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By Yousaf Fareed

Bailout package proposed for textiles; 75th plenary meeting of ICAC; an up rise in cotton crop of Pakistan in 2016/17

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Govt. of Pakistan recently proposes a bailout package of 200 billion PKR for the revival of textile sector in Pakistan. The Minister of Commerce Engineer Khurram Dstagir provided the details to the media. The summary says that the government will provide incentives to the industry in shape of relief on taxes and certain measures to enhance the value of the industry. A six membered committee of stakeholders from relevant industry reviewed the challenges faced by the textile industries and formulated comprehensive recommendations to enhance the productivity of textile industry in Pakistan.

In APTMA meeting, the Govt. of Pakistan was demanded an immediate revival of packages to avoid any further downfall in exports. Additionally, demands were placed for the sustained and low price of resources like electricity and provision of facilities like gas in the industry.

Heimtextile is one of the most important and mega international trade fair that present contract and home textile. The coming event is planned to be held from 10th to 13th of January 2017, in Frankfurt. It will be the first trade fair for the year 2017 in textile sector. The event is important and considered as a trend barometer for the textile industry and gives a preview of trend coming up in the year ahead. All the major player of home textiles in Pakistan

will be exhibiting their products in the event

75th plenary meeting of ICAC (International Cotton Advisory Committee) was held in Islamabad from 30th October to 4th November 2016. 378 persons, including representatives from 14 Members, 4 international organizations and the non-member countries attended the meeting. Some of the main findings of the meeting are that; Cotton demand exceeds production for the second consecutive year; Competition from polyester is cotton's greatest competitive threat; Reducing the water footprint of cotton and increasing farmers' income go hand in hand; Tackling climate change requires international collaboration and World Trade Organization supports reduction in export subsidies and domestic support for cotton etc.

Recent reports suggest that Pakistan is expected to witness an up rise in terms of cotton output in 2016/17. There is an improvement seen in the cotton crop this year and is expected that the trend will remain the same in coming year as well. Favorable weather conditions are said to be the main reason for this satisfying result. An estimate is made that the cotton crop in Pakistan will be around 10.6 million bales this year which is slightly higher than the previous year's crop of 9.7 million. ■ ■

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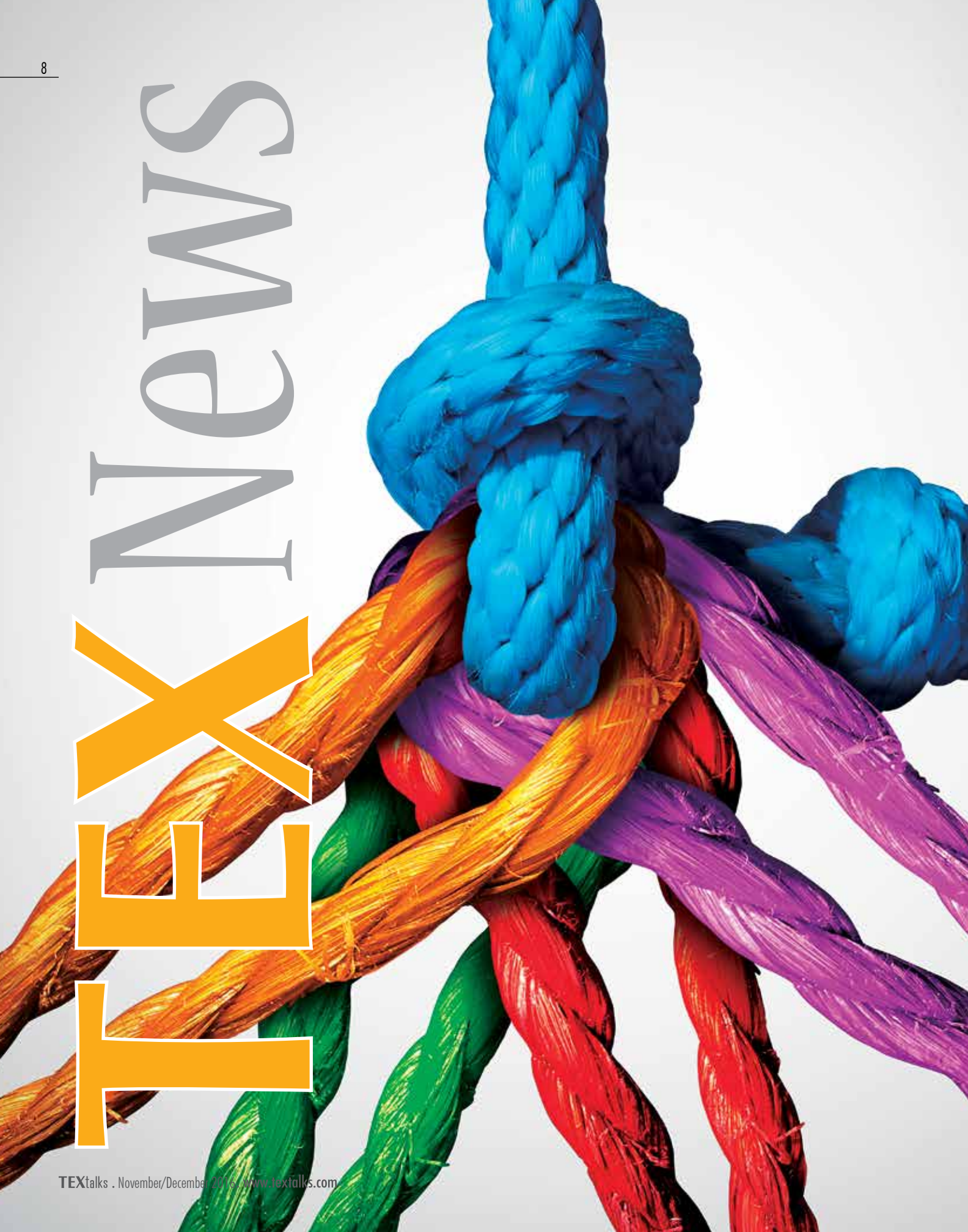
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**Cotton USA to make business connections at Heimtextil
See at Page36**



NEWS TEX TEX



Rs.200 Billion Bailout Package Proposed for Textile Sector

Recently government of Pakistan has proposed a bailout package of 200 billion PKR/- in order to revive the textile sector in Pakistan. On 19th October 2016, the Minister of Commerce, Engineer Khurram Dastgir said that the government has proposed a package in order to revive and bring modern changes in the Pakistan textile industry.

While updating the Senate Standing Committee, Khurram Dastgir said that government will give distinctive incentives in terms of relief on taxes for the textile industry with a purpose to enhance the value addition in the industry. He also said that the government of Pakistan is also committed to bring advancement in the textile sector and compete with the existing regional competitors who have come up in the last few years.

A six membered committee was formulated, consisting of relevant stakeholders and ministers, to review the current challenges faced by the textile industry. While addressing, he also added the formulated committee will soon come up with a comprehensive recommendation system for reinforcement of textile industry.

In the meeting the committee also revised the decrease in cotton production and argued on the need to provide quality seed and fertilizers to the farmers. The committee also informed us that the cotton growing areas of South Punjab have moved on to the crops like Sugarcane, Maze and the reason is all because of the loss suffered in cotton production.

The meeting was attended by a number of prominent individuals from textile industry of Pakistan. And we hope that these issues are a must to be addressed in near future and will surely have a positive impact on the textile industry of Pakistan.

Meanwhile, in a round table meeting of Aptma, the government of Pakistan has been demanded an immediate revival of packages. The core reason for these demands is said to be to avoid any further downfall in exports.

The meeting made some basic demands from the government with the core purpose of enhancing the business processing. Said by sources; demand for an all Pakistan equal tariff for electricity was on the list. At the same time, there was a demand for the gas at industrial sector all across the country with the price rate of 7PKR/- per unit.

Held at APTMA House Lahore, the meeting was attended by leading representatives from All Pakistan Textile Mills Association. The officials from the industry were invited to formulate a strategy to restore the viability in all sectors of textile industry, specifically in the region of Punjab. By the end of the meeting, the community agreed to sort a level playing field in all parts of the country as a basic necessity for the growth of the textile industry.

The addressers placed an emphasis on the immediate announcement of the revival of packages in the textile industry in Pakistan. The basic focus was on the facilities for the region of Punjab as compare to other parts of the country. There was a huge criticism on the structural imbalance from government and an emphasis was placed to overcome the issue.

A review was done of the proposed textile packages and concerns were shown on the delay. Summary of the meeting says that; "The industry is losing the opportunities of export orders and so does a loss in the GSP. The delay in the revival of 35% closed capacity is also causing a delay in investment decisions and increasing the uncertainties."

The meeting ended up by insisting the prime minister to announce the delayed textile packages and start holding textile meetings on regular basis under his personal supervision with a growth-oriented strategy.

The event shows some serious concerns from the textile industry and the need of government to pay attention to the industry to initiate the growth and overcome the existing or upcoming issues. Textile is no doubts one of the most important industry and plays a major role in the sustainability of the GDP of Pakistan. Keeping in mind the role of textile industry in the economic stability and growth of Pakistan, necessary is to work on the issue in an in-time manner. ■ ■



Pakistan to witness an up rise for cotton output in 2016/17

According to the recent research reports, Pakistan is likely to witness an up rise in the cotton output in the year 2016/17. The cotton crop of Pakistan seems to be improved this year and with this growth, the country is expecting to have a better output as compared to the previous one. The main reason for this betterment in the crop is the favorable weather conditions it faced.

As responded by the growers, this year the cotton crop in Pakistan is expected to be around 10.6 million bales. This number is slightly higher than the previous year's crop that is 9.7 million.

The CCAC (Cotton Crop Assessment Committee) has recently revised the production target for cotton crop and found that the estimated crop this year would be around 10.54 million bales against the

target of 14.1 million. At the same time, the prices of cotton are also expected to re-bounce in coming few months because of the increasing demand for high-quality cotton. One reason or these rising prices can be the economic crisis in India and its inability to provide cotton to international market. The ginners are expected to drop in cotton into the market by the end of January 2017.

According to the traders, the shortfall of cotton will improve the import of raw cotton in order to meet the domestic demands. Though Pakistan is one of the leading cotton producers, the production of cotton has seen a downside since last few years. To deal with the issue and increase the production of cotton, necessary is to take extra measures at all levels to gain higher output of cotton crop and decrease the import bills. ■ ■

Chinese companies taking keen interest in Pakistan textiles

Recently a delegation of 21 members from china visited Pakistan and showed their keen interest in enriching business collaboration in textile sector with the counterparts of Pakistan.

The Chinese delegation was led by Deputy Director General of Commerce, Government of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region- Mr. Zhang Shaoyun. Mr. Shaoyun visited the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The delegation represented the garment, clothing, textile and apparel industries as well as chemical sector.

Addressing the audience on the occasion, Shaoyun said that Pakistan is the 4th largest cotton producer in the world while that of china is a primary exporter of textile products. For these reasons, both the countries possess great potential to appreciate each other and by their enhanced cooperation both can earn many benefits, in the international market.

According to Shaoyun, China is well equipped with

modern textile machinery and technology and a close cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries, the textile industry will surely yield many benefits by the end of each day. He also added that by joining hands Pakistan's textile industry will be able to upgrade itself and enhance the quality and productivity.

He was hopeful that this visit of Chinese companies in Pakistan will lead ways to new opportunities for both countries to join hands and work in a multi-dimensional economic direction. While on the other hand, in his welcome speech, Mr. Khalid Iqbal Malik, the President of ICCI said that textile products are the major exports of Pakistan and the government as well as the textile sector is focusing on the additional of valuable technologies to gain better results. He also added that the Chinese companies will be appreciated if they share their technologies with their Pakistani counterparts and work on meeting goals, mutually. Such agreements would be highly beneficial for the growth of the textile industry as well as the overall economy of Pakistan. ■ ■

Myanmar garment export earnings double

Myanmar's garment export earnings increased to USD 940 million in the year to mid-October up from USD 409 million in the corresponding period last year. Increase in earnings was mainly because of a rise in exports to Japan and European Union. Japan accounted for about a third of the country's garment exports; EU and South Korea were 25 % each; and the United States and China accounted for 2.4 % each.

Exports to the EU increased from EUR 345 million in 2013 to EUR 548 million in 2015. The garment industry in Myanmar employs more than 300000 workers in 389 factories; of which 171 are Myanmar-owned, 196 foreign-owned and the rest

are joint ventures.

Myanmar's garment sector is flourishing as the last low-cost production frontier for factory relocation and diversification in Southeast Asia. China has long been the world's top garment exporter. In recent years, however, production costs in China have soared along with a surge in wages. This, together with the difficulty in hiring garment workers and shift towards higher value-added industries, has driven many garment manufacturers to relocate to Myanmar. Chinese minimum wages are way above those in Asean countries, while those in Myanmar are the lowest in Asean. ■ ■

Sustained duty on yarn to support textile industry

Recently, Government of Pakistan has decided to keep the custom duty on yarn products at the lowest level of 5%. The decision is made to support the textile industry. Written by the Federal Board of Revenue, the decision is presented to the Senate Standing Committee of Finance with a briefing on the implementation of the recommendations by committee to the finance bill 2016.

Replying to the queries, the FBR informed that particular recommendation to the customer duty had been implemented in the recent budget. These include the reactivation of the Alternate Dispute Resolution Committee (ADRC), and the purpose is to resolve the customs relevant disputes among the taxpayers and collectors.

In budget of 2016-17, the Senate recommended

the National Assembly that the cotton yarn duty should be kept at the minimum level. This recommendation is implemented by making some amendments to the Finance Bill 2016.

The changes are made in the Fifth Schedule to the Customs Act 1969- as said by the FBR.

At the same time, the Senate recommended the National Assembly of Pakistan to rationalize the process of import and simplify the duties on import for the used equipment. At the same time a recommendation about the formulation of a custom house is also presented by the Senate. With the employment of such recommendations, there is a hope to have better annual turnover from the textile industry as well as it will promote further investment in the field. ■ ■

ICAC to appreciate Pakistan's potential in textile production

"Pakistan has a massive potential in textile manufacturing and cotton production to make prominent and stable position in international market" said by Jose Sette, Executive Director of International Cotton Advisory Committee.

75th Plenary Meeting of International Cotton Advisory Committee was organized by Ministry of textile Industry in Islamabad. The event was presented in collaboration with ICAC in a local hotel. Among the participants was the Executive Director of ICAC who, while addressing the attendees said that "energy is one of the major challenge faced by the textile sector in Pakistan. There is a need to overcome this shortage to boost the growth of textile industry". He added further that "efforts from Government of Pakistan will be highly appreciated in this manner. If the power shortage is managed precisely, it will play a major role in revival of textile industry and enhanced manufacturing process".

The Executive Director of ICAC also added that Pakistan is a major competitor for cotton in international market. A great impact it has on international market due to extensive history of cotton in Pakistan, making it a preferred choice, naturally, to host ICAC's plenary meeting.

In a reply to a question, he added that "Pakistan have a number of opportunities in the textile manufacturing to reach the existing as well as upcoming textile markets and enhance its exports." He added "the annual production of Pakistan is about 2 million tons, on average and this makes it the 4th largest producer in the world." In a reply to another question he said that "These events are a forum for elaborating and finding solutions to international issues related to cotton and textile industry. At the same time such events are a great mean of opportunities for the industry." ■ ■

Export statistics released by Pakistan bureau of statistics

The Pakistan bureau of statistics has released external trade statistics for November 2016. Exports from Pakistan during November, 2016 amounted to Rs.184,497 million (provisional) as against Rs. 183,660 million (provisional) in October, 2016 and Rs.174,782 million during November, 2015 showing an increase of 0.46% over October,2016 and of 5.56% over November, 2015.

In terms of US dollars the exports in November, 2016 was \$ 1,762 million (provisional) as compared to \$ 1,756 million (provisional) in October, 2016 showing an increase of 0.34% and by 6.21% as compared to \$ 1,659 million in November, 2015.

In terms of US dollars the exports during July – November, 2016 totaled \$ 8,189 million (provisional) against \$ 8,524 million during the corresponding period of last year showing a decrease of 3.93%.

Main commodities of exports during November, 2016 were Knitwear (Rs.20,989 million), Readymade garments (Rs.19,740 million), Bedwear (Rs.17,569 million), Cotton cloth (Rs.17,238 million), Cotton yarn (Rs.13,128 million), Towels (Rs.6,836 million), Madeup articles (excl. towels & bedwear) (Rs.6,066 million) and Leather tanned (Rs.3,191 million).

Based on the provisional figures of imports and exports the balance of trade in November, 2016 was (-) 258,406 million in terms of Rupees and (-) 2,468 million in US dollars. The balance of trade figures cumulative from July - November, 2016 were (-) 1,229,548 million in terms of Rupees and (-) 11,751 million in US dollars.



News **Global nonwoven wiper** INDA predicts appreciative growth

The Association of Non-woven fabric Industry, INDA, recently published a report that predicts appreciative growth in the regional as well as global non-woven wiper market in coming four years.

According to the updates from the global non-woven wiper industry the wiper, it one of the fastest growing markets and one of the most dynamic non-woven sector. The presented reports provide an in-depth review of the production data for non-woven wipers for different regions of the world including; Greater Europe, North America, South America, Asia, North Africa, Middle East and other parts of the world. Additionally the report provides details about 31 nonwoven wiper segments in the North America and 6 segments in the South America.

According to the report the global nonwoven wiper market is ranked as the second in tonnage. It accounts for about 13% of the overall non-woven production as well as the second fastest growing end after transportation. In the region of North America the wipers are the 2nd largest end-use product, accounting for about 14% of the net non-woven fabric used. In the region of South America, the wipers counted for about 2% of the production in the year 2015. Among these, baby wipers are appreciated the most.

With such a precise research and details from every single area, the report becomes of great importance. "It is a must to have for anyone who is dealing or about to deal with this business. The reports comprehensively consolidate the entire data of wiper industry into a single report. For this reason, the report is helpful in enhancing the decision-making process in this growing sector of market" said by the president of INDA, Dave Rousse.

The report is precisely based on the primary and secondary data and the economic data in addition to the internal database of INDA. Dozens of surveys and interviews are also conducted from a number of individuals who are part of the industry at any level including the producers, suppliers, owners of brands, and the converters. To have a better understanding of the industry and its progress in past and future, the report is a precise answer to all the possible questions.

Such efforts are appreciative as well as are a plus for making mature business decision in any industry. To have a look on this 137 paged report, you can visit the INDA. ■ ■





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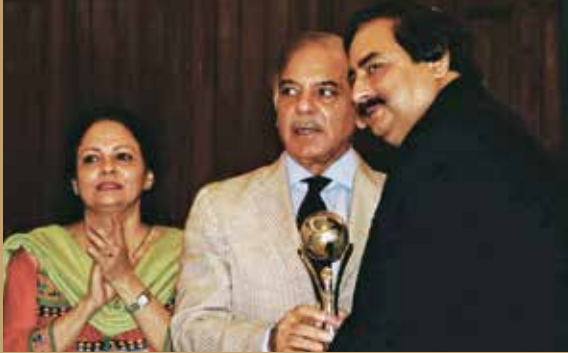
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Nisar mills to win Golden Trophy at LCCI export trophy ceremony

The first ever Lahore Chamber of Commerce Industry export award ceremony was held in Lahore. The event appreciated more than 20 leading exporters by presenting them trophies for their exception performance and role they played to support the industry.

Chief Minister Punjab, Mian Shahzab Shareef, who is also a former president of LCCI, presented the trophies to the prominent individuals, a token of appreciation. While addressing the attendees he mentioned that the Government is in continuous quest to provide services to the investors and business community in Pakistan and believe in the efforts and expertise in these businessmen.

Among the most appreciated businessmen from all over the Pakistan was the Chief Executive of Nisar Mills, Mian Tariq Nisar who won the LCCI Golden Trophy for his marvelous achievements being a part of the industry.

The addressers and CM Shehbaz Shareef appreciated the efforts of individuals by saying that these individuals have played a significant role in the improvement of Pakistan's economy.

At times where it is necessary to appreciate the efforts of these individuals by organizing such events, it is also necessary to provide them with opportunities to further enhance their skills and support the economy of Pakistan at the same time. ■ ■

Recent rise in Vietnam cotton imports

Vietnam's cotton import has increased up to 18%. The year 2015/16, Vietnam has seen a clear downfall in terms of import of cotton. While this year the trends has moved upward with a clear difference in the first few months of the year. The time between August to November, saw an increase of about 18 percent this year. This percentage counts of about 1.6 million bale import of cotton in these 5 months.

If we calculate, from December 2015 to November 2016, Vietnam has now reached a record level for cotton imports. The trend is expected to remain the same and will move upward in coming months. As stated by the USDA (the United States Department of Agriculture) the forecast for Vietnam import of cotton will be about 5.0 million for 2016/17.

The rise in import is basically due to the increasing demand of Vietnam made yarn in china. The custom data of china, from August to October shows that the cotton yarn imports increased for up to 200,000 bales. While at the same time the spinning sectors does not seem to have suffered from the china's internal cotton prices that are considerably lower than that of the cotton prices at global level.

In such situations the countries that were previously taking benefits from the lower domestic prices of china are expected to see a decline. The basic impact is expected to be witnessed by Pakistan and India who have already experienced a prominent decline in the yarn exports. However, the appreciation for Vietnam's production is highly influenced by the support and demand of Vietnams yarn in china. ■ ■

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Groundbreaking opening of ShanghaiTex 2017

Leading the industry on the trend to Industry 4.0

The bi-annual signature event of the textile industry in China - the 18th International Exhibition on Textile Industry (hereinafter as "ShanghaiTex 2017") will be held at Shanghai New International Expo Center, Pudong, Shanghai, PR China on November 27-30, 2017.

ShanghaiTex 2017 will unveil a parade of "Textile for Smarter Future" with the foothold on China and global vision. Except for high tech machineries showcase, ShanghaiTex 2017 promises to present a high-end innovation feast integrating the textile and cross-boundary technology for buyers to preview the future technology and trend of the industry.

The show covers 9 halls of Shanghai New International Expo Center (Pudong) with the total size of more than 100,000 square meters. Over 1,200 exhibitors are anticipated. More than 60,000 professional buyers are expected to participate in the show for commercial procurement.

In line with the main theme of ShanghaiTex 2017, Textile for Smarter Future, the show focuses on hot topics such as Sports Textiles Technology and Technology for Automotive Textiles in order to pave ways for industry peers to achieve their own Industry 4.0 by exploring a breakthrough based on textile-related cross boundary technology and applications.

To exhibit the top-notch manufacturing technology in the world, a professional team of domestic and overseas experts proudly presents to the buyers a C2M Smart Factory Experience Zone in which they can obtain the first-hand experience of the future manufacturing process from ordering to producing. The professional team will resolve buyers' questions about Industry 4.0 and demonstrate the step-by-step formula towards Industry 4.0. It helps the industry players enhance their productivity to cater the ever-changing market trends, thus, to maximize

competitiveness and profit.

Featuring the smart textile and cross boundary integration, a Technology for Automotive Textiles Zone exhibiting the high-end automotive and industrial textiles is established as an open gateway for the buyers to troop into the blue ocean market.

Smart textile related concurrent events and forums will update buyers with the latest market news and provide a glance through the trend of cross boundary integration, 3D scanning and 3D printing technologies. With a prism defusing the latest market spectrum, buyers would be able to grasp every opportunity in time.

A revolutionary and dynamic Sports Arena will be architected at ShanghaiTex 2017 as a venue for daily performance or contests to demonstrate the up-to-the-minute textile sports equipment and contemporary sportswear (including underclothes). Interactive contest platforms await the buyers to show their talents and enjoy the fun of smart sports and lifestyles of health.

In response to the customization trend, ShanghaiTex 2017 contributes to the progressive realization of Industry 4.0 through promotion of advancement in production, digitalization, sustainability and servitization to breathe new dynamics and value to the industry and assist Chinese textile to rank among the world's manufacturing powers.

ShanghaiTex is sponsored by Shangtex Holding Co Ltd, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Shanghai Sub-council and China Chamber of International Commerce Shanghai Chamber of Commerce; and is organized by Adsale Exhibition Services Ltd, Shanghai Textile Technology Service & Exhibition Center and Shanghai International Exhibition Co Ltd. ■ ■

Readymade technical training soon in Sialkot

A Readymade Technical Training Institution is announced to be soon open in Sialkot, Pakistan. The institution is a result of efforts of PRGMEA- Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association. As said by the Chief coordinator of association, Ijaz A Khokhar, the institution is a response to the accentuated needs of formulation of specialized policies with mutual collaboration of the stakeholders serving the aim to affluent the export sector at national level.

Costing above 125 Million PKR/- the institution is said to be equipped with all the necessary arrangements and facilities required to deal with contemporary readymade manufacturing process. According to the sources, the institution will be working in affiliation with Japan. While the basic idea behind this institution is to present the market with trained workers in the field of pattern design, stitching, quality control management, sewing and inspection machinery experts- without any gender discrimination.

JICA is also listed as one of the active members and will be dealing with the provision of co-operation in technical assistance as well as in the field of marketing to the institution. The institution, once active with its operations, will be a great deal of support for the exporters into the ready-made garment industry. It will help to instate new workforce that will be highly trained to increase the productivity and quality of the products. These efforts will surely have an impact on the execution of international and domestic needs of quality production of readymade garments, successfully. ■ ■



The changing figures in global yarn & fabric output **A review for Q2/2016**

International Textile Manufacturers' Federation, in their recent press release, stated that the global yarn and fabric output is high in the second quarter of 2016, as compare to the previous one. While at the same time expected estimates show a negative in the Q3 and Q4 for the global yarn and fabric output. With this overall market evaluation, the rise and fall have remained different in different parts of the global market.

According to the reports in the Q2, the yarn production showed a quarter-to-quarter increase. This led to an increase in the yarn output in regions of Europe, Asia, and South America. As compared to Q2/1015, the yearly production of yarn fell in Q2/2016. At the same time, the global yarn stock fell in quarter-to-quarter in Q2/2016. Major decrease in yarn stocks was seen in the region of Asia while that of South America showed an up rise.

Further explained in the press report was that the fabric production increase in Q2 as that of Q1 because of the strong increase in the regions of Asia and South America. While in Europe the fabric production decreased. The global fabric output on year-on-years basis decreased in the region of Asia and South America but was upright in Europe. Likewise was a reduction seen in the fabric inventories in the South America and Asia.

According to the recent reports, a net of these calculations has shown a decline in the global yarn and fabric production in the Q3/2016. At the time where Asian yarn output is said to be strengthened, the European region is marked as moderate in this series. On the other hand, as compared to last quarter, the global fabric production increased by more than 8% in the Q2/2016. With an increase in the South American and Asian fabric output, the fabric output showed a downfall in the European region.

With these elevating changes in the production, demand and stock of yarn in different sections of the global yarn market, the net assumption is that the existing and coming yarn and fabric output will remain high in the current year. The presented report gives us a detailed insight to the changing graph in yarn market and helps to have a clear idea of what the upcoming market trends are. ■ ■



Higher wool production forecast in Australia

Recently the Australian Wool Production Forecasting Committee has revised the forecast of shorn wool production for the year 2016/17 and the final estimate came up with an estimate of 2.2% for the season 2015/16.

According to the Committee Chairman, Russell Pattinson "All the major sheep producing areas in Australia are reported to have good seasonal conditions and the wet spring has led to an abundance of feed." Such situation is obvious to give better wool cuts per head in the 2016/17. The expectation is more than the estimate of the

Committee that were anticipated in August.

The committee also noted that the season 2016/17 to November, there is a significant decline in the weight of tested wool. This difference varies between 16.6 to 18.5 micron and the broader than 26.5 microns. At the same time, there was an increase in the volumes of wool for all microns, ranging between 18.6 and 23.5. By the end, according to the update, the mean fiber diameter of Australia in 2016/17 to November was about 20.7 microns. This number is same at that of 2015/16. ■ ■

Upsurge of business costs in apparel sector

World Bank Institute

Recently held seminar at the World Bank Institute is a complete picture of the trends and issues in apparel sector in Pakistan. Market updates show a clear increase in the uprising graph line for investment trends in the apparel business. Making it clear for the apparel sector importers in Pakistan to have a pocket of brilliance. At the same time, the need is in elevation to clearly identify the market segments that have the best potential to perform in all ways. The held event also highlighted the need to gain the trust of the buyers and building a healthy relationship with them.

To gain these skills, necessary is to assure the buyers and gain their trust in the expertise of mechanism and the strength it has to cope with any kind of situation. Sustainability of the supply of products and services is of vital importance to deal with the situation efficiently- said by Ravindra A. Yatawara (speaker at the seminar- WBI).

The held seminar also spoke about the required investment in the apparel sector in both private as well as public settings. With bringing to light the case of Turkey, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh the speakers demonstrated the benefits of such investments and their turnover for the individual corporate entities as well as the nation on the whole. Thoughts were shared that these investments will create more opportunities for jobs and bring out higher margin

with a rapidly growing apparel value chain.

The events also placed a light on the importance of strategic segmentation in this market sector and identify the fundamental of doing this business at the global level. At the time, where there was a light placed on the possible outcomes of such investments, a review was done for the previous situations as well. Explained was the competitiveness of the apparel section and the way it was hurt previously, because of high costs of doing such business in Pakistan that were mostly influenced by rising import tariffs, security costs, and higher energy rates.

Said was that there is a negative influence of the weak trade facilities, lack of coordination between Gov. to Gov. and Gov.to private organizations', lack of in-time credit facilities, exchange rates, industrial policies and the influence they have from internal and external pressures and situations- on the existing overall apparel business situations.

Well, the event also gave us a hope with a clear explanation of why the trend of investing in this section is increasing. As stated, there were a number of measures taken by the Government of Pakistan, raising a hope that the coming years will bring more investments into the apparel sector and will surely give a rise to the economic stability in Pakistan. ■ ■

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INDEX-17: A great opportunity for global non-woven market

INDEX-17, being one of the major non-woven exhibition organizers in the world have moved a step ahead. The organization is now presenting the first half-day seminar and exhibition, presenting all the latest megatrends and answers to a number of question about how non-woven help to meet the challenges in the industry. EDANA announced the innovative addition to INDEX, the exhibition to showcase the non-woven and all related industries. The event is expected to be held in Geneva, dated as 4 to 7 April 2017 at Palexpo, Geneva, Switzerland.

The exhibition will bring an entirely new experience to the world. Said is that the main focus will be on the healthcare, transportation, filtration and geotextile. The sessions of seminars will be launched by leading experts from the industry with a purpose to take steps beyond industry and look for global forces. From autonomous vehicles to cost-effective infrastructures the speaker will address the megatrends that are influencing the industry application areas, globally.

The seminar is organized in a way that every session will offer 3 or more speakers address the major challenges met by non-woven industry and the way

industry has provided answers to the most important questions. Answers to the questions like how the industry, as a part of society, continues to function and care effectively.

“The event will be an innovative way of offering the participants with the opportunity to listen to the experts delivering their basic learning about challenges in the non-woven sector of their choice and projected to add value to their experience by visiting the largest non-woven exhibition organized ever. We hope that this seminar will be of great help for the attendees” said by General Manager of EDANA, Pierre Wiertz.

The event is a venture of EDANA. EDANA is serving more than 250 companies in 34 different countries, in order to deal with their future and sustainability of an organization. Events like INDEX will be of great importance for the non-woven industry. Key players of the industry and from all parts of the world are expected to attend the event. INDEX is, in no way, less than an opportunity to gather and present innovative solutions to the non-woven world, finding new ideas and business opportunities and expanding the business network. ■ ■

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DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR cadex creates more business opportunities for flooring companies among architect and designers

Design and Architecture will take centre stage as highlights of DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR in 2017. cadex, the international event for connecting, learning and doing business in the design and architecture industry will be held for the second year and for the first time as an integrated part of DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR inside W5 and N2 Halls.

cadex will work as a collective of architecture and design-related stimulating content and will generate two and a half days of conferences, networking events, interactive activities, creative display and much more.

cadex will invite design Masters to explore the most cutting edge and hottest topics within the industry such as All-in-one home decoration, retreat and boutique hotels, smart home, culture architecture and rebuild. cadex will cooperate with the Chinese Tongji University – College of Design & Innovation to establish Flooring LAB, a platform to analyze the upcoming flooring trends and discover new creative ways of using flooring materials. Key opinion leaders will hold forth of a variety of dialogues and they will also guide tours throughout the whole Exhibition Center to point out and explore the most relevant content, specially tailored for architecture and design professionals. Once again cadex will host Materia, the global network in the area of innovative materials. In a total area of 300m², visitors can get a closer look to hundreds of outstanding innovative building materials samples.

In 2016 cadex attracted more than 8000 professional visitors of which more than 60% were architects and designers operating in the Chinese Market and

scouting for some interesting new materials to use in their projects. The remaining parts of the visitors included traders, contractors, real estate developers and leading industry Media.

“In recent years in Asia Pacific region, the influence of architects and designers for buying decisions has increased. The ability requested to architecture and design offices to serve clients more completely have grown in importance and their specifications or suggestions are taken very much into consideration before taking buying decisions. Furthermore for any project, the general level of quality requested from the final client considerably raised and therefore the need to have architects and design expertise on the ground and more involved in purchasing decisions became also imperative.” says Mr. David Zhong, President of VNU Exhibitions Asia, one of the organizers of the shows. “As a result of these market changes and the increased need of our exhibitors to focus more on these categories of visitors, we decided to bring together our leading Trade Show (DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR) and a successful platform like cadex to increase the possibilities of business and give more visibility to flooring companies also among the architecture and design Community” concludes Zhong.

While cadex is building up an outstanding program for all visitors and exhibitors DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR, as the leading flooring tradeshow in Asia Pacific, is filling up its space very fast! With 4 months remaining before the show opening on March 21st, 2017, the booked exhibiting space reached already over 90% of the available fairground. ■ ■

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Mike Horsten
General Manager Marketing EMEA



Trend 2017

Mass customisation in home textiles

“Mass customisation of textile-based home goods is becoming a reality that is accessible to just about everyone. The key to effective mass customisation is the ability to deliver an increase in variety without a corresponding increase in costs. It is a collaborative effort between consumers and manufacturers, delivering the best match between individual specific consumer needs and the manufacturer’s customisation capabilities. And in most cases, delivering against these consumer expectations requires digitally printed textiles.”

Mike Horsten

General Manager Marketing EMEA

For years, textile-based home goods have been mass produced. An average family household in the European Union spends 65 euros each year on home textiles, a total market size of 16 billion euros. These goods have traditionally been selected from mass-produced designs placed into the market by manufacturers, and this model has been accepted by the public because there really wasn’t any alternative. But as with so many other areas of our lives, the digital revolution is changing that: consumers want personalised or individualised textiles, with short delivery times. Suppliers are already adapting to these requirements and are changing their business models, with a growing focus on the production of small order volumes through to one-off pieces. And evolution in the digital printing of textiles is the enabling factor. Do you want your family room drapes to carry the logo of your child’s sports team? It can be done quickly, economically and with very high quality. Need to change that as your child moves to university? No problem, we can handle that, too.

According to Mike Horsten, General Manager Marketing EMEA at digital printer manufacturer Mimaki, “We often think about home textiles coming to us from the Asian market,”



Horsten says, “more specifically, China. But in actual fact, although China is the most important producer of home textiles, in particular, rugs and bedding, the demand for these goods is so high in China itself that only 1% of its production is exported. From 2009 to 2013, in fact, the imports of home textiles into China have risen annually by 20%!”

What is coming together, then, is the demand for more customised home textiles and the shift in supply chain dynamics for these materials. This is opening new market opportunities in the European and North American markets for personalised or customised home textiles produced at or near the point of need and with short cycle times. Horsten believes demand for mass customisation in home textiles is also being driven by the post-war generation, those born between 1945 and 1970. These people are retiring or their children are moving out of the home. These children are setting up new households and are buying new bedclothes, carpets, curtains and much more. They are likely to want more customised choices for these goods. This includes the ability to coordinate textile well and ceiling hangings room dividers, furniture and decorative

objects using customised textile designs and that requires robust digital printing technologies as well as a shift in manufacturing model.

Changing the Business Model

But changing the business model comes with a price. Horsten explains, “Keeping up with the changes while earning money in this business is not a simple matter. Large print shops need to adjust to these new challenges. Sales models must be modified. Management information systems between shops, design studios, production, accounting, logistics and shipping departments must be adapted. The profit margins are traditionally low in home textiles. Any firms producing large volumes that end up selling warehouse stocks at a discount aren't going to make any profit. Digital textile printing makes it possible to produce and sell products precisely aligned with customer requirements.”

Digital textile printing presents designers with significant challenges, as well as opportunities. In traditional processes, prints were designed for use across an extended period and for high print volumes. Conversely, digital textile printing offers a

considerably higher level of flexibility. This makes it possible to respond in the short term to new fast fashion trends, as well as to individual consumer requests. This has a significant impact on textile designers, demanding much more creativity

Inks: The New Frontier

Until now, a significant barrier has been ink – digitally printed textiles need to feature vibrant colours with a broad colour gamut, good washability, durability over time, and a nice feel to the fabric. There is also a requirement to print on all types of textiles with minimal impact to the environment. This is the Holy Grail for digital textile printing, and although the industry is not all the way there yet, progress is being made. Horsten states, “The available reactive inks for inkjet printing remain the leading technology for home textiles. However, there is a new generation of pigmented inks on the horizon for which a case can be made. Sublimation technology is taking somewhat of a back seat for home textiles. Printing presses are becoming increasingly fast and the print quality is rising continuously. In addition, print shops and service providers are continuing to develop their workflows so that home textiles can be produced more cost-effectively. This wave of innovation, I believe, will open the flood gates to a broad range of new opportunities.”

The table below reflects the most commonly requested fabric types and the inks best suited for each.

	Polyester	Cotton	Silk	Nylon	Wool
Sublimation Dye	X				
Reactive Dye		X	X		X
Acid Dye			X	X	X
Dispersion Dye	X				
Textile Pigment	X	X	X	X	X

Sublimation Dye

Sublimation inks are designed to work best with polyester-based textiles and can be used in two ways: directly on the polyester material or by printing on a sublimation paper and using a heat press or calendar to transfer the inks. Unlike conventional dyeing, no washing is required, thus reducing both water usage and contamination. With specially-designed Mimaki inks, this process results in deep blacks, excellent durability and a broad colour gamut. Inks are available in CMYK, light black, light cyan, light magenta, as well as pink and yellow fluorescents that are ideal for sportswear applications.

Reactive Dye inks

These inks are suitable for printing on natural fibres such as cotton, silk and wool. This also requires a printer with a belt transport system that flattens the fabric, making it possible to more easily print on material that stretches. Mimaki reactive dye inks are designed to produce deep, bright colours in the complete gamut of shades which are required for the home and outdoor segments and meet automotive lightfastness standards.

Acid inks

Acid inks are very similar to reactive inks. Pre-treatment and after-treatment are both required. The process is the same, but these inks require a different pre-treatment liquid. Acid inks from Mimaki offer good wet-fastness and lightfastness, delivering the broad colour gamut and brilliant colours that the textile industry demands.

Dispersion dye

These inks are designed for printing with excellent lightfastness and outstanding build-up on polyester and micro-polyester. They are ideal for sportswear, curtains, home and outdoor textiles and the automotive industry. A heater or steamer fixes the dye, and is followed by a reduction cleaning process that creates the deep shade. Following a chemical bath, first hot air and then cold water are applied.

Textile Pigment ink

The advantage to this ink is that there is no need for steaming, washing and cleaning, reducing the cost and environmental impact. But the technology is not quite there yet to achieve the same results that can be achieved with other inks. We are working to develop a binder or primer that will improve the durability and colour gamut.

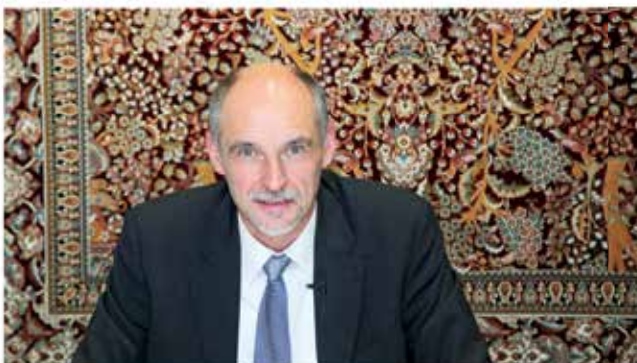
Looking Ahead

Mimaki is dedicated to applying its extensive knowledge and expertise to providing the best solutions for digital printing on textiles. Mike Horsten concludes, “We are focused on developing new inks for each application that will reduce costs, maintain or improve quality and make digital textile printing more environmentally friendly. This, we believe, will speed up the adoption of digital textile printing and open the market to a variety of new applications and opportunities.”

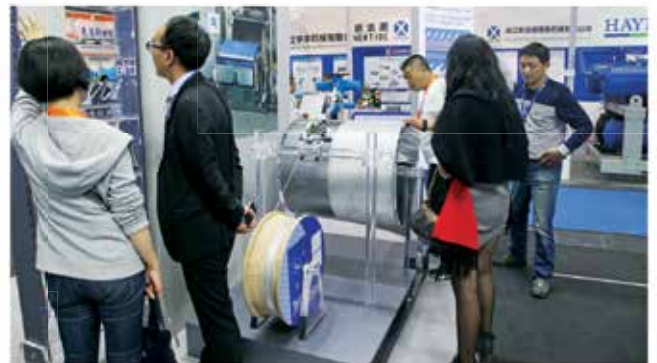
More details about Mimaki products, including its full range of printers and inks, can be found at www.mimakieurope.com ■ ■

ITMA Asia Shanghai, China











Cotton USA to make business connections at Heimtextil



COTTON USA is making plans to promote U.S. cotton's quality, responsible production and innovation at the world's leading trade show for home textiles.

While at Heimtextil in Frankfurt, Germany, on January 10-13, 2017, COTTON USA will seize the opportunity to offer sourcing support to the global home textile industry. As an added incentive to the hospitality industry, COTTON USA will also introduce its new hotel and travel initiative that connects COTTON USA licensed manufacturers with the hotel sector to provide U.S. cotton-rich bedding and towels. This new COTTON USA initiative allows hotel partners to specify and highlight their use of U.S. cotton-rich products so that, in turn, their guests can enjoy the safe and comfortable feeling of "home away from home" when staying at a hotel."

For four days, the COTTON USA pavilion at Heimtextil will serve as an international meeting point for the entire cotton trade, including merchants, mills, manufacturers, brands, retailers and the press. COTTON USA, Cotton Incorporated and Supima will provide comprehensive information about the global cotton market, sourcing, consumer research, and the marketing/promotional services the U.S. cotton industry offers.

Visitors to the exhibit can learn about the COTTON

USA Sourcing, Marketing and Licensing Programs and about COTTON USA's collaboration with leading brands and retailers worldwide. Visitors also will be able to view innovative product samples from the new collections of international COTTON USA licensees.

COTTON USA is a premium trademark ingredient brand that identifies products made from U.S. cotton through all stages of processing and marketing. COTTON USA has strong consumer awareness and preference for COTTON USA, with more than 51,000 product lines and 3.8 billion products having proudly carried the name COTTON USA since 1989. Setting the gold standard for global best practices in cotton production, the United States is well-positioned to continue offering its valued customers steady supplies of quality fiber.

As an added boost to COTTON USA, U.S. cotton producers are leading the way in responsible cotton production practices. U.S. cotton is grown under the strongest, mandatory, enforceable and sustainable farming regulations that include long-term land conservation and lower water usage. The U.S. system's transparency allows for constant monitoring and improvement. U.S. producers, numbering about 13,000, comply with stringent U.S. government regulatory requirements and are committed to the principle of continuous improvement. ■ ■



SPGPrints JAVELIN inkjet printer

SPGPrints to host event for Pakistan's home textile printers at Heimtextil 2017

At Heimtextil 2017, SPGPrints will be combining the premiere of its new digital inkjet printer for home textile printing applications, with a special event to celebrate the long, successful relationship it has enjoyed with its textile customers in Pakistan.

For fifty years, SPGPrints has been supplying the textile printing industry in Pakistan, and since 1996, local demand for equipment, consumables, support and consultancy has been provided by SPGPrints Pakistan, in Karachi. During that time, the company has maintained a market leading position in the sector, with hundreds of rotary screen printing machines and more than 20 preprint screen engraving systems installed at leading textile factories across the country.

More recently, SPGPrints Pakistan sold four JAVELIN® digital inkjet printers and the new SPGPrints NEBULA HD inks are being readily taken up by quality-conscious customers.

Special event for Pakistan's textile printers

To celebrate this long relationship as well as the premiere of the wide-format JAVELIN digital inkjet printer for home textile applications, Pakistan's textile printers are cordially invited to an exclusive High Tea, from 3.00pm to 7.00pm, 12 January, on the SPGPrints stand, Hall 6, Level 0, Stand B22, Messe Frankfurt,

Frankfurt-am Main, Germany.

During the event, customers will have the opportunity to see live demonstrations of SPGPrints' 3200mm-wide JAVELIN inkjet printer, specially adapted for home textile applications, and making its global debut at the show.

"With a strong local presence and focus on providing comprehensive printing solutions, SPGPrints is playing a significant role in introducing digital textile printing to this country," said Salman Hydrie, managing director, SPGPrints Pakistan. "This approach ensures that printers and end-users here enjoy the benefits of the latest technologies to address demands for the shorter runs, faster turnarounds, and streamlined logistics demanded by fashion brands."

"We are delighted to show our new wide format JAVELIN printer, which will enable bed linens and other home textiles to be printed digitally, opening opportunities for easy design changes, limited editions and even personalised products in that sector."

"The High Tea will provide an informal setting for conversations with customers as well as a way of better understanding their needs and concerns," concluded Mr. Hydrie. "Printers who would like ■ ■

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VANDEWIELE offers complete carpet solutions at Domotex

VANDEWIELE offers its customers complete carpets solutions, from granulate to carpet. The portfolio contains BCF extrusion lines, heat-setting machines, tufting machines and carpet weaving machines. The synergy of competences in these different fields leads not only to technical important breakthroughs, but is mainly in the benefit of the customer.

Van de Wiele, expert in yarns

The quality of a carpet starts with the quality of the yarns. Therefore, Van de Wiele offers its customers BCF extrusion lines. The experience in woven and tufted carpet, combined with the knowledge of yarn production, has led to the development of a performant extrusion line, the BXE.

The BXE line is a three ends process, able to produce BCF yarns in polypropylene, polyester and polyamide 6. After the successful introduction of the first monocolour line in the market, several mono and tricolor lines have been sold in Turkey, China, Iran, Saudi Arabia, ... The extrusion line produces yarn with the highest bulk on the market.

After extrusion, the yarns can be heat-set. The French company Superba, part of VANDEWIELE, has been the world leading manufacturer of heat-setting lines for many years. Superba has developed a unique and

performing heat-setting system based on saturated steam, suitable for polypropylene, polyamide, acrylic, wool... The space-dyeing machine, which allows applying a pattern of colours on yarns, is an incredible success. It allows making new woven and tufted carpet qualities. Numerous samples with space dyed yarn will be shown.

Van de Wiele, expert in tufting

After the successful introduction of the Myriad in ITMA2015 and the success of the customers with this technology in house, Cobbe-Van de Wiele is proud to announce the TUFTFX-L and the TUFTFX-C.

The TUFTFX-L is equipped with the Myriad attachment, offering unlimited design flexibility by the use of compact servomotor yarn control. Each yarn is individually controlled through the individual pile delivery system to achieve an unlimited number of pile heights. By changing gradually pile heights between different colours an endless number of colour shades are created for tufting tiles, area rugs, wall-to-wall carpet and pictures.

The simple, lightweight and compact Level Cut Loop mechanism on the TUFTFX-C allows combining cut pile and loop pile. Combined with sliding needle bar and Myriad attachment, a big variety of tuft effects in cut pile and different loop pile heights are possible. Samples of

all different tuft qualities will be shown at Domotex.

To maximize the design possibilities, the TuftLink software has been developed. This software allows changing and creating very easy designs by working in separate layers for artistic design, pile heights, colours... This easy change is not possible with the traditional software now available on the market.

Van de Wiele, expert in weaving

The Rug & Carpet Expert RCE02 forms the newest generation of double rapier face-to-face carpet weaving machines. The machine is equipped with a new Jacquard machine and Smart Frames. This allows weaving carpet qualities which were not possible before like combinations of cut pile, flat weave, double flat weave, double points, filling effects... The Jacquard has a new compact selector, but still has the advantages of all Van de Wiele Jacquards like putting the colors in layers (per carpet or per color).

The RCE02 is a fully electronic machine. Many motions are controlled by servomotors: the cutting motion, the heidle frames, the edges, the Jacquard, the beam let-off... Electronics are more and more replacing mechanics. Many samples woven on the RCE02 will be shown, including carpet qualities with very low pile heights.

Van de Wiele is also the partner for weaving all kinds of carpet qualities. High density carpets in handlook, Axminster carpets, face-to-face carpets, light weight carpets, tapestry rugs, artificial grass, sisal look carpets, flat weave carpets, loop pile carpets in 8 colours or any other type of carpet... Van de Wiele will help you find the best technical solution for producing this carpet.

Van de Wiele is the only company offering

three-*rapier*-machines. Besides the increased production on this machine compared to the three shot on two-*rapier*-machines, the technical advantages are very well appreciated in the market: no moving incorporated yarns, clearer backside, less pile consumption... Especially for the high quality hand look carpets, the three-*rapier*-technique is a benefit.

VANDEWIELE, inspired by expertise

We imagine, build and integrate innovative textile systems for flooring qualities, home linen, fashion fabrics and technical textiles. Sharing inspiration and expertise with our customers worldwide, we shape the textile industry of the future. Creating success for them all, from yarn to finished product. ■ ■



Swedish business to present waterless dyeing technology

An innovative Swedish company will use next year's ISPO show in Munich to unveil a new sustainable, colourfast method to dye synthetic fibres in pants, jackets, and backpacks, without the use of water and using significantly less chemicals than in the conventional dyeing process.

We are SpinDye specialises in dyes for synthetic, woven, knitted, or crocheted fibres. The company uses a process in which recycled plastic is melted down and the desired dye pigment is then added to the undyed material. After that, yarn is produced from it in the desired strength, with clients and manufacturers then able to further process the yarn as required.

By adding the colour pigment to the synthetic raw material early on in the process – when it's melted and spun into fibres and before it becomes thread or yarn – We are SpinDye says its method completely avoids water. The method makes the color pigment an integral part of the material from scratch – in theory leading to greater durability and making it less sensitive to fading and wear.

We are SpinDye says its technology is applicable to all synthetic materials, such as polyester or nylon, but also – significantly - for rayon. The company told that a combination of synthetic fibres and unbleached wool can be used, with no limits for manufacturers in further processing. The fabrics can, for example, be coated or equipped with a membrane.

In the conventional dyeing process, 100 to 150 litres of water are required to dye a kilogram of textiles. Other alternatives to this excessive use of water include the work of Dyecoo, the Dutch tech business whose machines substitute carbon dioxide (CO₂) for water in the dyeing process.

ISPO Munich will take place 5-8 February 2017. Every year, more than 2,600 international exhibitors present their latest products from the segments of Outdoor, Ski, Action, Performance Sports, Textrends, Health & Fitness and Sourcing at ISPO MUNICH to over 80,000 visitors from 110 countries. ■ ■

oerlikon

Neumag BCF solutions offer maximum flexibility and efficiency

Oerlikon Neumag will be exhibiting state-of-the-art system concepts for BCF carpet yarn production in hall 5 on stand A31 at Domotex in Hannover, the world's biggest fair for carpets and floor coverings. New Industrie 4.0 solutions from Oerlikon's Manmade Fibers segment will also be deployed for the first time. With the presentation of the new "IPC 4.0" (Intelligent Plant Control) customer services, Oerlikon will also set new standards in the future in the production of BCF yarns.

The system portfolio of the market leader from Neumünster, Germany, almost completely covers the requirements of carpet yarn manufacturers. This is evident from the strong demand for the BCF systems S+ and Sytec One across the entire polymer and titre spectrum. With over 1000 positions installed worldwide, Oerlikon Neumag facilities produce over 1.6 million tonnes of BCF carpet yarn. Since their market launches in 2007 (Sytec One) and 2010 (S+), the systems have been optimised continuously. Ongoing further development of components and the process increases the user-friendliness and efficiency of BCF spinning mill solutions.

Highly efficient tricolour yarn production with Variomelt, CPC and RoTac

The demand for multicoloured carpets has grown significantly, with the market seeking a wide spectrum of colour separations in tricolour yarns. Oerlikon Neumag's S+ system concept offers the opportunity to produce the most diverse colour separations, from melange to strongly separated colours.

Variomelt – maximum flexibility for the production of mono- and tricolour yarns

The Variomelt concept is synonymous with the highly flexible production of large and small batches of mono- and tricolour yarns: the unit can be modified from tricolour to monocolour production with three single colours in less than 45 minutes. Long batch runtimes per monocolour extruder ensure particularly efficient raw material utilisation. As usual, the diphyll-heated Variomelt spinning mill provides a constant, optimal spinning temperature.

Color Pop Compacting

With the CPC (Color Pop Compacting) unit from Oerlikon Neumag, strongly separated yarns can be manufactured efficiently. The individual threads are provided with yarn cohesion in the CPC unit before texturing so that they are no longer able to become so intermingled in downstream process stages, giving rise to a strongly colour-separated yarn.

Produce tricolour efficiently with RoTac

Tricolour carpets must have a very uniform appearance, and an optimal tangle result in the BCF spinning mill is crucial for this. These tangle knots are produced in defined spacings and thicknesses using RoTac. Thanks to this tangling option, uniform tricolour results that cannot be produced in conventional tangling units are achieved even at high speeds.

Optimised process for the production of PA6 yarns

More than 240,000 tonnes of PA6 melt-dyed and natural white BCF yarns are currently manufactured each year on the latest Oerlikon Neumag machines. The melt lines, which are especially optimised for these processes, ensure an optimal melt quality. A specially designed plug guide under the texturing unit and a so-called V cooling drum achieve the highest crimp uniformity and quality. The specially designed texturing components meet the highest demands in the field of short-pile automotive applications.

Flexible process control with the Multi Machine Access Center

Networked production has long since ceased to be a vision of the future, but the solutions on offer are often extremely complex. The new Multi Machine Access Center (MMAC) is geared specifically to customers seeking a solution specially tailored to their requirements.

The innovative MMAC permits monitoring of the Oerlikon Neumag textile machines, allowing the scope of visualisation to be modified to suit the customer's particular wishes. Since the MMAC is linked to the process control system, its highest specification offers a central overview of all applications offered by the control system. ■ ■

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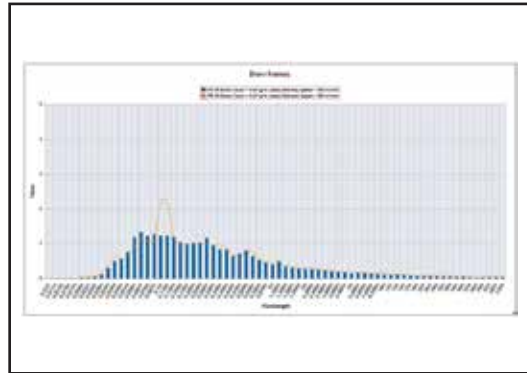


TRÜTZSCHLER SPINNING

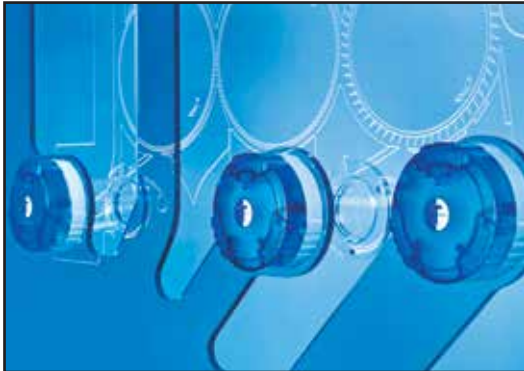
Data for management



The energy measuring device EMG1 permanently monitors the power consumption of a machine



The comparison of two draw frames reveals a sliver fault on one draw frame (in orange)



The waste sensor WASTECONTROL measures the waste quality



Keeping an eye on all the important data, anytime and anywhere

T-DATA is the real-time monitoring system from Trützschler. T-DATA provides management with solid data for the daily routine in spinning. Since the system is web-based, the data are available anytime and anywhere.

Individualisation and integration

T-DATA can be easily and intuitively individualised, precisely tailored to the requirements of the user. The system allows easy data transfer to higher-ranking customer systems.

The right data are crucial

To obtain meaningful information, it must first of all be determined. For this purpose, Trützschler developed a number of sensors.

- The optical sensor WASTECONTROL is used to monitor the waste quality of the cleaners in the blow room. This prevents unnecessary fiber loss.
- On the cards, NEPCONTROL counts the neps, trash particles and seed-coat fragments in the card web. The data allow targeted clothing maintenance.
- The signals of the DISC MONITOR sensors on cards, draw frames and combers enable the early detection of emerging faults via the spectrogram analysis.
- Power consumption is monitored by special energy meters in the machines. T-DATA shows the deviating values of individual machines. This allows a very targeted maintenance.

These are only a few examples of sensors, all of which are developed and manufactured by Trützschler. ■ ■

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"The Business Opportunities Are Infinite"

RIETER Raw material saving in Blowroom and Carding



Fig. 5 Optimal cleaning with the B 72 R UNImix, seen here with the module to bypass the cleaning positions

The most important factor in the area of blowroom and cards is the raw material. A saving of 1 % good fibres shows considerable effects.

At a customer in southern India, the rare opportunity presented itself to carry out a direct comparison of the blowroom and card waste. Running parallel there are a Rieter blowroom and carding section as well as a preparation line from another manufacturer, each with practically the same year of construction and almost the same production rate. With this comparison, card production

was in focus. The aim was a 75 % higher performance of the C 70 card with qualitatively equal yarn.

Framework conditions

The test was based on a blend of various Indian cottons with a trash content of 3 %.

The card sliver produced by both lines was spun on the same downstream machines – draw frames, roving frames and ring spinning machines – to a carded knitting yarn of Ne 30 count (Fig. 1).

Competitor		Rieter	
1 Automatic bale opener		1 A 11 UNIfloc	
1 Pre-cleaner	1 Pre-cleaner	1 Pre-cleaner B 12 UNIClean	
8 Chamber mixers	8 Chamber mixers	B 72 R UNImix	B 72 R UNImix
Single roller cleaner	Single roller cleaner	A 79 R UNIstore	A 79 R UNIstore
Air and dust separation	Air and dust separation	Air and dust separation	Air and dust separation
10 x 1 m Cards	13 x 1 m Cards	8 x C 70 Cards	7 x C 70 Cards
10 x 40 kg/h = 400 kg/h	13 x 40 kg/h = 520 kg/h	8 x 70 kg/h = 560 kg/h	7 x 70 kg/h = 490 kg/h
	Card with 40 kg/h	Card with 70 kg/h → + 75 %	

Fig. 1 Machine layout – the compared lines are colour-highlighted

Significant results

The results are impressive. The Rieter line with VARIOline and C 70 cards achieved the following values compared to the other manufacturer:

- 75 % higher production of the card (Fig. 1)
- equal sliver and yarn quality (Fig. 2)
- (the values are within the fluctuation rate usual in the spinning mill)
- 27 % energy saving (Fig. 3)
- 1 % waste saving (Fig. 4).

How are these excellent results achieved?

The Rieter fibre preparation guarantees gentle opening, efficient cleaning and intensive mixing of the fibres at highest production, based on the following features:

- microtufts for efficient cleaning
- progressive cleaning in several stages
- bypass option of the clearer module according to fibre material (Fig. 5)
- VARIOset for easy adjustment of the setting during operation.

An outstanding feature of the C 70 card is the largest active carding area for high performance with excellent quality. The efficient cleaning at high production is achieved by selective trash elimination at various points:

- on the licker-in
- in the pre- and post-carding zones
- by the continuously adjustable flats speed.

Effective savings

In this particular case, the Rieter line with blowroom and card with the lower energy requirement achieves yearly savings of around USD 32 500 at a line production of 1 000 kg/h and an electricity rate of 10 US cents per kWh.

The 1 % waste resp. raw material savings with a line production of 1 000 kg/h and a cotton price of USD 1.48 per kilogram result in a yearly saving of around USD 120 000. ■ ■



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 Blowroom, Card
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Sliver and yarn quality

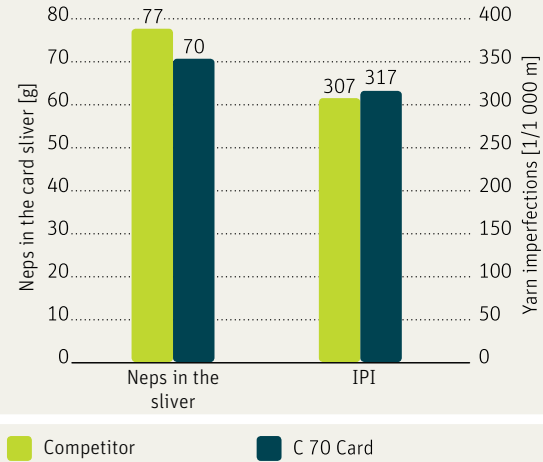


Fig. 2 With clearly higher production, the Rieter line achieves equally good sliver and yarn quality

Energy consumption of the card

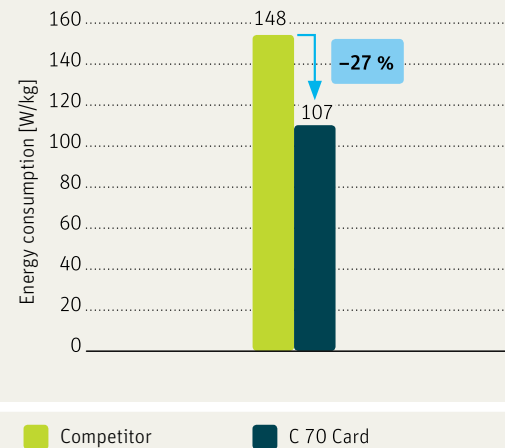


Fig. 3 Per kilogram of card sliver, an energy saving of good 27% can be achieved with the C 70 card

Waste in blowroom and carding section

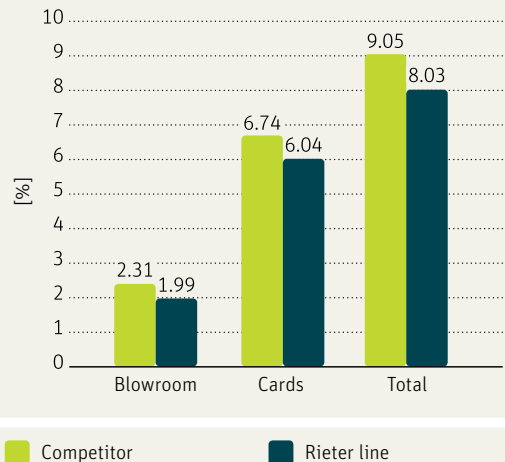


Fig. 4 The Rieter line achieved 1 % lower waste

Rotorcraft presented a revolutionary new ring spinning frame Next Generation Spinning (NGS ®) at ITMA Asia



Dr. Andreas Fischer (Managing Board Member & Head of Global Sales), Rotorcraft AG at ITMA Asia.

Rotorcraft stands for Swiss Innovations in Spinning Technology, which are designed along three principles: Efficiency, Simplicity and Sustainability.

At ITMA Asia 2016, the Rotorcraft booth was one of the main attractions of the show, as the company presented a revolutionary new ring spinning frame. Named Next Generation Spinning (NGS ®), this frame meets all the requirements of a 21st century mill. In order to avoid any operating errors which are common with ring frames today, the Next Generation Spinning frame has no setting screws whatsoever. The setting of the drafting systems is achieved by the use of exchangeable elements in different colours, while the distance between the drafting system and the spinning ring remains constant. Bottom aprons are replaceable individually while the frame is running. A low-pressure channel is built in between the working elements of both sides of the frame, rather than above the frame. The channel is large enough to fit the suction tubes

as well as the low-pressure elements for pneumatic compact spinning.

The two sides of the frame work completely independently, and all bearings of the working elements are sealed for life. The result is equalized tension and evenness of yarn at a constant production speed. This allows the mill to produce either better quality yarn, or achieve a higher overall output. A large international audience visited the Rotorcraft booth, and the overwhelming feedback from mill leaders was: "We have seen the future of ring spinning".

The next generation of Compact Spinning Systems - Green Compact - (pat. pend.) also was on display. The system attains the yarn quality improvements introduced by the first generation of compacting systems, while saving 6-8 USD in energy cost per spindle per year. It therefore performs considerably more economically and sustainably compared to old generation compacting systems. ■ ■

Archroma receives Eco-innovation award for sustainability initiatives from WWF Pakistan



Iffat Zahra and Arshad Mehmood, Archroma, receiving the WWF Pakistan Eco-Innovation Award from Naeem Mughal, Director General, Sindh Environmental Protection Agency, Government of Pakistan.

Archroma, a global leader in color and specialty chemicals, received the Award for Eco-innovation from WWF Pakistan at the organization's Annual Green Office Network Meeting in Karachi.

The Eco-innovation Award is a recognition of Archroma's continuous efforts to foster sustainable innovations aimed at preserving dwindling ground water reserves, and developing eco-efficient processes that reduce energy, process time and resource consumption.

The Award was presented by Naeem Mughal, Director General, Sindh Environmental Protection Agency, Government of Pakistan. Earlier this year, the WWF granted Green Office labeling rights to Archroma's offices

in Landhi, Pakistan.

Mujtaba Rahim, CEO of Archroma Pakistan, said, "We are continuously creating powerful new processes and products that support our and our customers' sustainability ambitions. Our innovative teams are raising the bar on environmental standards and production cycles in our industries. For instance, our EarthColors sulfur dyes are developed from natural waste such as walnut and almond husks and agricultural crop waste, replacing the oil-based raw materials to create warm shades of brown on cotton fabrics. Our "Sustainable Effluent Treatment" plant at Jamshoro, Pakistan, operates at zero liquid discharge in our production processes saving enormous amounts of water." ■ ■

Mac3000: the ultimate technology for compact yarn production



Comparison between standard ring yarn and Mac3000 compact yarn

Despite the high quality of modern ring spun yarns a further increase in yarn quality can be obtained through compact spinning technology. In fact in the standard ring spinning process the fiber bundle coming out from the front cylinder is wider than the spinning triangle. This entails that edge fibers are usually caught in a disordered way into the yarn.

Modern compact technology allows to reduce the width of the fiber bundle before it comes out from the front cylinder and therefore it allows to integrate every fiber into the yarn structure. This grants the following benefits:

- Reduced yarn hairiness,
- Enhanced yarn evenness,
- Higher strength and elongation values,
- Less variability in yarn strength and elongation,
- Lower required twist on the spinning frame (higher production),
- Reduced fiber fly in weaving and knitting operations and consequently fewer defects on the fabrics and higher efficiency,
- Enhanced fabric properties (fabric strength, abrasion

resistance, pilling behavior, visual and tactile characteristics).

The positive effects of compact systems have fostered spinners to use them for the production of an increasing variety of counts and types of yarn, benefitting from higher output quality and process efficiency.

Perforated cylinder vs. apron systems

The most effective way to undertake compaction is through suction and there are two types of devices that allow to suck the fiber bundle: those with a perforated cylinder and those which use aprons. The systems with perforated cylinders have the advantage that they do not require aprons change. Aprons in fact are subject to wear and they need to be periodically substituted. On the other hand, they have the disadvantage that they need to be supervised and constantly cleaned. If this is not done on a regular basis fiber particles can clog the holes of the perforated cylinder and alter compaction performance. With some, but not all, apron systems this is not

necessary. The holes are automatically cleaned because the constant tension, flexion and relaxation of the apron continuously modify the cross section of the holes entailing an “auto-cleaning effect”.

Marzoli's Mac3000 features



The new Mac3000 is a highly-innovative, state-of-the-art compact system designed and developed by Marzoli

Beside being one of the few apron systems which have the “auto-cleaning effect” of the apron described in the previous paragraph, its compacting zone is perfectly visible. This grants an easy supervision of the core area of the device.

The outstanding compacting performance is also assured by the independent modular suction system with large suction tubes and self-cleaning filter. Together these features guarantee constant suction along the entire length of the machine. Furthermore the speed of the suction motor is settable through inverter so that the right suction amount can always be set according to count, type of fiber, desired efficiency and quality trade-off.

The accurate design of the Mac3000's apron not only guarantees top compacting performances, but it also ensures lower maintenance costs. The disposition of the holes on one axis assures higher resistance of the apron to tension forces and consequently a longer service life of the component.

Conclusion



Since its launch on the market compact spinning has thrived. The advantages that this process entails, if compared to standard ring spinning, are: higher yarn quality, higher process efficiency and greater productivity at the spinning frame. Therefore compact spinning can be identified as a valuable means to differentiate and achieve a sustainable competitive advantage.

All the benefits that stem from compact spinning are further enhanced by the new Mac3000, the ultimate compact technology designed, developed and produced by Marzoli. With this device the client can rely on a solid and consistent technology that constantly ensures top compacting performances with low operating costs and long service life of all its components. ■ ■

How an Air Audit brings down manufacturing costs?



by Imtiaz Rastgar

An Air Audit can pinpoint wastages in your compressed air system

Compressed air systems are used extensively in Textile industry to provide compressed air for processes ranging from spinning, weaving, hosiery, dyeing etc. There are also several compressed air uses in industry that in most cases can be considered misuses, which includes applications such as product cooling and cleaning.

It's about taking compressed air, looking at it as your fourth utility, and making compressed air as dependable as your electric, water and gas services.

The challenges associated with operating a modern compressed air system are fairly complex and often camouflaged to the untrained eye. At the same time, many companies lack the internal resources trained to define and solving those problems. That's where a professional Air Audit can help by addressing the total process of producing compressed air... not just the compressors.

Plant Air Audit: what's in it for you?

A well conducted audit of your compressed air system provides you with the only sure way to bring down your compressed air related manufacturing costs and manage the often mysterious workings of your air system.

Benefits of a Compressed Air System Audit

Audits provide the most accurate possible data on the current system conditions to help manage the system identify component upgrades and ensure the entire system operates as it should. An audit can help plant management to:

- Reduce compressed air costs by 25% to 50%.
- Reduce maintenance costs by 10% to 80%.
- Get accurate data on current system conditions and machine health.
- Receive documentation on power usage.
- Air Audit can be conducted without downtime or disruption to productivity.

- Reduced capital spending
- Improved manufacturing productivity

Air quality for textile manufacturer

AirAudit can help you improve quality and in turn improve quality of finished products as air quality is a top priority for many manufacturing processes, and in the textile industry, clean, oil-free air often makes the difference between usable end product and contaminated waste.

Optimize Compressed Air System to turn off compressors

Air Audits help plant operators optimize their systems and often result in turning off compressors! This may sound crazy, but it's true. In the past customers asked compressor manufacturers, like CompAir, to build the best engineered, most reliable, energy-efficient air compressors in the industry. But in today's global business climate, you need more than great equipment to survive and thrive. To drive operational excellence we must go beyond the components of an air system and find solutions to the operating issues every air consumer faces.

Compressed air system problems require total solutions. A professionally conducted Air Audit help you define system problems, whether they are in demand, distribution or supply, allowing you to develop cost-efficient solutions that meet your return on investment goals.

Keeping compressed air lines dry

Compressed Air System are, traditionally, installed with water grade galvanized iron piping and plumbing fittings, without taking into consideration the host of design factors which effect its efficiency. GI Pipe loses its coating where it is threaded, but this is the area where rust proofing is most important. Thus, within three years, most systems are losing up to 30% of compressed air through leaks at the threaded joints. Furthermore, there is no leak inspection in most plants. Regular checkups are usually not performed, to discover leakages in piping as well as the machines using compressed air. The results are deteriorating performance over a period of time. Air Audit highlights system failures that may otherwise not be detectable and may silently be increasing yearly expenses on energy.

An Air Audit helps large users of compressed air to identify opportunities for reducing energy consumption and overall business costs. It provides benefit for the customers by evaluating the current running system. The audit involves the evaluation of the leakages, corrosion in iron pipes, loose fitting of pneumatic pipes, machine damage due to moisture and broken seals, etc. Textile manufacturers, with air compressor loads ranging from 500KW to 2000KW can make huge savings in electricity bills! More details can be seen at www.airaudit.com.pk ■ ■

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An Interview with Rossano Biancalani

President and CEO - BIANCALANI s.r.l., Italy.

TEXTalks: Back in 1957 Biancalani was established, how was the journey to get, where Biancalani is today?

Rossano Biancalani: In 1957 my father had the very good idea to start a mechanical company specialized in textile machinery, specifically in textile finishing. He had very good relationship with the customers in the area of Prato Italy. It was a very important thing to make good contacts and he developed the small company that time, which is now Biancalani today.

In 1980 myself, my sister and my brother joined the company and we had developed a very good

international net of agents. We have created the commercial net of the company and those are the basis of our good connections and relationship with all our customers around the world. In fact, where ever is textiles, we have agents and we are very well known.

In 1985, we have invented a very revolutionary machine the AIRO. The AIRO is a discontinuous rope washing, softening and drying machine which was created in the desire of people for softness and the reliability as something which in the future was impossible to live without, the softness of a fabric. This machine the AIRO, with all its evolution reached our

days with the revolution of ARIO to AIRO24 and which is still very much used by our customers and all the finisher of the fabric around the world.

In the year 2006, we have developed another machine the AIRO24 which is a machine with the same principle of the ARIO; that is the fabric transported by an air-jet but in open width and continuous. And this is another revolution in finishing department of the world. Every important finisher knows these machines and we had sold a lot in all of the textile fields from apparels, to upholstery, synthetic leather manufacturing industry, home textile, protective fabrics and a lot of different sectors are using these machines - AIRO24.

In 2011, we have developed another machine which is very important: the BRIO. The BRIO is a machine to obtain maximum shrinkage possible with every knitted fabric. This is a machine which did not exist before in the field of knit fabric finishing. After the BRIO, we are now developing BRIO24, a continuous machine with same features obtaining the same results but in continuous - all this with very big satisfaction of the customers.

TEXTalks: What is the big Idea behind the concept “Quality, Reliability, Manageability and Sustainability”.

Rossano Biancalani: Biancalani always wants that the customer is happy and in this direction we do our job day by day. We want that the customer is happy. Everything is made consequently, the projects, the machinery, the delivery, customer services. We do whatever is possible to make the customer happy.

TEXTalks: How do you see the Biancalani

changing over last five years, and how do you see yourself creating that change?

Rossano Biancalani: In the last 5 years, the AIRO24 gave us a very very big push to go on with our idea of customer service, customer satisfaction, customer happiness and we keep on going with this idea of developing new machines and all the ideas around our machines and our products are for customer satisfaction. This is our road and we want to go on this way. The directions are novelties, good quality and customer satisfaction.

TEXTalks: What does sustainability means to Biancalani?

Rossano Biancalani: We are involved in projects, we are involved in machines and we try to make them in an environment friendly way and the same is to run our machines in fact, most of our machines can satisfactory give results and good quality without affecting the environment.

TEXTalks: What are Biancalani’s main products and how important is Pakistan market for your products?

Rossano Biancalani: The projects that we have developed in the last years, has always been made with more perfection in the direction of keeping customer satisfaction. We always make new project and changes in our machines to make them more productive and to improve the quality of the fabrics and knitted goods. As regards Pakistani market, it is absolutely very important for us. We have very good cooperation with our customers as they understand and believe the better features and the qualities of our machines. Pakistan is definitely one of our most important markets. ■ ■



An Interview with Alex Zucchi

Managing Director Ferraro Spa., Italy

TEXTalks: Back in 1951 FERRARO was established, how was the journey to get, where FERRARO is today?

Alex Zucchi: Ferraro is quite old company in terms of establishment, over 65 years old. The team that is currently working in Ferraro company is the third generation so there is very strong team of young people that believe in the future. Despite textile is a very difficult field because competition is very tough, we believe in this field that we do all the best for the future to renew the company and to keep Ferraro at the maximum level.

TEXTalks: How would you explain your vision “Tradition, Innovation, Experience, and Creativity: The winning vision”?

Alex Zucchi: Ferraro has been one of the first company in the field of developing compacting machines for knitted fabrics and based on these long term experience, Ferraro is constantly investing a lot in research and development. Ferraro will keep investing big part of its profit in R&D because we still believe in this field and I am sure we will continue to keep our company to maximum level in the worldwide market.

TEXTalks: How do you see the FERRARO changing over the last five years?

Alex Zucchi: In last five years, in our company something happen that never happened in the whole story. The change has been tremendous because of the technology, because of the new development in the features. We did not want to lose these opportunities so we invested a lot of money and we make dramatic changes in organization. In any single field, we have almost completed these strong changes and we have started now to build a new plant and a part of this plant will be fully dedicated to R&D which is very important.

TEXTalks: What does sustainability means to FERRARO?

Alex Zucchi: Ferraro, together with ACIMIT associations, has been the first, at least in Europe, to believe in sustainability, energy saving and to make our machines more green. We have to do whatever is possible in our capability to get better environment. As the future is not far as every day is our future, we are already working with a big team of engineers to study whatever is possible to provide the best machines with less pollution. In fact, we are one of the few companies that already have been certified with the green label. So just for an idea, in the last five years, the consumption of the energy in our machines dropped 40% less. This means not only a lot of saving in pollution but a lot of saving in energy also. So the customer can take benefit of these improvements.

TEXTalks: What are FERRARO main products and how important is Pakistan market for your products?

Alex Zucchi: Ferraro, in the last five year made big changes. Being a single products manufacturer was

really too restrictive to us so in the last five/eight years Ferraro introduced new machines, complimentary to its main product, that is the compacting for knitted fabric. Compaction is one of the main request of all buyers as they want absolutely high quality products. So, Ferraro despite already was a leader in all these, invested once more and introduced new machines so now you can say that we have compacting machines as main products but besides we have developed all the machine for finishing of open width fabric like slitting line for the squeezing, OCS for the woven sanforizing. Additionally, since one year, we have decided to enter Pakistani market promoting also our finishing line. It means, we are giving tremendously high quality sanforizing machines. Very soon, we are going to install the first two lines in Pakistan. I am sure that after this plant will be running, the market will recognize the quality of Ferraro.

TEXTalks: As an innovative company, what are FERRARO goals in coming years?

Alex Zucchi: The latest developments in technology is pushing everybody to do something better, to do something fast, easy communication; Ferraro is also investing in this field. We had decided to start courses to improve automation in our factory. We have invested to be the first company in Italy in our field, means textile machinery manufacturing, to be certified ISO9001 and ISO14000. For the future, we have already not only planned to produce high automation in our department of manufacturing, but also to provide proper training to our operators through all the possible electronic instruments, even in manufacturing department. Soon, each assembling unit will be equipped with a terminal monitor allowing the operator to follow through constantly updated images, the whole procedure for the machines assembling and guarantee the absolute repeatability and maximum possible quality. ■ ■



See a digital textile production chain live

heimtextil

At the upcoming Heimtextil, Messe Frankfurt will present the "Digital Textile Micro Factory" in the "digital print technology" segment for the first time in hall 6.0. As part of this presentation, which has been set up in collaboration with "Deutsche Institute für Textil- und Faserforschung" (the German Institute for Textile and Fibre Research) and in partnership with renowned representatives from the industry, a digital production chain will be showcased live on site. From the design and digital printing to cutting and confection, visitors will experience the completely networked production of textiles. Visitors can either discover the Micro Factory alone or take part in one of the free guided tours that take place twice a day in German and English.

"With the 'Digital Textile Micro Factory', we'll be revealing a model of the future. It enables individualised products to be manufactured in a competitive, regional way to meet demand through the digital networking of automated processes", says Sabine Scharrer, Manager of Heimtextil. "The possibilities are almost limitless and we're proud to be able to implement this project with our partners".

More space for digital printing

With its new location in hall 6.0, the digital print technology segment will be given more space in a central area of the exhibition site. Leading printer manufacturers from across the world will present their innovations and technologies for the textile segment here. Located right next to the "Theme Park" trend area, hall 6.0 combines inspiration and innovation in one place. With more exhibitors and more surface area than last year, this successful segment will grow for the fifth time in a row at the upcoming Heimtextil. With the "Digital Textile Micro Factory", the field will see another impressive demonstration of the huge potential of digital printing in the textile segment.

From the design to the finished product

The seamless digital networking of the production steps within the Micro Factory ensures optimal material consumption, quicker processing time for orders and the highest level of flexibility to enable producers to react to market needs in a short space of time. Visitors walk through the Micro Factory following a specified path with various different stations portraying the manufacturing steps

undertaken in textile production. Experts are on hand to explain technical details and answer questions. The starting point is the design area where the workflow starts with the selection and preparation of the design. The station is manned by European higher education institutions which are coordinated by Heimtextil partner Printcubator.

The next step shows how the textiles are printed using the digital printing procedure. Manufacturing orders can be combined and printed in a colour binding way using various parameters. The specific know-how is provided by hardware and software partners Mimaki, Ergosoft and Multiplot.

The digital cutting of the textiles is realised at the next station in partnership with the company Zünd. One of the biggest challenges of this production step is the automatic identification of the orders in order to be able to cut various materials in accordance with their specific characteristics and to the best standard of quality.

In the last production stage, the cut textiles are sewn together using automatic identification. The latest machine developments, the recognition of textiles and categorisation as well as the digital networking of sewing machines are presented by the experts at Heimtextil partner Juki.

The tour through the "Digital Textile Micro Factory" ends with a shop window display coordinated by Hochschule Luzern and the Metropolia University of Applied Sciences from Helsinki. As in the first production step, the design area, students from the higher education institutions The Strzemiński Academy of Art Łódź and MOME Moholy-Nagy Kunstakademie, Budapest, support the depiction of this process at this station. The students present possible applications for textile printing in the home textile industry. Visitors to the Micro Factory will get one of the textile products printed on site as a gift.

The "Digital Textile Micro Factory" can be seen at Heimtextil in hall 6.0 at stand B30. The guided tours take place on all the trade fair days in the morning at midday as well as at 4 p.m. on Tuesday until Thursday in English. ■ ■

ICAC 75th Plenary Meeting in Islamabad

Emerging Dynamics in Cotton Enhancing Sustainability in the Cotton Value Chain



Secretary Ministry of Textile Industry, Hasan Iqbal and Executive Director Icac Jose Setti in a group photo with delegates of the 75th plenary meeting of International Cotton Advisory Committee

The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) met in Islamabad, Pakistan, from October 30 to November 4, 2016 for its 75th Plenary Meeting since the establishment of the Committee in 1939. The meeting was attended by 378 persons, including representatives from 14 Members, 4 international organizations and 4 nonmember countries. Here are some findings of the meeting.

- Cotton demand exceeds production for the second consecutive year.** The Secretariat reported that cotton output in 2015/16 fell due to pest attacks, competitive prices from other crops, climate change, etc., leading to a reduction in world stocks. Although inventories are still higher than usual, the excess has started to be trimmed. Cotton continues, however, to be confronted by an extremely challenging competitive environment.
- Competition from polyester is cotton's greatest competitive threat.** Presentations made during a session on inter-fiber competition highlighted the increasing share of the world fiber market occupied by polyester. The Committee was presented with preliminary findings from the Secretariat's study on the economic

factors underlying the growth of polyester. These results showed that polyester had made considerable gains in the market for downstream products, such as yarn, filament, staple and apparel. This trend is due to cheaper polyester prices caused by current oil prices and underutilized industrial capacity in the polyester industry. The Committee approved a recommendation of the Private Sector Advisory Panel to broaden the terms of reference of the Secretariat's ongoing studies of the polyester market to include government support measures that have stimulated overcapacity in the polyester industry.

- Overcoming textile industry challenges.** Under this title, the representative of the International Textile Manufacturers Federation demonstrated, with examples, how the textile industry was confronting three basic challenges that also face the cotton industry, namely water, energy and the need for creative new ideas. The cotton industry was urged to take steps, by developing cotton varieties that use less water, by concentrating on reducing energy consumption in cotton gins and transportation, and by creating and applying new ideas, especially for increasing efficiency and



President Mamnoon Hussain addressing the delegates of 75th Plenary Meeting of ICAC

reducing costs. One example would be to use High Volume Instrument cotton classing systems throughout the industry to replace the ancient practice of visual classing. Another presenter in the same session encouraged cotton-producing countries to convert cotton into value-added products that would create employment and other economic activity.

- **Costs of cotton production.** The Secretariat presented a report based on its triennial publication on "Cost of Production of Raw Cotton". The world average net cost of production (excluding land cost) of cotton lint was US\$1.16/kg in 2015/16.

- **Reducing the water footprint of cotton and increasing farmers' income go hand in hand.** Growth in demand for water, climate change and increasing population are putting ever more pressure on the use of water in agriculture in general and in cotton cultivation in particular. The Committee received presentations from researchers and sustainability experts on ways in which to reduce the water footprint of cotton. These include application of critical assessments of the performance of irrigation systems; reduction of conveyance losses; implementation of precision agriculture; deficit irrigation; use of irrigation scheduling models; maximization of yield per unit of water used; innovative methods of irrigation, such as short furrows and laser leveling of furrows; and breeding for high-yielding drought-resistant varieties through conventional breeding and genetic engineering. Practical examples showed that the water footprint of cotton can be significantly reduced, while improving the incomes to the farmers.

- **Tackling climate change requires international collaboration.** The Committee took note of the outcome of the



Finance Minister Ishaq Dar addressing the opening session of the 75th Plenary Meeting of ICAC

2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21), held in Paris, France. Many cotton-producing countries were already feeling the negative impacts of climate change. The COP21 had produced sound recommendations to contain the negative effects of climate change. An alliance of partners was necessary to achieve these objectives. However, least developed countries had their own limitations to comply with the recommendations made at the conference. Collaborative efforts were required to tackle the climate change problem. In this respect, research was necessary not only into drought conditions but also waterlogged situations that often become a problem in some cotton-growing areas.

- **Testing of SEEP sustainability indicators continues.** The SEEP (Expert Panel on the Social, Environmental and Economic Performance of Cotton) reported that twelve countries are already testing in the field the sustainability indicators designed by the Panel. The SEEP aims to produce a report in 2017 to systematically capture the lessons learned from all the pilot tests. This "lessons" report will be invaluable in informing the need for refinements and improvements to the current SEEP framework for measuring sustainability. The report will constitute a solid basis for more effective testing of the application of sustainability indicators. Once this study has been finalized, SEEP will investigate options for a new round of testing.

- **Biotech cotton is under development.** The cultivation of biotech cotton has changed the pest complex in many countries, so changes in pest control methods are required. Biotech cotton benefitted farmers by reducing the need for insecticide sprays and positively impacted yields without raising the costs of fertilizers and agronomic operations. The pink bollworm in some countries has

developed resistance to the earlier insect-resistant biotech technologies. The pink bollworm and the whitefly caused huge losses in yield in India and Pakistan during 2015, demanding a reversion to traditional varieties of cotton and traditional methods of insect control in some countries. Although the situation has improved in the current season, these pests still require vigilance. The dusky cotton bug and the cotton mealybug have also emerged as major pests; the whitefly and leaf curl virus in particular is becoming of greater concern. Biotech cotton resistant to the whitefly is at advanced stages of development. When commercialized, these new varieties will bring a big relief to growers. Experts reported similar progress on transgenic cotton resistant to the leaf curl disease.

• **Government support to the cotton sector falls from record levels but remains high.** ICAC's annual report on government measures supporting the cotton sector shows that these reached US\$7.2 billion in 2015/16, down 30% from a record of US\$10.7 billion in 2014/15. The large stocks accumulated as a result of government intervention from 2011/12 to 2014/15 had started to be drawn down. An orderly disposal of these stocks will be a key factor in the development of the market in coming years.

• **World Trade Organization supports reduction in export subsidies and domestic support for cotton.** The Committee noted that the Nairobi Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in December 2015, had adopted a decision on cotton prohibiting export subsidies and calling for a further reduction in domestic support. The decision also calls for improvements to market access for least developed countries (LDCs). The objective of the decision is to level the playing field for cotton exporters in the poorest countries, where the cotton sector is of vital importance. The Committee reaffirmed the importance of trade policy as a driver in the promotion of world economic growth and development, and voiced support for a multilateral trading system under the aegis of the WTO.

• **Public policies for cotton must avoid distorting the market.** Presentations on public policy for the cotton sector emphasized that cotton faces a grave threat from man-made fibers, especially polyester. In order to compete, cotton producers must innovate, adopt and implement cutting edge technologies that improve productivity at lower costs. Government policies should focus on allowing prices to fluctuate with market forces, increasing funding for agricultural research, and implementing science-based regulations that allow technology development and adoption. Initiatives that discriminate against cotton not marketed under certain criteria would have a detrimental effect on cotton produced and marketed by ICAC member countries and this should be closely observed by the Secretariat since these kinds of initiatives could have adverse effects on cotton production as well as on the textile value chain.

• **Greater harmonization of phytosanitary measures affecting the international trade of cotton is required.** The Committee

received a report from the Private Sector Advisory Panel emphasizing the need for harmonization of phytosanitary regulations affecting the world trade of cotton. In particular, the PSAP noted that requirements for fumigation of cotton varied widely among countries and requested the Standing Committee to examine possible ways in which to reduce these differences during the coming year.

• **ICAC member governments should take steps to ensure compliance with arbitral awards.** The Committee received a report from the International Cotton Association, the leading arbitral body of the world cotton trade. Cotton prices had not fluctuated much during the past season, which had resulted in a healthier trading environment and a reduction in the number of disputes needing to be settled by arbitration. However, many disputes from the 2010/11 time period, which was marked by extreme price volatility, remained unresolved because legal arbitration awards under the New York Convention, which had been signed by almost all governments, had not been honored. ICAC member governments should review the list compiled by ICA of defaulters in order to identify companies located in their respective countries and take steps to ensure that these companies comply with their obligations.

• **ICAC membership.** ICAC Members were informed that the terms of accession of the European Union had been mutually agreed and were now in the process of being approved by the European Commission and the European Parliament. In addition, Bangladesh had submitted a request for membership. The terms of accession of that important cotton importer had been agreed and Bangladesh was taking the internal measures to finalize its inclusion among the members of the ICAC.

• **World Cotton Research Conference-6.** The Committee received a report on the Sixth World Cotton Research Conference, which was held in Goiânia, Brazil, from 2 to 6 May, 2016. The event was attended by 471 researchers from 40 countries and five international organizations and was held under the auspices of the International Cotton Researchers Association (ICRA). The ICAC Research Associate program supported the presence of 16 researchers at the conference.

• **Topic of 2017 Technical Seminar.** The Committee decided to hold the 2017 Technical Seminar on the topic of "Opportunities and Challenges for Technology Transfer in Cotton".

• **Next meeting.** The Committee accepted an offer from Uzbekistan to host the 76th Plenary on dates to be determined during October 2017.

• **Appreciation for the hospitality of Pakistan.** The Committee thanked the people, the Organizing Committee and the Government of Pakistan for their hospitality in serving as host of the 75th Plenary Meeting. Delegates commented very favorably on the quality of the venue and the social events, as well as the efficiency of the host country in preparing for the plenary meeting. "Pakistan Zindabad". ■ ■

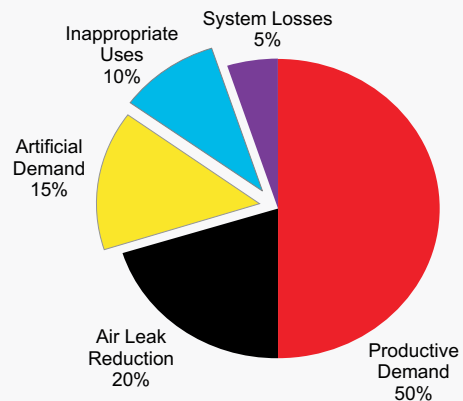
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3D body scanning for fashion process

3D body scanners by Human Solutions and Vitronic are used in a wide range of sectors, but particularly in the apparel and automotive industries. With the VITUSbodyscan, Vitronic also offers solutions for the fields of medicine and sports. At the companies' joint exhibition booth, visitors can experience this product up close, have themselves measured in 3D in just a few seconds and receive an almost photorealistic image of themselves in color.

This year, Human Solutions will show how fashion designers can benefit from precisely-captured body dimensions. In three presentations at the conference, Human Solutions employees will demonstrate the opportunities body scanning opens up for apparel companies – Anton Preiss, Director Business Unit Mobility, will talk about the “Body scanner as an enabler for the digital fashion process. Anke Rissiek, Manager Sizing & Fitting, will present the initial results of the “iMorph” body shapes research project together with Thomas Fischer of the Institute of Textile and Fiber Research in Denksdorf. Anke Rissiek will also give a lecture on the topic of size & fit entitled, “From 3D scan to best fit products – a cloud-based solution for fashion and workwear.”



CO2 laser cutting systems for textile markets

Founded in 1994 in Hamburg, eurolaser is one of the market leaders for CO2 laser systems for the cutting of non-metals. The core markets for laser systems include acrylic processing companies, which often produce displays, signs, and inscriptions.

An equally large market is the cutting of plastic films. The main applications include the automotive industry, front panels for household appliances and keyboards. In addition, wood materials, such as multiplex and MDF, belong to typical materials that are cut on eurolaser systems.

The company has been recently expanding its expertise into the textile markets. “More and more, the CO2 laser systems are used for cutting and engraving across all sectors. In order to remain competitive and open up new markets, many companies are moving from conventional production processes to economic production using laser technology,” the company explains. ■ ■

Drone made with spider silk for lighter and stronger performance



Spidey Tek, a Los Angeles, CA, based biotech company, is on its path to mass production of Real Spider Silk, and its utilisation in producing superior products for civil, law enforcement and military uses. To prove Real Spider Silk can be used in solid, durable applications, Spidey Tek has announced the debut of the Spidey Bat, which uses Real Spider Silk to deliver a unique VTOL UAV that is lighter and stronger.

This means it can carry a larger payload, fly further and is almost indestructible, according to the manufacturer. "The Spidey Bat is unique in that it can take off and land like a helicopter and once it is at altitude, flies like a fixed-wing airplane," the company reports.

Spider silk is an extremely strong bio-material that has been known for many decades. The challenge

has always been that of harvesting it and making it commercially viable. Spidey Tek says it found a solution to producing large quantities of spider silk by the rapid growth of specialised spider cloned microorganisms in customised bio-reactors.

With the use of genetic engineering, Spidey Tek has been able to identify the genes that code for the production of spider silk and cloning them into specialised microorganisms (bio vectors). These bio vectors, in turn, produce Real Spider Silk proteins, which can be mixed with chemicals-materials to improve their mechanical properties.

The same proteins can be utilised in the making of Real Spider Silk fibres, which can replace materials such as carbon fibre, aluminium, steel and other materials used to make superior products, the company explains. ■ ■



Electric balaclava to avert chest infections in cold weather

A team of researchers at the Nottingham Trent University have developed a smart balaclava which warms oxygen before it's inhaled to reduce the risk of athletes contracting chest infections when exercising in the cold.

Nottingham Trent University and German advanced knitting machine manufacturer Stoll created a prototype to help runners and skiers who can be exposed to increased risk of infections. As part of the collaboration, Carlos Oliveira, of the university's Advanced Textiles Research Group, spent two weeks with Stoll in Germany working on the project. The

balaclava is one of a number of sports garments which Stoll has created on its CMS ADF 32 BW flat knitting machine to illustrate the potential of its technology.

The mask is fully washable and behaves like any other fabric. It features 3D-knitted pre-shape qualities for a more comfortable fit. Reflective stripes are included for passive visibility. "The balaclava has won the Outdoor Industry Award in Gold 2016. This is the proof that the communication across disciplines, industry and research, enhances the degree of innovation," commented Joerg Hartmann, Head of Fashion & Technology at Stoll. ■ ■



First performance shoe made from AMSilk's Biosteel

A leader in the sporting goods industry, adidas has unveiled the world's first performance shoe made using Biosteel fibre, a replication of natural silk, at the Biofabricate Conference that took place yesterday in New York.

The adidas Futurecraft Biofabric prototype shoe features an upper made from 100% Biosteel fibre, a nature-based and biodegradable high-performance fibre, developed by the German biotech company AMSilk.

The material is said to offer a unique combination of properties that are crucial in performance, such as being 15% lighter in weight than conventional synthetic fibres and having the potential to be the strongest fully natural material available.

Biosteel fibre also provides a far more sustainable offering, with it being 100% biodegradable in a fully natural process, according to the company. This continues adidas' journey of sustainable innovation – from a starting point of virgin plastics, to recycled plastics, to its partnership with Parley for the Oceans and now a totally new frontier of investing in solutions that leverage science and nature as an integral part of innovation, the manufacturer reports.



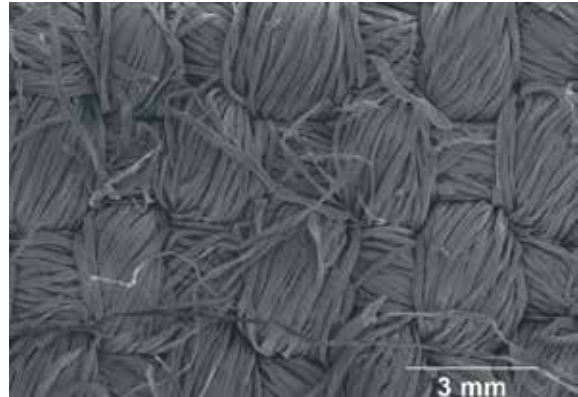
Graphene based inks to produce conductive cotton textiles

A new method for producing conductive cotton fabrics, using graphene-based inks will open up new possibilities for flexible and wearable electronics, without the use of expensive and toxic processing steps. Researchers at the Cambridge Graphene Centre (CGC) are working in collaboration with scientists at Jiangnan University, China to make this possible.

These researchers have devised a method for depositing graphene-based inks onto cotton to produce a conductive textile and demonstrated a wearable motion sensor based on the conductive cotton.

According to CGC, the new process, developed by Dr Felice Torrissi at the CGC, and his collaborators, is a low-cost, sustainable and environmentally-friendly method for making conductive cotton textiles.

“Other conductive inks are made from precious metals such as silver, which makes them very expensive to produce and not sustainable, whereas graphene is both cheap, environmentally-friendly, and chemically compatible with cotton,” Dr Torrissi said. ■ ■



Electron microscopy image of a conductive graphene/cotton fabric. Credit: Jiesheng Ren



Hyosung, the largest global elastane producer with the creora brand, has partnered with Prosperity Textile to introduce TRANS-FORM, a so called ‘next generation fit and comfort’ collection of denim fabrics featuring creora Fit2 technology at Denim Première Vision on 2-3 November in Paris, France.

Prosperity Textile is an industry-leading denim fabric manufacturer, providing R&D, design and manufacturing services to global brands and

TRANS-FORM collection with creora Fit2

retailers with the aim of providing innovation, rapid response and a wide range of products. creora Fit2 technology was developed to meet consumer demand for second skin fit with 360-degree comfort. The technology capitalizes on superior setting performance of creora elastane for 4-way stretch development with reduced shrinkage and better recovery. Bi-stretch denim with creora Fit2 technology is said to offer more comfortable wear and a perfect silhouette. ■ ■

Lectra's newest fabric cutting solution



Lectra, a leader in integrated technology solutions dedicated to industries using fabrics, leather, technical textiles and composite materials, has launched a smart new version of its best-selling fabric-cutting solution.

Now, for the same price as the previous entry-level Vector model or lower, depending on the range, manufacturers in the fashion, automotive and furniture industries can increase productivity by up to 10% with the automated efficiency of patented continuous cutting, as well as benefit from predictive maintenance, according to the manufacturer.

The new intelligent Vector iQ features Eclipse continuous cutting, a functionality previously

available only on higher-end models. Developed 22 years ago by Lectra and used by 4,354 companies, Eclipse is designed to increase productivity by up to 10% due to the ability to cut without interruption as material automatically advances.

Offered for the first time with entry-level Vector models, Lectra Power Premium service coverage includes predictive maintenance designed to drive down the risk of machine downtime and stoppage. By benefiting from proactive, data-driven diagnostics and recommendations on the appropriate course of action, Lectra Power Premium customers can achieve up to 98% machine availability, the company reports. ■ ■

New blowable synthetic insulation by PrimaLoft



“PrimaLoft Insulation ThermoPlume is not only the highest performing blowable synthetic insulation, but also fills a growing demand for innovation from designers, brands and consumers looking to move away from down and improving the performance,”

said Jochen Lagemann, Managing Director PrimaLoft Europe & Asia.

“Providing a blowable, high-performing synthetic that acts as a true replacement for down allows brands to replicate the design aesthetic and the manufacturing process of a down garment. This helps to simplify the supply chain, combat the volatility of down prices and provides piece of mind when it comes to the ethical sourcing of materials.”

PrimaLoft Insulation ThermoPlume is manufactured with small, silky tufts of fibre plumes that collectively form a loose fill insulation, replicating the lightweight warmth, softness and compressibility of natural goose down. Its construction is said to allow it to be blown through traditional down-blowing manufacturing equipment, simplifying the manufacturing process for brands, enabling product designers the freedom to create innovative garments which combines the look and feel of down with the water-resistant performance of a synthetic. Brands like Montane, Mountain Force, Geox, Ferrino, Musto, Blaser, Pikeur, SunValey, Crazy Idea, Hetrego and Ciesse Outdoor are among the first to adopt this technology for Fall/Winter 2017 season. ■ ■

New Dyneema Carbon hybrid composites

Dyneema® Carbon hybrid composites represent a leap in the evolution of carbon. The world’s strongest fiber significantly improves the performance of pure carbon composites in terms of weight, impact resistance, ductility and vibrational dampening. Join us in building a shatterproof world. The lightweight performance power of Dyneema® Carbon hybrid composites will be presented at the plastics and rubber K Trade Fair in Dusseldorf, 19-26 October 2016. Ongoing projects will be highlighted that demonstrate how Dyneema® Carbon improves the performance of sports and automotive motorsports products that currently rely on pure carbon composites. Imagine a hockey stick with a better feel through reduced vibration, or a rally racecar component that does not shatter on impact – and that’s just for starters.

The popularity of pure carbon is easy to explain:

“It’s strong, stiff, lightweight and easy to mould. But it’s not so good at handling impacts,” notes DSM Dyneema scientist and part-time professor at Delft University of Technology Roel Marissen. Carbon also splinters when it breaks, which can cause injuries. By marrying carbon with Dyneema®, impact energy absorption can be increased by up to 100% while removing the risk of splintering. Dyneema® Carbon hybrid composites are also lighter, less brittle and more vibration dampening than pure carbon composites.

Fifteen times stronger than steel but floats on water, Dyneema® fiber has long been used to moor oilrigs, sail ships, stop bullets and repair human ligaments. As a fabric component, it’s becoming increasingly popular with high-performance sports apparel and athletic sportswear – from mountain climbing to motorcycling. ■ ■



shima trend archive & forecast

SHIMA SEIKI launches new fashion web service

SHIMA SEIKI has launched its Shima Trend Archive & Forecast (staf®) site, a web-based service dedicated to empowering its members with the means to search and download from a rich stock of information as well as tools to organize that information to aid in fashion planning, design and presentation.

With the fashion industry constantly updating its offerings every few months, fashion planners, designers and merchandisers traditionally have come under enormous pressure to present new ideas on a consistent basis, leading to stress, psychological burn-out and even physical illness. As a means to alleviate this situation and give industry professionals an unprecedented opportunity to enhance their planning efficiency and capability, staf® features an information archive of fashion and color trends covering the past 50 years in addition to those for the next season, as well as a

massive collection of fashion-related content, covering materials, flat sketches and design patterns. In addition, a vast collection of fashion photos are available in conjunction with the Aflo photo agency, and the latest fashion-related news articles can be picked up from news sites as well. All this information can be selected and sorted efficiently and organized in a concept board that can be shared among a variety of smart devices for presentation purposes.

Furthermore, the advantages gained from using staf® can be enhanced significantly in combination with SHIMA SEIKI's own "SDS-ONE APEX3" design system. staf® content can be imported, edited and processed quickly and easily on APEX3. 3D data can also be combined with APEX3's simulation capability, offering even more powerful and effective presentation. ■ ■

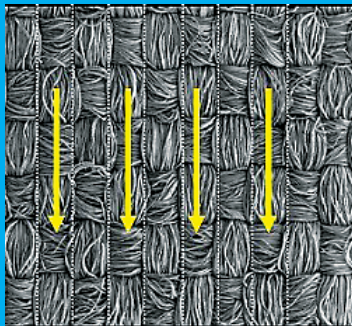


Teijin's new denim-like fireproof fabric

Teijin has announced the launch of Xfire DENIM, a practical and fireproof denim-like aramid fibre fabric for firefighting uniforms. The new aramid fabric is expected to meet the growing demand for extra-manoeuvrable clothing for volunteer fire corps.

Sales of Xfire DENIM will begin this month and Japanese manufacturers will start selling uniforms for fire corps made with Xfire DENIM in 2017.

Made with Teijinconex meta-aramid fibre, Xfire DENIM is produced with a proprietary technology to realise a pliant texture similar to that of denim, a universally popular fabric. Xfire DENIM is also designed to offer comfort and design flexibility. The fabric's appearance is also practical because it enables professional and volunteer fire corps to be easily distinguished when working side-by-side, the company explains. ■ ■



Teijin's new water-repellent fabric

Teijin Frontier, the Teijin Group's fibre products converting company, has developed MINOTECH, a highly water-repellent outerwear material for 2017 spring/summer.

The development of MINOTECH was inspired by the design of straw raincoats made in ancient Japan. It combines the usefulness of umbrella-quality fabric, the practicality of high-function wear and the attractiveness of a

fashionable material.

Thanks to the material's micro-garter structure, tiny convex bulges reduce horizontal surface tension to enable raindrops to slip smoothly off the surface in a vertical direction, the company explains. MINOTECH is also said to have high moisture permeability due to its non-laminated structure, so it allows sweat vapour to escape, keeping the inner surface dry and pleasant to touch. ■ ■



US army developing flame resistant combat uniforms

The US army researchers are developing a wool-based fabric blend, aiming to improve combat uniforms. The fabric consists of 50 per cent wool, 42 per cent Nomex, 5 per cent Kevlar and 3 per cent P140 antistatic fibre. The combat uniform which will be wholly made from domestic materials will consist of environmental friendly and sustainable fibre.

The combat uniforms will be flame resistant as the fabric used is lightweight. Also, no topical treatments are added to provide the quality of flame resistance, according to Carole Winterhalter, a textile

technologist with the Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center (NSRDEC).

The developed prototype uniforms were worn by 100 soldiers for trial at the Exercise Combined Resolve VII. The Fabric is 100 per cent biodegradable. It is easy to dye and absorbs moisture. When blended with other fibres, the fabric does not shrink excessively when washed. This new Super Wash process makes wool viable for combat clothing in nearly any application, including jackets, pants, underwear, headwear, gloves and socks," said Winterhalter. ■ ■

TEXEvents



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DOMOTEX 2017

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DOMOTEX asia CHINA FLOOR

DOMOTEX asia/CHINA FLOOR

The leading flooring trade exhibition
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Venue: New International Expo Centre Pudong, Shanghai, China.



Textile Asia Karachi

International Garment, Textile Machinery & Accessories exhibition
March 28-30, 2017
Venue: Expo Centre Karachi, Pakistan.

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WORLD'S LEADING *nonwovens* EXHIBITION

Index 2017

International Garment, Textile Machinery & Accessories exhibition
April 4-7, 2017
Venue: Geneva - Switzerland.



Igatex Karachi 2017

International Garment, Textile Machinery & Accessories exhibition
April 26-29, 2017
Venue: Expo Centre Karachi, Pakistan.



DPS World 2017

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October 20-22, 2017
Venue: Expo Center Lahore, Pakistan.



Shanghaitex 2017

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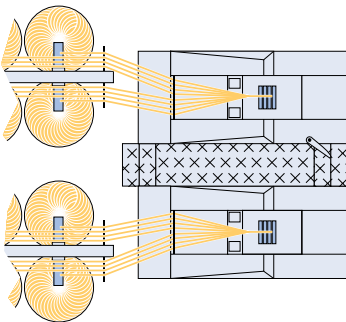


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