for long-term growth.

What makes India particularly

important in 2026 is the changing sourcing strategy of global brands. Many international companies are actively seeking alternatives to over-dependence on a single production country. India has emerged as one of the most attractive destinations for this diversification.

The opportunity is significant, but so is the challenge. As investment flows into the sector, Indian manufacturers must continue improving infrastructure, productivity, and operational efficiency if they want to fully capitalize on this moment.

### **Bangladesh Wants More Than Garment Manufacturing**

For many years, Bangladesh's reputation was built on apparel exports. The country became one of the world's largest garment manufacturing hubs, supplying major international brands with competitively priced products.

Today, however, Bangladesh is pursuing a more ambitious goal. Rather than remaining dependent on imported fabrics, particularly from China, the country is investing in domestic textile manufacturing capabilities.

New weaving mills, knitting facilities, dyeing plants, and finishing operations are helping create a more integrated textile ecosystem.

This shift is strategically important. Countries that control more stages of the supply chain retain greater value, improve responsiveness, and reduce dependency on external suppliers.

Bangladesh's textile sector still faces infrastructure and energy-related challenges, but its direction is clear. The country wants to move beyond being a garment producer and establish itself as a more complete textile manufacturing destination.



## Turkey's Advantage Is Not Scale—It Is Speed

Turkey occupies a unique position within the global fabric industry. Unlike China or India, Turkey cannot compete purely on production volume. Its competitive advantage comes from something increasingly valuable in modern supply chains: proximity.

For European buyers, Turkey offers shorter lead times, lower transportation risks, and faster response capabilities than many Asian competitors. In an era where fashion cycles continue to accelerate, these advantages carry significant weight.

Turkey has also built a strong reputation for quality, particularly in cotton fabrics, denim, home textiles, and value-added textile products.

The country's manufacturers have invested heavily in modern machinery, sustainability certifications, and advanced finishing capabilities.

As environmental requirements become stricter across Europe, Turkey's focus on sustainable manufacturing could become an even stronger differentiator.

Buyers are increasingly evaluating suppliers not only on price, but also on environmental performance, traceability, and compliance. For Turkey, the future may depend less on producing more fabric and more on producing smarter, faster, and more sustainably than competitors.

## Vietnam Continues Its Remarkable Rise

Few textile-producing countries have attracted as much international attention over the past decade as Vietnam.

The country's emergence has been driven by a combination of competitive manufacturing costs, favorable trade agreements, political stability, and growing foreign investment.

As sourcing diversification accelerates, Vietnam continues to benefit from brands seeking additional production options.



## Yet the Vietnamese textile industry faces a critical question. Can it build a stronger domestic textile supply chain?

Many Vietnamese manufacturers still depend heavily on imported fabrics and raw materials. This creates vulnerabilities whenever disruptions occur within global supply networks.

The next phase of Vietnam's development will likely depend on its ability to strengthen upstream textile production and reduce reliance on external suppliers. If successful, the country could further solidify its position as one of the world's leading textile manufacturing centers.

## Sustainability Is No Longer Optional

Perhaps the most significant change affecting the fabric industry in 2026 is the role of sustainability. Not long ago, sustainability was often treated as a marketing initiative.

Today, it is becoming a business requirement. Major brands increasingly demand evidence of responsible production practices. Governments are introducing stricter regulations. Consumers are asking tougher questions about the environmental impact of textile products.

As a result, fabric manufacturers are investing in technologies that reduce water consumption, lower energy use, minimize chemical impact, and support circular production models.

Digital textile printing, recycled fibers, renewable energy systems, and advanced wastewater treatment technologies are becoming increasingly important components of modern textile manufacturing strategies.

The companies and countries that adapt fastest to these expectations will likely enjoy stronger market access and long-term competitiveness.

### **Automation Is Redefining Textile Manufacturing**

Another transformation reshaping the industry is automation. Across textile-producing countries, manufacturers are investing in technologies that improve efficiency, reduce waste, and address labor challenges. Artificial intelligence is beginning to influence production planning, quality control, predictive maintenance, and inventory management.

Automated inspection systems are improving consistency. Smart factories are creating new levels of operational visibility.

While automation will not replace the need for skilled workers, it is fundamentally changing the economics of textile manufacturing.

Countries that embrace these technologies will be better positioned to compete in increasingly demanding markets. Those that fail to modernize risk falling behind regardless of labor cost advantages.

### **Could Africa Become the Industry's Next Growth Region?**

As global sourcing strategies evolve, many industry observers are paying closer attention to Africa.

Countries such as Egypt, Morocco, Ethiopia, and Kenya are actively working to attract textile investment. Competitive labor costs, expanding industrial zones,

and growing government support are creating new opportunities.

The continent is unlikely to challenge Asia's dominance in the near future. However, it is increasingly viewed as a region with significant long-term potential.

For global brands seeking supply chain diversification, Africa represents an important part of the conversation about the future of textile manufacturing.

### **The Future Will Belong to Integrated Manufacturing Ecosystems**

One of the clearest lessons from the textile industry's recent evolution is that success no longer depends on a single advantage.

Low labor costs alone are not enough. Large production capacity alone is not enough. Even access to raw materials is not enough.

The countries and companies that will lead the next decade are those capable of combining multiple strengths: technology, sustainability, efficiency, quality, speed, and supply chain resilience.

The future belongs to integrated manufacturing ecosystems where fibers, fabrics, technology, logistics,

and innovation work together seamlessly.

### **Conclusion**

The global fabric industry in 2026 is more dynamic than at any point in recent memory. China remains the dominant force, but its leadership is evolving.

India is expanding rapidly and attracting unprecedented investment. Bangladesh is building a more complete textile ecosystem. Turkey continues leveraging quality and proximity to key markets. Vietnam is strengthening its role as a strategic sourcing destination.

Meanwhile, Africa is beginning to emerge as a potential future manufacturing frontier. At the same time, sustainability, digitalization, and automation are reshaping the rules of competition.

The next decade will not be defined simply by which country produces the most fabric. It will be defined by which countries can adapt fastest to the industry's changing expectations.

For textile manufacturers, machinery suppliers, investors, and global brands, understanding these shifts is no longer optional. It is essential.



# Nigerian Government Launches Textile Revival Plan to Create 1.5 Million Jobs



**T**he Nigerian government has stepped up efforts to revive the country's Cotton, Textile and Garment (CTG) industry as part of a broader strategy to accelerate industrialization, reduce import dependence, and create more than 1.5 million jobs annually.

The renewed push comes after a dramatic decline in Nigeria's cotton production, which has fallen by approximately 95 percent over the past two decades—from around 200,000 metric tons in 2001 to an estimated 10,000 metric tons in 2025.

The decline has significantly weakened a sector that once served as one of the country's largest industrial employers and a key contributor to manufacturing growth.

Speaking at the National CTG Value Chain Activation Pilot Milestone Event, Nigeria's Minister of State for Industry, John Enoh, described the collapse of cotton production as a major challenge for the country's industrial development.

He emphasized that years of underinvestment, fragmented policies, weak coordination among

stakeholders, and increasing dependence on imported textile products had contributed to the sector's decline.

However, Enoh expressed confidence that current reforms and pilot programs would help restore the industry's competitiveness and rebuild an integrated cotton-to-garment value chain capable of serving both domestic and international markets.

## **Pilot Project Demonstrates Local Manufacturing Potential**

A key highlight of the government's revival strategy is a pilot project that has successfully demonstrated the viability of producing garments entirely within Nigeria.

According to Enoh, the initiative proved that locally grown cotton can be cultivated, processed, spun, woven, and transformed into finished apparel within six to seven months.

As part of the project, stakeholders produced 10,000 Made-in-Nigeria T-shirts using cotton sourced from local farmers.

The achievement is being viewed as a practical demonstration of the country's manufacturing capabilities and its potential to reduce reliance on imported garments.



“The initiative has proven that Nigeria can produce garments at better quality, better pricing, and in larger quantities than imported alternatives,” Enoh stated.

He stressed that the government is now focused on moving beyond policy discussions and toward tangible implementation that supports domestic industries and strengthens local production capacity.

“What you have seen today is not a concept note or policy proposal. It is proof that these things are possible and are already happening,” he added.

### **Textile Sector Central to Nigeria’s Industrial Policy**

The textile revival initiative forms an important component of Nigeria’s recently launched Industrial Policy.

Government officials believe the CTG sector can play a transformative role in stimulating manufacturing activity, strengthening domestic supply chains, attracting investment, and creating employment opportunities across multiple segments of the economy.

The minister noted that lessons learned from the pilot project revealed significant structural weaknesses within the textile value chain, particularly the lack of coordination between cotton growers, textile mills, and garment manufacturers.

According to Enoh, previous intervention programs often focused on individual segments of the industry rather than developing a fully integrated ecosystem capable of supporting sustainable growth.

“The problem is not entirely funding or infrastructure. The real issue is that the value chain was never designed to function as one coordinated system,” he explained.

To address these challenges, the government plans to strengthen collaboration among stakeholders, improve market linkages, expand access to financing, and pro-

vide greater support for smallholder cotton farmers who remain critical to rebuilding domestic cotton production.

### **Financing Support for Cotton Farmers**

As part of the next phase of implementation, the Federal Government is working closely with financial institutions to increase investment in cotton farming and textile manufacturing.

Enoh disclosed that the Bank of Agriculture has already indicated its willingness to provide financing support for cotton cultivation, particularly for small-scale farmers who represent a significant portion of the country’s agricultural workforce.

Improved access to finance is expected to encourage higher cotton production, enhance productivity, and ensure a stable supply of raw materials for textile manufacturers.

### **Potential to Generate 1.5 Million Jobs**

Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, Chris Osa Isokpunwu, described the initiative as a strategic intervention designed to revive one of Nigeria’s most important manufacturing sectors while supporting the country’s economic diversification agenda.

According to Isokpunwu, the CTG industry has the capacity to generate more than 1.5 million jobs annually, particularly for women and young people. The sector could also strengthen Nigeria’s position within regional and international markets by leveraging opportunities created through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Industry observers believe that if successfully implemented, the revival strategy could help restore Nigeria’s status as one of Africa’s leading textile manufacturing hubs while reducing the country’s dependence on imported apparel and textile products.

With growing government commitment, renewed stakeholder collaboration, and increasing support for local production, Nigeria’s textile industry may be entering a new chapter—one that could reshape the country’s manufacturing landscape and create significant economic opportunities across the value chain.

# Designed to Impact:

## Marzoli presents a new vision for spinning mill modernization at ITM Turkey 2026

At ITM, Marzoli showcases advanced retrofitting solutions for spinning mills under the claim “Don’t replace, repower”

. Marzoli exhibits at ITM Turkey 2026: Hall 7 | Booth 709B

. Retrofitting solutions for spinning machinery: modular interventions on machinery, electronics & IIoT, and software

. Advanced technologies for spinning and nonwoven applications

This year Marzoli will place a strong focus on its retrofitting and reengineering services, designed to support spinning mills maximize the value of their existing assets, extend machine lifetime, improve operational performance, and support a more sustainable production model.

Marzoli’s concept “Don’t Replace, Repower” promotes a vision of textile manufacturing where innovation means also regenerating existing equipment, unlocking its full potential through targeted modernization.

“This approach – comments Cristian Locatelli, General Manager at Marzoli – reflects our commitment to help customers increase efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and optimize investments by enhancing the durability, reliability, and productivity of installed machinery.

With our expertise in textile engineering, mechatronics, automation, and digital technologies, today



**M**arzoli, a global benchmark in spinning technology and part of the Camozzi Group, will participate in ITM Turkey 2026, taking place in Istanbul from June 9 to 13, 2026.

Visitors will find Marzoli in Hall 7 – Booth 709B, where the company will present its latest solutions under the claim “Designed to Impact.”

we are able to deliver modular solutions that can range from the replacement of a single critical component or spare part to comprehensive upgrades involving electronics, IIoT connectivity, software and new-generation HMI systems.”

At the booth, visitors will also discover Marzoli’s latest technologies developed to meet the evolving needs of textile manufacturers through flexible, high-performance solutions for both spinning and nonwoven applications.

Marzoli’s integrated spinning approach for the whole line, ensures greater efficiency, automation, and continuity throughout the production process.

Dedicated solutions for the processing of linen and wool further expand the company’s technological scope to new fiber applications.

Alongside its spinning technologies, Marzoli offers customized nonwoven lines for the production of wipes, disposable products, and medical and surgical applications.

Its range of applications is now expanding to include solutions for the processing of new natural fibers such as linen, hemp, and viscose, supporting the growing demand for more sustainable and versatile materials.

The results of Marzoli’s technologies are visible across different textile sectors, including luxury, denim, and technical textiles.

At the booth, visitors will have the opportunity to see and touch the quality and beauty of fabrics and yarns developed through Marzoli’s solutions.

Through its participation at ITM Turkey 2026, Marzoli confirms its mission to develop technologies and services capable of generating a concrete impact for textile manufacturers worldwide.



# DESIGNED TO IMPACT

Turning advanced solutions  
into strategic advantage.



**MARZOLI**

Textile Engineering



Spinning  
Technology



Digital  
Textile



Nonwoven  
Technology



Advanced  
Yarns



# ZIMMER AUSTRIA to Showcase Advanced Textile and Carpet Technologies at ITM 2026 Istanbul

**A**s the global textile and carpet industries continue to accelerate toward smarter, more sustainable, and highly automated production models, leading machinery manufacturers are preparing to present their newest innovations at ITM 2026, one of the region's most important textile technology exhibitions.

Among the major international exhibitors at this year's exhibition is Zimmer Austria, a globally recognized technology supplier specializing in digital textile printing, carpet printing, coating, and finishing solutions.

During ITM 2026, the Austrian company will present a wide portfolio of advanced systems designed to improve efficiency, sustainability, automation, and production flexibility for textile and carpet manufacturers worldwide.

The exhibition will take place from June 9–13, 2026 at the TÜYAP Fair Convention and Congress Center, where ZIMMER AUSTRIA will welcome visitors in Hall 4, Booth 404C.

## Focus on Innovation, Sustainability and Integrated Production

Under the theme of shaping the future of textile and carpet production, ZIMMER AUSTRIA plans to demonstrate how innovation, intelligent engineering, and sustainable technologies are transforming modern manufacturing.

The company's presentation at ITM 2026 will highlight solutions developed by its two major competence centers in Austria: the Digital Printing Systems center in Kufstein and the Screen Printing & Coating Systems center in Klagenfurt.

Visitors to the booth will have the opportunity to explore technologies covering:

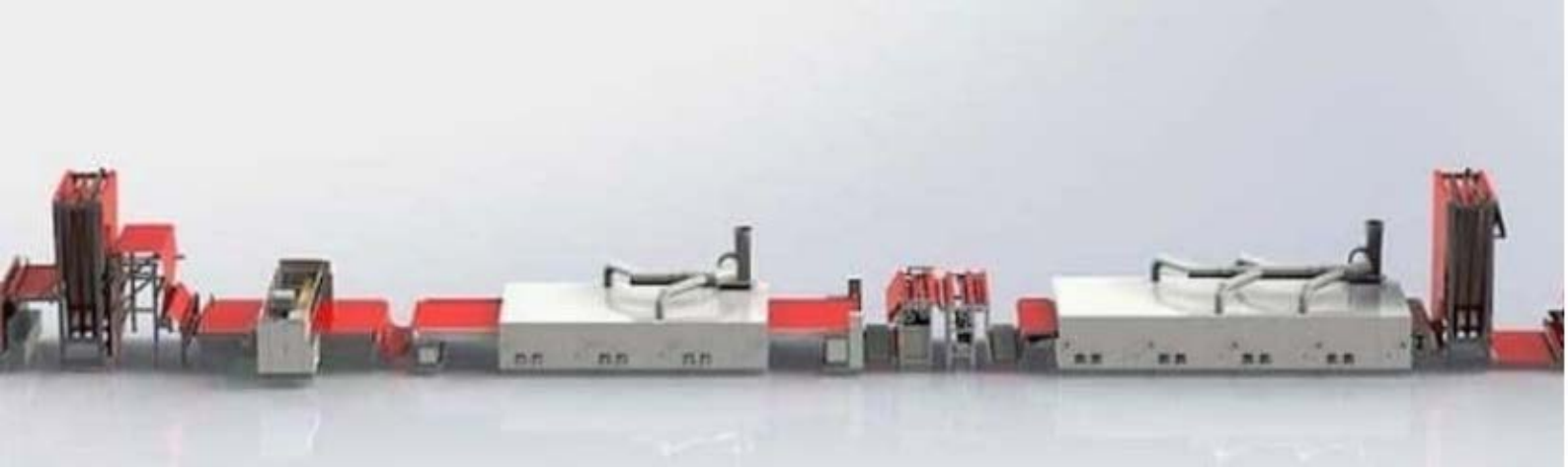
- Digital textile printing
- Carpet printing solutions
- Rotary screen printing
- Advanced coating and lamination systems
- Heat processing and finishing technologies
- Sustainable fixation systems
- Integrated inline carpet production concepts

According to the company, these technologies are designed to help manufacturers optimize production performance, reduce operational costs, improve product quality, and meet increasingly demanding sustainability requirements across global markets.

## New COLARIS-TeX Printer Among Key Highlights

One of the major highlights at ITM 2026 will be the presentation of the new COLARIS-TeX digital inkjet printer, developed for textile applications including technical textiles and military fabrics.





The system features the company's newly developed TUNEUP System, an advanced solution for automatic printhead calibration and banding compensation designed to improve printing precision, consistency, and production stability.

ZIMMER AUSTRIA will also present its ecological SHS-Su-  
prafix fixation technology, developed to significantly reduce energy consumption and emissions during textile processing.

As sustainability becomes an increasingly critical factor for textile manufacturers worldwide, energy-efficient finishing technologies are expected to play a central role in future investment decisions across the industry.



## **Advanced Carpet Printing and Finishing Technologies**

The Austrian company will place strong emphasis on carpet technologies during the exhibition, reflecting the growing transformation of the global carpet industry toward digitalization and sustainable production.

Among the showcased solutions will be the company's integrated COLARIS and CHROMOJET carpet systems, which combine inline printing and finishing technologies for modern carpet manufacturing environments. The systems can also be supplied as standalone modules depending on factory requirements.

Additional technologies on display will include:

- Dedicated back-coating and lamination lines
- MODUS Loop Steamer systems
- THERMOCURE heat processing technologies
- MAGNOROLL coating technology
- ROTASCREEN rotary screen printing line concepts

The MAGNOROLL coating machine model will demonstrate applications across various sectors including technical textiles, military fabrics, nonwovens, wall coverings, foils, packaging substrates, and glass fiber products.

## Strong Presence of International Management Team

ZIMMER AUSTRIA's international management and sales teams from both Austrian competence centers will attend the exhibition and meet customers from Turkey, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and Asia.

### The team participating at ITM 2026 includes:

- . Andreas Rass, CEO
- . Horst Ros, CEO
- . Thomas Klöbl, Sales Director, Carpet Division
- . Mario Calis, Sales Manager
- . Bernhard Humnig, Sales Manager
- . Armin Kogler, Sales Manager

In a statement ahead of the exhibition, Andreas Rass emphasized that textile and carpet manufacturers are increasingly searching for technologies that combine sustainability, efficiency, flexibility, and long-term competitiveness.

He noted that the company continues investing in advanced digital printing and finishing technologies to support manufacturers facing rising production costs, environmental pressures, and evolving market demands.

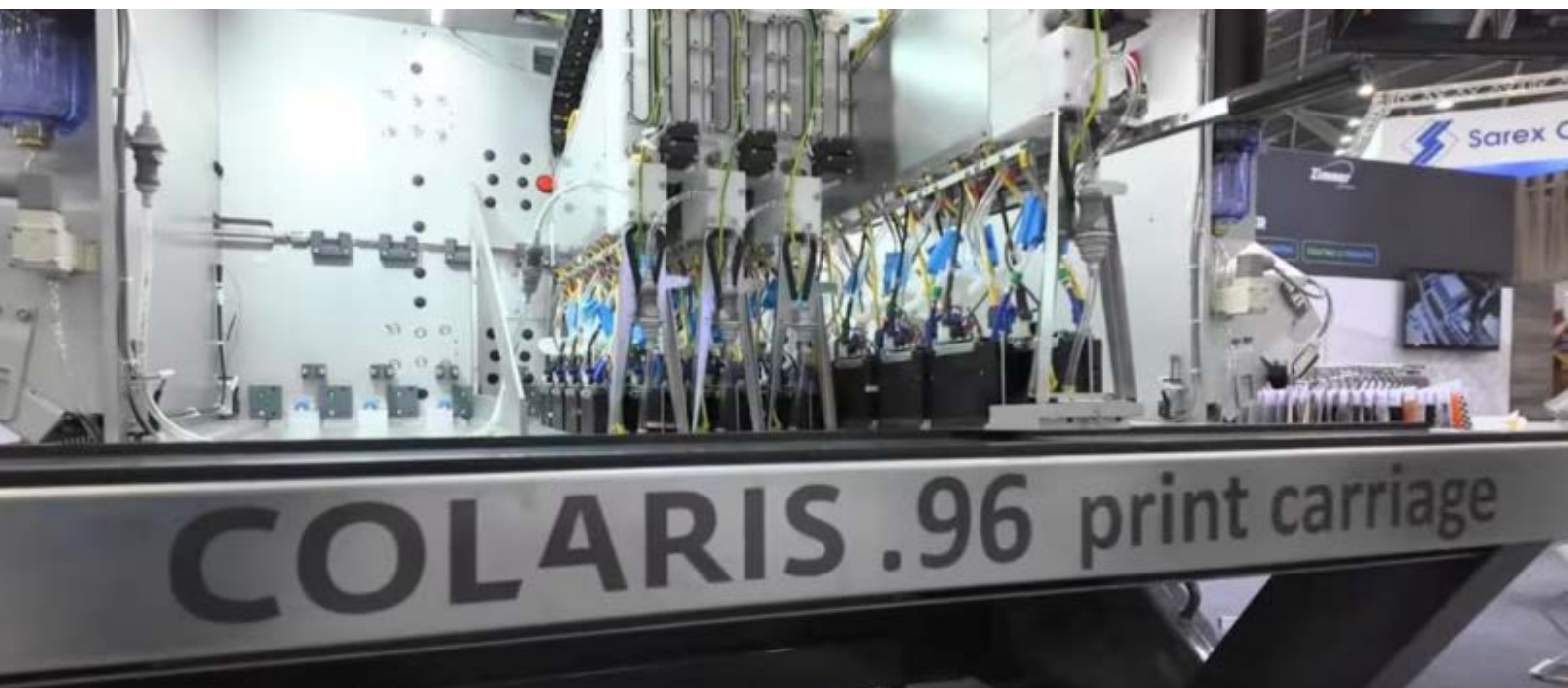
## ITM 2026 Expected to Attract Global Textile Industry

ITM Istanbul remains one of the most influential textile machinery exhibitions connecting Europe, Turkey, the Middle East, Central Asia, and Africa.

The exhibition continues to serve as an important platform for technology suppliers and manufacturers looking to strengthen regional partnerships and discover new investment opportunities.

For ZIMMER AUSTRIA, the exhibition represents an opportunity to showcase how advanced textile and carpet technologies can support the industry's transition toward more intelligent, sustainable, and fully integrated production systems.

With increasing global demand for automation, digital printing, energy efficiency, and sustainable manufacturing, the company's participation at ITM 2026 reflects the broader transformation currently reshaping the textile and flooring industries worldwide.



# 中国国际纺织机械展览会暨ITMA亚洲展览会

ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026

20 to 24 November 2026

National Exhibition and Convention Center, Shanghai, China

## Visitor Registration Now Open for ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026

**ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026 will be held from 20 to 24 November 2026 at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai).**

**A**s of 24 March, both the number of exhibiting companies and the exhibition space have surpassed all previous editions of the combined exhibition, demonstrating strong confidence in the textile machinery industry within the Chinese market and in Asia as manufacturing hubs.

ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026 will showcase the entire textile value chain, spanning spinning, man-made fibres, weaving, knitting, printing, dyeing and finishing, nonwovens, embroidery, garment, braiding, recycling, testing and packaging machinery, components and textile chemicals.

Visitors can expect to meet leading textile machinery manufacturers such as Atexco, Barmag, Beijing Chonglee, BEST, BZS, CHTC, Cixing, Dornier, Epson, Fongs, Hicorp, Hongyuan, Iteima, Karl Mayer, Konica Minolta, LMW, Murata, Picanol, Rieter, Rifa, Santoni, Saurer, Shima Seiki, Staubli, Taitan, Texpro, TMT, Truetzschler, Vandewiele, Yoantion, and Yingyang. Industry leaders will showcase the latest developments in digitalisation, intelligent manufacturing and green production on-site.



### Visitor Pre-registration Launches in May — Early Bird and Group Benefits Offered

To enhance the visiting experience and sourcing efficiency, the pre-registration system will officially open on 25 May 2026 and remain available until 19 November.

International trade visitors can complete registration via the official exhibition websites ([www.itmaasia.com](http://www.itmaasia.com) or [www.citme.com.cn](http://www.citme.com.cn)).

Participants who complete pre-reg-

istration before 19 November will enjoy a 40% early-bird discount on admission tickets. In addition, industry organisations arranging group visits consisting of six or more participants may apply for further preferential benefits.

### Intensive Roadshows Launched

The organisers have launched an intensive visitor promotion campaign that combines online and offline strategies, focusing on key industrial clusters.

A series of international roadshows will support this effort through a dual approach of attracting buyers to the event while expanding global outreach across major textile markets.

### Delegation and Overseas Buyer Groups Expected to Visit at the Combined Exhibition

Leveraging the exhibition's strong industry influence, group invitations have been extended to more than 100 overseas trade associations, industry organisations and key enterprises.

Within China, promotional activities will target both established coastal textile hubs such as Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Fujian, Shandong and Guangdong, as well as emerging industrial clusters in Xinjiang, Hubei and Henan.

ITMA ASIA + CITME 2026 in Shanghai will showcase leading textile machinery technologies while serving as a business platform for collaboration and industry exchange.





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**ITM**  
**2026**

## Lakshmi Card Clothing to Showcase Advanced Carding Solutions at ITM 2026 Istanbul

**A**s the global textile industry continues to prioritize higher yarn quality, production efficiency, and optimized spinning performance, the role of advanced carding technologies has become increasingly critical across modern spinning mills.

At ITM 2026 Istanbul, international machinery and accessories suppliers will present their latest developments aimed at improving productivity and fiber processing performance for textile manufacturers worldwide.

Among the participating companies at this year's exhibition is Lakshmi Card Clothing, one of India's leading manufacturers of card clothing and card room solutions.

The company will participate in ITM 2026 at Hall 7, Booth 704E, where it plans to present its latest technologies and developments for the spinning industry

### More Than Six Decades of Carding Excellence

Founded in 1960 and headquartered in Coimbatore, India, Lakshmi Card Clothing (LCC) has established a strong international reputation in the card clothing sector, supplying solutions to spinning mills across major textile-producing regions worldwide.

Over more than six decades, the company has focused on developing advanced carding accessories and complete card room solutions designed to improve fiber processing efficiency and yarn quality.

Today, the company operates in more than 25 countries and has strengthened its global presence through sales networks and service partnerships in important textile markets including Turkey, Egypt, Bangladesh, and Indonesia.

This international footprint reflects the growing demand for high-performance carding technologies as textile manufacturers continue modernizing their spinning operations.

### Focus on Innovation and Engineering Development

According to the company, continuous investment in engineering, innovation, and technology development has played a major role in maintaining its position within the global card clothing industry.

Lakshmi Card Clothing states that its engineering teams have introduced numerous innovations over the years to support modern spinning requirements and evolving market demands.



## LEADER BY NATURE

The company is also certified under ISO 9001:2015 standards accredited by TÜV NORD Germany, underlining its focus on quality management and international manufacturing standards.

At ITM 2026, visitors are expected to explore the company's latest card clothing technologies and discuss solutions aimed at enhancing carding performance, fiber individualization, productivity, and operational consistency in spinning mills.

### ITM 2026 to Connect Global Spinning Industry Players

ITM Istanbul continues to serve as one of the region's most influential textile technology exhibitions, connecting manufacturers and suppliers from Türkiye, the Middle East, Africa, Central Asia, and Europe.

For companies such as Lakshmi Card Clothing, the exhibition represents an important opportunity to strengthen partnerships and expand business activities across fast-growing textile markets.

With Türkiye remaining one of the world's major textile and yarn production hubs, participation at ITM 2026 is expected to provide international suppliers with direct access to spinning mills and textile manufacturers actively investing in modernization, efficiency, and sustainable production technologies.

Visitors interested in carding technologies and spinning optimization solutions will be able to meet the Lakshmi Card Clothing team at Hall 7, Booth 704E during the exhibition in Istanbul.



# Kwara Garment Factory Signs Management Agreement to Accelerate Nigeria's Apparel Manufacturing Growth

**T**he Kwara Garment Factory has entered a new phase of development following the signing of a management and operations agreement with KWS Garment Production Village, a move expected to strengthen Nigeria's apparel manufacturing capacity and support industrial growth in Kwara State.

**The agreement was formally signed at the Kwara Garment Factory in Ilorin on May 12, 2026.**

The process was led by Hajia Bukola Adedeji, Managing Director of the Kwara Garment Factory, in the presence of Damilola Adedun, Commissioner for Business, Innovation and Technology of Kwara State.

Under the agreement, KWS Garment Production Village becomes the private-sector operator of the facility, which is regarded as one of the most advanced industrial apparel manufacturing plants in Nigeria.

## Private Sector Takes the Lead

KWS Garment Production Village is led by Folake Akindele, founder and Chief Executive

Officer of Tiffany Amber, one of Nigeria's most recognized fashion brands.

According to a joint statement released by the partners, the factory is equipped to support large-scale apparel manufacturing for a wide range of sectors, including fashion, sportswear, hospitality, institutional organizations, government agencies, and corporate clients.

The facility has been designed to accommodate up to 4,000 workers across its production ecosystem, making it one of the largest apparel manufacturing projects in the country.

Officials also highlighted the factory's commitment to sustainability, noting that approximately 80 percent of the workforce consists of women and that operations are supported by an on-site solar power plant.





## Building Industrial Capacity in Nigeria

Speaking during the handover ceremony, Akindele described the agreement as a major milestone not only for the apparel sector but also for Nigeria's broader industrial development.

She noted that inadequate manufacturing infrastructure has long limited the growth potential of both the country's fashion industry and industrial production sector.

According to Akindele, the establishment of KWS Garment Production Village was aimed at creating the infrastructure needed for Nigerian businesses to manufacture products competitively within the country rather than relying on overseas production facilities.

She emphasized that the factory offers international manufacturing standards while enabling businesses to produce locally, strengthening both industrial capacity and value creation within Nigeria.

## Supporting Kwara's Industrialisation Strategy

Representing the Kwara State Government, Commissioner Damilola Adelodun described the garment factory as a cornerstone of the state's industrialisation agenda.

She stated that the project reflects the government's vision of creating productive employment opportunities, developing local skills, and transforming public investment into long-term economic activity.

According to Adelodun, the facility represents more than an industrial building; it is part of a broader strategy to create sustainable livelihoods and strengthen manufacturing capabilities across the state.

**Expanding Beyond Apparel Manufacturing**  
While the immediate focus remains garment production, the long-term vision for KWS Garment Production Village extends into textile manufacturing and broader value-chain development.

The partners believe that opportunities created through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could position the facility as a competitive supplier of Africa-made apparel for regional and international markets.

The project aligns with Nigeria's growing efforts to increase local manufacturing, reduce dependence on imports, create employment opportunities, and develop a stronger textile and apparel ecosystem.

As public-private partnerships continue to gain momentum across Africa, the Kwara Garment Factory is emerging as a significant example of how collaboration between government and industry can support industrial expansion, skills development, and economic diversification.





## Textiles Recycling Awards finalists announced ahead of inaugural ceremony at Textiles Recycling Expo

**T**he organisers of the Textiles Recycling Expo are delighted to announce the finalists for the inaugural Textiles Recycling Awards, celebrating innovation, leadership and measurable impact across the global textile recycling value chain.

The awards recognise the individuals, companies and collaborative initiatives driving progress towards a more circular textiles industry.

Winners across the six award categories will be revealed during the Textiles Recycling Awards Ceremony, taking place on 25 June at 2pm in the Conference Theatre at Brussels Expo during the Textiles Recycling Expo.

The ceremony will be hosted by Mariska Boer, President of

Recycling Europe Textiles, and will bring together industry leaders, innovators, recyclers, brands and policymakers from across the textile recycling sector.

### Retailer of the Year

#### Finalists:

- MANGO – Closing the Textile Loop: Scaling Circularity at Mango
- Armedangels (Social Fashion Company) – ARMEDANGELS: Circular Fashion as a Business Model
- Beyond Retro Ltd | Bank & Vogue – Beyond Retro

### Product of the Year

#### Finalists:

- Alsico – FITZROY
- Teixits Torné S.L. – Transforming Mixed-Colour Textile Waste into High-Value Circular Fabrics

- Beyond Retro Ltd | Bank & Vogue – Coach x Bank & Vogue – Soho Bag
- Elis – Workwear to workwear
- FibreTrace – FIBRETRACE®: Material Verification Technology for a Circular Textile Industry

### Textile Collection & Sorting Award

#### Finalists:

- Saubermacher – From Old Fabric to Future Fiber: A Partnership Driven Circular Textile Take Back Initiative
- Green Worms Waste Management Private Limited – Green Worms Waste Management Private Limited
- Teciteca & Teci – Teciteca & Teci: the first circular and sustainable textile museum in Brazil
- Manuela Catania – Realm of Senses
- Textet Benelux NV – Untagged . Movement

## Textile Recycling Project of the Year

### Finalists:

- . Circ – Scaling Textile-to-Textile Recycling with the World's First Commercial Polycotton Solution
- . Recover – From Waste to Fiber: Recover's Blueprint for Circular Textiles
- . BlockTexx Pty Ltd – Scaling Textile-to-Textile Recycling for Blended Fibres at Commercial Scale
- . Jiangsu Recycolor New Materials Co., Ltd – Why Recycolor & CTC Should Be Recognised as the Textile Recycling Project of the Year
- . Pedrosa & Rodrigues – CIR-CLO Industrial Ecosystem Engineering High Quality Circular KnitsR

## Innovation in Recycling Technology Award

### Finalists:

- . Jiangsu REO-ECO Tech Group Co., Ltd – BioCulus powered by REO-ECO Enzymatic Recycling
- . PICVISA MACHINE VISION SYSTEMS SL – Industrial Innovation in Textile Sorting: The Integrated PICVISA & Girbau Solution
- . MacroCycle Technologies – Circular textile at price parity through non-depolymerizing chemical recycling
- . Yuantian Biotechnology (Tianjin) Co., Ltd – Enzymatic Recycling Technology Leads to the New Paradigm of Textile Circular Economy
- . Renasens – Renasens – Turning Blended Textile Waste into High-Quality Recycled Fibers

## Rising Star Award

### Finalists:

- . Epoch Biodesign – Jacob Nathan
- . Matoha Instrumentation Ltd. – Dr Hans Hon Sang Chan & Dr Martin Holicky
- . Beyond Retro Ltd | Bank & Vogue – Beyond Retro x Seasalt Collection
- . Green Worms – End Textile Waste Alliance
- . Fibre to Fibre – Tom Atkin: Fibre to Fibre, Finance\_2\_Fashion and ATKIN Clothing

The Textiles Recycling Awards Ceremony is free to attend for all registered visitors to the Textiles Recycling Expo.

Visitors can register now for their free ticket to attend the exhibition, conference and awards ceremony at the Textiles Recycling Expo, taking place on 24–25 June at Brussels Expo, Belgium.





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GSDCOST™



# Globalindo Intimates Adopts GSDCost to Improve Efficiency and Profitability

The adoption of the globally recognised GSD™ methodology will enable data-driven costing, strengthen line balancing and support more efficient, scalable production planning

**Globalindo Intimates Selects Coats Digital's GSDCost to Improve Cost Transparency, Reduce Overtime, Increase Capacity Utilisation & Boost Profits**



Coats Digital is pleased to announce that leading Indonesian intimate apparel manufacturer, PT Globalindo Intimates, has selected Coats Digital's GSDCost solution to enhance costing accuracy, support production efficiency and strengthen collaboration with global brand partners.

Established in 2007 and based in Central Java, PT Globalindo Intimates employs over 3,800 people across a 32,000m<sup>2</sup> facility, producing export-quality women's underwear for major international brands including Fruit of the Loom, Hanesbrands Inc.

(HBI), Basic Resources Intimates and others. The company is committed to sustainability, community engagement and continuous improvement, and is now advancing its transition towards a more digitally enabled manufacturing model.

Prior to selecting GSDCost, PT Globalindo Intimates faced a



series of operational and commercial challenges that were increasingly affecting profitability.

These included inconsistent machine utilisation, poor line balancing, and ongoing pressure in discussions with customers over cost-to-make estimates.

Despite maintaining strong on-time delivery performance, the company frequently relied on 10–15% additional overtime to meet production deadlines, significantly increasing operational costs.

Inaccurate capacity planning further compounded these issues, creating the impression that production resources were fully utilised when, in practice, additional capacity was still available.



As a result, the business was often required to make difficult trade-offs, including reducing order volumes or declining new business opportunities. Defect rates of around 10% added further pressure on margins.

Teti Yani Hartono, Chief Operation Officer, PT Globalindo Intimates, said: "Operationally, we were constantly firefighting. We were meeting our delivery commitments, but at a cost that was becoming increasingly difficult to sustain.



Overtime was rising, performance visibility was limited, and we were often in difficult discussions with customers because we did not have a universally recognised costing standard.

GSDCost provides a common language that our customers already understand. This will change how we work with our brand partners, shifting conversations towards greater alignment and clarity."

The adoption of GSDCost is expected to help PT Globalindo Intimates reduce reliance on last-minute overtime, strengthen line balancing, and create more stable and predictable production flows.

By introducing standardised methods and time benchmarks, the company expects to forecast production requirements up to six months in advance with greater accuracy, while also making better use of existing production capacity.

Teti Yani Hartono continued: "With accurate SMVs and data-led insights, we expect to increase efficiency by up to 40% and profitability by at least 5% in the near term. We also expect to balance lines more effectively, allocate the right operators to the right processes, and reduce unnecessary pressure on our workforce.



GSDCost will undoubtedly help us establish a more sustainable way of working both operationally and culturally.

Our teams will have more realistic targets, our customers will receive more accurate costings, and we expect to take on new business with greater confidence, including smaller and more varied orders that we previously had to decline.”

By embedding the GSD™ methodology into its operations, PT Globalindo Intimates expects to strengthen production consistency, reduce defect rates, and build longer-term confidence with global retail partners.

Arthur Francis, Sales Manager, Coats Digital, Indonesia, commented: “PT Globalindo Intimates is a forward-thinking manufacturer that has been very open about the operational challenges it faces, and that clarity is essential for meaningful transformation.

By selecting GSDCost, the company is establishing a strong foundation for more accurate costing, balanced production and sustainable profitability.

What is particularly significant is the potential impact on day-to-day operations—not only in reducing overtime and supporting more consistent efficiency, but in enabling more transparent and constructive engagement with customers.

With GSDCost, PT Globalindo Intimates will be well positioned to demonstrate its production capabilities more clearly and compete more effectively in a demanding global market.”



# Novonesis becomes a bluesign System Partner, reinforcing sustainable innovation in textiles and leather

**B**uilding on a proud heritage in the textile and leather industries, and to enable even more sustainable and responsible production for customers, Novonesis has chosen to become a bluesign System Partner.

COPENHAGEN, Denmark. May 13, 2026. Novonesis becomes a bluesign System Partner, reinforcing sustainable innovation in textiles and leather.

Bluesign is a sustainability solutions provider for the textile industry, aiming to ensure that materials, chemicals, and manufacturing processes meet the highest environmental and safety standards.

## Novonesis Joins bluesign System Partnership

By becoming a bluesign System Partner, Novonesis commits to working within the system on input assessment, transparency, and continuous improvement—reinforcing our role as a provider of biosolutions designed to support more responsible production.

“Becoming a bluesign System Partner is a strong validation of our approach to innovation. Our biosolutions are designed to help the textile and leather industries move away from resource-intensive and hazardous processes.

This partnership reflects our commitment to engage with rigorous standards for environmental and chemical management across the textile and leather value chain,” said Hans Ole Klingenberg, Vice President of Global Marketing for Household & Industrial Biosolutions at Novonesis.

## Focus on Sustainable Textile and Leather Production

The bluesign System is built on science-driven criteria and primary data

verified by bluesign experts.

It connects chemical suppliers, manufacturers, and brands within a single system covering chemical management, resource use, and worker and consumer safety.

“We are pleased to welcome Novonesis as a bluesign System Partner. Their focus on biosolutions and enzyme-based technologies supports the industry’s transition toward safer and more responsible production processes across textiles and leather,” said Barbara Oswald, Chief Commercial Officer at bluesign.

As part of its portfolio, Novonesis offers biology-based enzymatic solutions designed with both performance and responsible handling in mind.

## DeniBrite™ and Enzyme-Based Denim Processing

One example is DeniBrite™, Novonesis’ biological denim bleaching solution platform. DeniBrite™ solutions enable the replacement of conventional bleaching agents such as chlorine and potassium permanganate.

This allows laundries to achieve desired finishes while reducing the use of harmful chemicals, water consumption, and overall environmental impact.

## Growing Demand for Transparency and Safer Chemistry

The bluesign System Partnership reinforces Novonesis’ commitment to advancing responsible production in the textile and leather industries. With growing demand for transparency and accountability in textiles and leather, Novonesis continues to focus on delivering innovations that enable measurable impact—from input chemistry to finished product.

“Solutions like DeniBrite™ show the potential of biosolutions to transform traditional processes in textiles and leather.

By replacing harsh chemicals with enzymes, manufacturers can improve worker safety, reduce chemical use and lower their environmental footprint, helping them meet increasing regulatory, brand, and customer demands,” added Hans Ole Klingenberg.



# Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles returns in August as global sourcing hub and trend barometer for home textiles industry

## Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), 18 – 20 August 2026

Following the conclusion of Heimtextil last month, the flagship fair in Messe Frankfurt's global home and contract textiles portfolio, Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition will return 18 – 20 August 2026 at the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai).

Building on the momentum generated in Frankfurt, the Shanghai fair will reinforce its position as the foremost home and contract textile platform in Asia – successfully bridging the gap between East and West, and connecting global product trends, supply-chain shifts, and buyer demand in one marketplace.

Notably, the 2025 Autumn Edition welcomed over 35,000 trade buyers from 116 countries and regions, with a 55.6% international visitor increase, and featured nearly 900 exhibitors from 26 countries and regions.

Ms Wilmet Shea, General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd,

underscored Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles' rising international significance: "The international presence at the fair continues to grow, with overseas visitors increasing for three consecutive years. In addition, the 2025 edition welcomed new overseas exhibitors from countries like Bulgaria, Finland, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, the Netherlands, and Vietnam. The fair has become crucial for the industry – not only for building relationships, but also for gaining insights into innovative trends, showcasing products, and inspiring future product development that could shape market directions."

Building on the fair's importance as a hub for trend discovery, NellyRodi™ Agency will return for the 2026 Autumn Edition to elevate the Trend Forum through a more immersive, lifestyle driven, and interactive experience.





A joint team of Chinese and overseas designers will set the core themes, including colour range and moodboards of curated fabrics, materials, and prints, plus exhibitor-linked products – strengthening the Forum as an engaging platform that sparks ideas and supports future product development.

### **Global home textile industry strengthens through value creation, sustainability, and smarter products**

The global home textile market is projected to reach USD 220.2 billion by 2032, growing at a 6.8% CAGR (2025 – 2032). Growth is being supported by lifestyle shifts, greater investment in home aesthetics, and faster innovation in materials, functionality, and sustainability features. Simultaneously, supply chains are adjusting – mirroring broader trade and manufacturing rebalancing.

Chinese manufacturing continues to move up the value chain, strengthening design and R&D capabilities, while more price-sensitive production is increasingly distributed across South Asia, Southeast Asia, and parts of Central and Latin America.

In this landscape, Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition plays a central role in connecting global trends with concrete sourcing demand – on the one hand bringing together leading Chinese manufacturers and design-driven brands, and on the other hand gathering a strong line up of international exhibitors from Asia, Europe, the Middle East and beyond, enabling buyers from different markets and channels to complete their entire sourcing journey in one place.

Last edition demonstrated the fair’s ability to attract premium global participation: the Editor Zone alone brought 53 overseas high-end brands to the show, 23 of which are new.

Three global industry associations also joined with quality displays – Associacao Home From Portugal (Portugal), Home Textile Export Council (Egypt), and Nippon Interior Association (Japan) – showcasing the strengths of their regional textile industry.

Beyond these displays, several standout products highlighted the industry’s progress such as soft chenille, which offers a cloud-like touch of ultimate comfort; nature-inspired coarse linen textures; and anti-dust curtains featuring innovative anti-static technology.

The upcoming fair is expected to continue this drive, giving buyers a focused opportunity to source the latest advancements.

Building on that foundation, the 2026 edition is expected to bring together key categories such as upholstery and sofa fabrics, bedding, curtains, sun protection, Carpet and flooring and more.

As manufacturers and brands step up upgrades in materials, design, and production efficiency, Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles – Autumn Edition is set to offer a direct route from trend to business: buyers can assess performance and sustainability claims side by side, while exhibitors debut new collections and innovations shaped by current consumer expectations.





With a workforce of some 2,700 people at its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main and in 29 subsidiaries, it organises events around the world.

Group sales in financial year 2025 were around € 766 million. We serve our customers' business interests efficiently within the framework of our Fairs & Events, Locations and Services business fields.

One of Messe Frankfurt's key strengths is its powerful and closely knit global sales network, which covers around 180 countries in all regions of the world.

Our comprehensive range of services – both on-site and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organising and running their events. We are using our digital expertise to develop new business models.

The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services.

Sustainability is a central pillar of our corporate strategy. Here, we strike a healthy balance between ecological and economic interests, social responsibility and diversity.



This makes the fair an efficient meeting point for companies adjusting sourcing strategies, optimising portfolios, and pursuing new growth opportunities.

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

To find out more, please visit:  
[www.intertextilehome.com](http://www.intertextilehome.com)

**Other upcoming shows:**

- Vietnam International Trade Fair for Apparel, Textiles and Textile Technologies (VIATT) 26 – 28 February 2026, Ho Chi Minh City
- Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles Apparel Fabrics – Spring Edition 11 – 13 March 2026, Shanghai

**Background information on Messe Frankfurt**

The Messe Frankfurt Group is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organiser with its own exhibition grounds.



# intertextile

SHANGHAI home textiles

2026.8.18 – 20

National Exhibition and Convention  
Center (Shanghai), China

China International Trade Fair for Home Textiles  
and Accessories – Autumn Edition

*Powering home textile  
connections in Asia*



[www.intertextilehome.com](http://www.intertextilehome.com)





# ITCPE

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## 2026(第二十一届)广州国际纺织制衣及印花工业博览会

### Guangzhou International Textile Clothing and Printing Industry Expo



## Russian Textile Association Sees Strong Opportunities for AI, Automation and China–Russia Cooperation

**A**s the global textile industry moves rapidly toward automation, digitalization, and artificial intelligence-driven production, international cooperation is becoming increasingly important for textile manufacturers seeking long-term growth and technological modernization.

During ITCPE 2026 in Guangzhou, Behnam Ghasemi, Editor of Kohan Textile Journal, spoke with Ildarov Shamkhal, President of the Russian Textile Association, about the current transformation of Russia's textile and garment sector, the growing role of Chinese technologies, and the future direction of the global textile industry.

In this exclusive interview, Mr. Shamkhal discusses the increasing importance of ITCPE for Russian and CIS textile companies,

the strategic modernization of the Russian textile industry, and the major role that AI, automation, digital textile printing, and 3D technologies are expected to play in the future of global manufacturing.

He also highlights the growing interest of Russian companies in establishing long-term partnerships with Chinese textile machinery manufacturers and technology suppliers as Russia accelerates its industrial development and supply chain transformation.

**1- Why are you attending ITCPE with the Russian delegation, and how important is this exhibition for your members?**

ITCPE is one of the leading international exhibitions in the fields of advanced textile technologies, digital printing, textile machinery, fabrics, and apparel production.

That is exactly why this exhibition attracts such strong interest from entrepreneurs and industrial companies from Russia and the CIS countries. For our members, ITCPE is not only a trade fair, but also an important platform for discovering innovations, establishing direct business relations, and understanding the future trends of the global textile industry.

This is already the second visit of our Russian Textile Association delegation to ITCPE, and every trip brings significant practical results.

Our schedule here is always full of business meetings, factory visits, negotiations, and new contracts.

Each delegation member returns home not only with new business opportunities, but also with trusted partners, new friends, and reliable suppliers of high-quality equipment and textile products.

Every participation in ITCPE strengthens the partnership between our countries and contributes to the growth of bilateral trade and industrial cooperation.



We highly appreciate the professionalism of the organizers and the openness of Chinese manufacturers to long-term collaboration with Russian and CIS businesses.

**2- How would you describe the current situation of the textile and garment industry in Russia? Approximately how many producers are part of your network? Also, if possible, could you share some figures regarding Russia's textile imports and exports?**

The textile and garment sector in Russia is currently experiencing significant growth and transformation.

In recent years, the industry has become one of the strategic directions for industrial development, with increasing demand for modern equipment, fabrics, technologies, and reliable international partnerships.

The departure of many European brands from the Russian market has created new opportunities and made Russia even more attractive for businesses and manufacturers from friendly countries, especially from Asia.

Our Association unites more than 700 entrepreneurs and companies working within Chapter 11 of the HS (According to the international Commodity Nomenclature of foreign economic activity) classification, including textile production, apparel manufacturing, fabrics, home textiles, and related industries.

This gives us a very broad and active professional network across Russia and the CIS region.

Russia remains a large and highly перспективный consumer market for textile and garment products. Imports still play an important role, especially in fabrics, textile machinery, accessories, and finished apparel, while domestic production is also growing rapidly thanks to government support and new investment projects.

Today, Russian companies are actively looking for long-term cooperation with Chinese partners, suppliers, and technology providers to strengthen production capacity and expand trade turnover between our countries.

**3- The Russian market has enormous potential. In your opinion, what is the most important fact international investors should know about this market?**

One of the most important facts international investors should understand about the Russian market is that today the textile industry is entering a new technological era.

The key global trend is the integration of artificial intelligence and automation across the entire production chain – from fashion design and digital printing to smart manufacturing and logistics.

Russian companies are highly interested in these technologies and are actively searching for partners who can provide advanced solutions and expertise.

In this direction, China is undoubtedly the global leader.

Chinese manufacturers and technology companies are setting the pace in automation, AI-driven production, digital textile printing, and intelligent factory systems.



For us, cooperation with Chinese partners is extremely valuable not only from a commercial perspective, but also as an opportunity to exchange experience, adopt best practices, and accelerate the modernization of the Russian textile industry.

The Russian market is very large, flexible, and open to new technological partnerships.

Companies that are ready to bring innovation, efficiency, and modern production solutions to Russia today have a strong opportunity to secure long-term positions in a market with enormous growth potential.

**4- How do you evaluate the global textile industry in recent years, and how do you predict its future?**

In recent years, the global textile industry has been undergoing a major technological transformation.

We can clearly see that the future of the industry will be shaped by maximum automation, digitalization, and the implementation of artificial intelligence in all production processes.

AI is already changing the way companies approach design, forecasting, production planning, quality control, and supply chain management.

At the same time, I also see enormous potential in the development of 3D technologies across the entire textile sector.

This includes not only fashion and apparel production, but also technical textiles and interior textile products.

3D design, virtual prototyping, smart materials, and advanced manufacturing technologies will significantly reduce production costs, accelerate product development, and create entirely new possibilities for customization and sustainability.

In my opinion, the companies and countries that successfully combine automation, AI, and 3D technologies will become the leaders of the next generation textile industry.

This is why international cooperation and technology exchange are becoming more important than ever before.

**5- Could you tell us more about your association, as well as its mission and vision?**

“The Russian Textile Association (ATR) is one of the leading professional organizations representing the interests of the textile and light industry in Russia and the CIS region.

Since its establishment in 2009, ATR has united manufacturers, suppliers, designers, technology companies, educational institutions, and industry experts with the common goal of developing a strong, modern, and globally competitive textile industry.

Today, our Association includes more than 700 companies with a combined turnover exceeding 650 billion rubles.

Our mission is to support the growth of textile and garment enterprises, strengthen international cooperation, protect the interests of industry participants, and create favorable conditions for industrial development.

We work closely with government institutions, business communities, and international partners to promote innovation,

improve legislation, support exports and imports, and help companies access new technologies and markets.

Our vision is to build a modern textile ecosystem based on technology, education, industrial cooperation, and global partnerships.

We believe the future of the textile industry belongs to companies that combine innovation, automation, sustainability, and international collaboration.

That is why ATR actively develops international relations, organizes business missions and industrial tourism, and helps Russian companies establish long-term partnerships with leading manufacturers and technology providers around the world, especially in China and Asia.



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