

“The UNTH in Kaduna, textile industries in Aba and Kano, these industries alone employed over 400,000 Nigerians but today, if you go there, they are ghosts of themselves. Only about 30,000 workers are working in all these textile industries.

“Worried and concerned on the need to create jobs and add value, because we are spending so much money in importing garments, the President gave this charge to set up this committee,” he said.

But he was optimistic that the Nigerian textile industry has the potential to compete with the best in the world. He said the government was irrevocably committed to ensuring substantial growth in high quality cotton production to feed textile and garment industry, and bring back a thriving textile and garments industry.

## Vietnam Becomes World's Fourth Largest Textile Exporter

According to the Vietnam National Textile and Garment Group (Vinatex), Vietnam has become the world's fourth largest textile exporter. In the first half of this year the country earned an estimated US\$12.18 billion from these products – a year on year (YOY) increase of 10.26 per cent. The industry is well on its way to meeting its 2015 export target of US\$27-27.5 billion.

The three largest importers of Vietnamese products were:

- United States
- South Korea
- European Union

Free trade agreements have been a key part of this impressive trade growth. In December of last year, Vietnam signed a bilateral trade deal with South Korea. The deal cuts tariffs on a range of products traded between the two countries and is predicted to almost triple bilateral trade to US\$70 billion by 2020.

Also in the same month Vietnam signed an FTA with the Eurasian Customs Union. This FTA covers such areas as trade, customs facilitation, intellectual property, investment, rules of origin, and the lifting of legal and technical barriers to trade.

Additionally, Vietnam is also currently in negotiations for two more trade agreements, one with the US, and one with the EU. Once finished, the EU-Vietnam FTA is expected to cover such areas as investment, environment, competition, and sustainable development, as well as reducing tariffs.

## Study claims textile dyeing breakthrough

LONDON - Researchers claim to have demonstrated a new process for the reactive dyeing of cotton which requires up to 40

per cent less dye and 97.5 per cent less alkali than conventional aqueous dyeing, while eliminating the requirement for inorganic salts and allowing for the recycling of all spent dye baths throughout the process. Reactive dyeing, the most commonly used coloration method for cotton, generates effluents which are difficult to treat and non-reusable due to dye hydrolysis. The scientists report they have also replaced water with 'non-nucleophilic green solvents' as the dye carrier and tested their findings over a 10-cycled process.

## Picanol unveils innovations in rapier & airjet weaving

With just a few months to go before ITMA 2015, Belgium-based Picanol has unveiled innovations in rapier and airjet weaving technologies.

With the Canvas and Filter variant for OptiMax rapier, Picanol has extended the capabilities of its flexible rapier machine to handle heavier and very heavy fabrics such as spun canvas and filament filter.

When fitted on its rapier machine, the modules make it possible to weave up to 15 per cent heavier fabrics in terms of cover factor and weight per square metre.

“And yet these machines can also be used to weave standard fabrics at reasonably high speeds,” Picanol explained in a newsletter.

The modules used on the heavy canvas & filter fabrics variant serve to increase the beat-up power and reinforce take-up and let-off so as to guarantee a stable beat-up line and minimum distortion in the fabric.

“For filter fabrics this means even porosity over the width of the fabric,” it added.

In airjet weaving technology, Picanol has introduced Automatic Relay Valve Drive (ARVDplus) to optimise the air consumption of its looms to use the available energy as efficiently as possible. The ARVDplus automatically adapts the closing time of the relay nozzle valves according to the behaviour and air-friendliness of the filling yarn.

For maximum versatility, it offers three levels of automatic adjustment, low, medium or high to suit the type of filling yarn; each indicating how much the relay nozzle blowing times can be adjusted by the machine.

When activated from the machine's terminal, ARVDplus continuously monitors the main insertion parameters measured by the machine, such as the winding timings and filling arrival time.

These data are processed and evaluated and the valve blowing timings of the relay nozzle valves are adapted automatically.

## Greece crisis hits Turkish textile, apparel and footwear sectors

Greece's financial woes with European creditors have had negative implications for Turkish clothing and footwear manufacturers as exports decline. After the exports of the Turkish textile and apparel sector to Greece went up 9.1 percent to USD 116 million in 2014, the first five months of 2015 concluded with a 19 percent decline, according to İstanbul Textile and Apparel Exporters Association (İHKİB) President Hikmet Tanrıverdi.

"Manufacturers in Turkey are not favoring long term installment offers due to the high risk. There is no trust in Greek banks left," adds Footwear Industrialists Association of Turkey (TASD) President Hüseyin Çetin. The TASD president states that from 2014 Turkey was able to increase its exports by 50 percent to USD 10 million. While sales in the first six months of 2015 were at USD 5.1 million, seemingly heading towards the same trend as 2014, the future outlook is a major concern.

The prospect of Greece leaving the Euro however would carry severe implications according to Şeref Faya Turkey Clothing Manufacturers' Association (TGSD). "The Euro would lose value in the face of the dollar which would hinder our sales."

## Première Vision launches Season Opener for A/W 2016-17

Première Vision, the leading communication and business platform for fashion and textile industry professionals, has launched its first Season Opener for Autumn/Winter 2016-17.

This opening of the season – in advance and in preview of the actual shows themselves – marks a new approach to fashion information, shared with fashion and clothing industry professionals three months before the doors open at Première Vision Paris, which is set to take place from 15-17 September.

The objectives of the new concept include anticipation of the needs of buyers and designers long before the actual shows, guiding professionals in preparing their visits, adapting to the industry's changing pace, and providing a clear reading of the season's earliest fashion indications in a digital format.

The fashion information developed each season by Première Vision has until now been unveiled to visitors during the shows via insightful forums, information areas and fashion seminars.

As the sole organiser of the six shows constituting Première Vision Paris since February 2014, Première Vision promotes both the particularities and the crossover between its six activity sectors, and continues to elaborate new synergies.

Now Première Vision is applying this same transversal strategy to its fashion information, to give visibility to the general season

inspirations common to all six activity sectors at Première Vision Paris, while continuing to point up each industry's fashion expertise and specific inspirations.

## Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles debuts trend program

As Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles continues to expand beyond traditional home textile items to cover the entire product spectrum, it will feature a new trend program at the fair which runs from August 26-28, 2015. The InterDesign program has been developed in response to the increasing interest of Chinese consumers in design and trends, with some of the industry's biggest players participating this year.

"The InterDesign Program includes three special areas in hall 7.2 which comprises of a Trend Area, Trend Concept Show and Forum Space," a press release from Messe Frankfurt, the organiser said. The International Lifestyle Trend Area, which is designed by the NellyRodi Agency, will feature the 2016 lifestyle trend concepts, while the Trend Concept Show will bring these trends to life in a practical home setting.

A comprehensive seminar program with sessions conducted by the industry's top experts is also on offer at Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles. In the Design & Trends category, the highlights include a talk from Vincent Grégoire of the NellyRodi Agency who will explain in detail the 2016 trends found in the International Lifestyle Trend Area. Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles will feature around 1,400 exhibitors from some 30 countries and regions in the August edition, which will be held in Shanghai.

## Nigeria to revive textile and garment industry

The Nigerian presidency has constituted a special committee to resuscitate the country's ailing cotton and textile industry, according to newspaper reports in the country.

The direction is in line with the campaign promises of President Muhammadu Buhari to revive cotton and textile industry.

Permanent secretary of the agriculture and rural development ministry, Sonny Echono, who announced this while inaugurating the committee in Abuja, lamented that cotton, textile and garments industries across the country have become "shadows of themselves" due to influx of cheap textile materials, inconsistent government policies and dumping of sub-standard textile materials in the country.

He said that the textile and garments industry in Nigeria which once had over 400,000 employees now employs only about 30,000 people due to the deplorable state of the industry.



# World Textile News

## Euratex Convention on innovation in textile industry

The 2015 edition of the annual Euratex Convention will be devoted to sustainable innovation in the textile and clothing industry.

The Convention will be organised by the European apparel and textile confederation (Euratex) and its Italian member federation Sistema Moda Italia (SMI) together with TexClubTec on 18 November 2015 in Milan, Italy, in conjunction with ITMA textile technology fair. In response to the global economic transformations, the European textile and clothing manufacturing has already undergone radical changes in the latest decades. The European companies have increased the variety of their products and found new application fields for the textile materials.

The industry moved to production of higher value-added goods and makes considerable contribution to the other sectors – automotive, medical, construction, agriculture and others. To retain their competitive edge, the European companies are increasingly investing in innovation and introducing the latest technologies.

Nowadays, sustainable production has become an integral part of the companies' business strategy. This includes technological innovation of production process, resource efficiency, recycling and use of sustainable textile materials, as well as exploring new business models. At the 2015 Euratex Convention, thought leaders from industry and technology will discuss if the EU textile and apparel sector has found enduring competitive advantages in its focus on quality, innovation, sustainability and high value added.

During the round table discussion, textile and clothing

manufacturers will share their practical experience and promising textile technologies and markets, Euratex said.

## Malaysian textile exports set to benefit from MTFTA

Textile and apparel exports from the Southeast Asian nation of Malaysia are set to benefit as the Malaysia-Turkey Free Trade Agreement (MTFTA) will come into effect on August 1, 2015, according to Malaysian media reports. The MTFTA signed in April 2014 envisages an increase in bilateral trade from \$969 million in 2013 to \$5 billion by 2020. Upon its entry into force on August 1, duties on 70 per cent of tariff lines will come down to zero, and after a period of eight years, duties will be reduced/eliminated for almost 86 per cent of tariff lines, Malaysian minister of international trade and industry Seri Mustapa Mohamed said in a statement.

Textiles and apparel, which make up Malaysia's largest export item to Turkey, are among the products that will benefit from immediate duty-free treatment in Turkey, said Mohamed and urged businesses to increase their exports to Turkey. From August 1, Turkey will also eliminate all existing additional duties (ranging from 20 per cent to 30 per cent) on textiles, apparel and footwear, which currently affect more than a thousand tariff lines. "Turkey, with a population of 74 million people, holds vast market potential. I urge the Malaysian business community to take full advantage of the opportunities offered under this FTA, which can also help strengthen bilateral trade and economic linkages on a long-term basis," Mustapa said in the statement. Malaysia already has FTAs in place with member countries of Asean, and with India, Australia, China, Pakistan, Japan, Chile and New Zealand.

billion. Turkey and Iran signed a preferential trade agreement last year, which came into force on Jan. 1 of this year. According to the agreement, lower customs taxes were placed on 140 products from Turkey and 125 products from Iran. Zeybekci said the deal helped to increase exports to Iran by 30 percent. He added that they aim to add 30 new products to customs tax-free exports as Iran's trade sanctions are lifted, which will be a win-win situation for the countries. Zeybekci said Turkey did a great job with the Iran deal, and from now on Turkish trade will greatly benefit from the improvement in the Turkish-Iranian customs relationship.

The Turkish business community is also waiting for the sanctions to be removed according to the nuclear deal. However, Turkey is not the only country that will be seeking additional trade opportunities with Iran, and a highly competitive environment is sure to meet new business interests. Having Iran's doors opened to the global economy presents a huge potential after covering its needs by itself for years. Iran has foreign currency reserves in different countries, which the country has not been able to use, but nuclear deal is expected to allow Iran to activate these reserves. The country has a strong labor force, a highly educated population and a high percentage of the population speaking at least one language in addition to Persian. Energy resources are rich, however the country imports fuel oil since it does not have the necessary technology to transform crude to fuel oil because of the sanctions preventing the selling of the equipment to Iran.

## Iran to resume carpet exports to US when sanctions removed

Head of the Iranian National Carpet Center says the country has plans to resume carpet exports to the United States once sanctions imposed on Tehran over its civilian nuclear program are removed. Hamid Kargar told that when Iran and the P5+1 group of countries clinch a final deal over Iran's nuclear program, exports of Iran's hand-made carpets to all markets, especially the United States, will see a sharp rise. The official added that before 2009, the United States ranked first among countries importing Iranian hand-made carpet accounting for 16.5 percent of total Iranian exported carpets, worth USD 82 million. He added that sanctions imposed on Iranian carpet imports by the US in 2010 practically "deprived Iranian carpet exporters of trading in the US as the biggest importer of hand-made carpets from Iran." Kargar stated that Iranian carpet exporters have not been present in American market for five years as a result of which Indian carpets have taken the place of Iranian rugs. The official said once anti-Iran sanctions are removed as result of a final nuclear deal, Iranian exporters should first monitor the American market for any change of taste and also assess the situation of rival countries in that market.

He said by making meticulous plans for the resumption of carpet exports to the United States, Iranian exports can bring about a boom in their exports to the US by 2016.

## Tabriz Persian rug; Iran's cultural ambassador

Carpet weaving industry in Tabriz has faced many problems including young generation's tepid welcome of it as a modest would-be profession and social security for veteran carpet weavers. Carpet weaving is a highly original craft, almost unparalleled and unrivalled with any other craft of its kind globally; it has created large number of jobs for country's economy as well.

Among Iranian carpets, Tabriz Persian rugs employ a wide array of beautiful and mesmerizing natural hues and intricate design and shapes of oriental art, which gives the rug its unique place among its lovers; no home across the nation would live without a Tabriz Persian rug.

However, conditions are not so promising for the practitioners of the art; the prospects of the rug-weaving as a would-be job is quite murky, with young generation now paying only a tepid welcome to the age-old profession; other plights such as social insurance for veteran rug-weavers pose their own problems for the industry.

## Iran develops GM cotton crop

Iran has developed what is said to be the first sample of genetically modified cotton, produced using indigenous technology.

The GM cotton is considered a solution to existing problems with the quality of cotton produced in South Khorasan Province, eastern Iran. It was unveiled during the First International and 9th National Biotechnology Congress.

By taking advantage of the new technology, the cotton crop harvested across provincial farms has increased by five to seven times.

The technology for the production of genetically modified cotton was developed by an Iranian biotechnology research institute in Alborz Province, west of the capital city, Tehran.

Dr Mostafa Ghane'i, who heads the First International Biotechnology Congress of Iran, said: "This technology has been developed in about five years by Iranian researchers and suits the country's conditions."

Legally, however, taking advantage of any such new technology on cotton farms would require permission from the Iranian parliament's Biosafety Committee.

Genetically engineered cotton is grown globally, estimated at around 25m hectares, mostly in India, China, Pakistan and the US. Other countries growing significantly smaller amounts include South Africa, Brazil, Burma, Australia, and Egypt.



# Iran Textile News

## ICRC to Buy Iranian Textile Products for Regional Operations

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) plans to purchase Iranian textile products for the humanitarian institution's delegations in Iraq, Afghanistan and some other crisis-hit areas in the Middle East, the head of ICRC's delegation in Iraq said. "According to arrangements with Helal Iran Textile Industries, there is a possibility of purchasing the company's new products, particularly blankets, for ICRC's relief operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and other crisis-hit areas in the region," Patrick Youssef said. He made the remarks in a meeting with Mohammad-Shahabeddin Mohammadi Araqi, the deputy director of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) for international and humanitarian affairs. Youssef further pointed to the ICRC's long-term humanitarian programs in Iraq, and said the organization is willing to share its experiences with IRCS and boost cooperation in various fields. Since June 10, 2014, Iraq has witnessed a fresh wave of violence after militants from the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) terrorist group took control of large swathes of the war-stricken country. The ISIL Takfiri group has been committing heinous crimes against all ethnic and religious groups in the Arab country, including Shiites, Sunnis, Kurds, Christians, and Izadis.

## Iranian textile fair Irantex kicks-off on Nov 17

The 20th edition of Irantex, a trade fair of textile machinery, textile raw materials and finished products will held from November 17-20, 2014 in Tehran. Irantex 2014 will see participation of 170 Iranian and 160 foreign exhibitors from Japan, China, India, South Korea, Germany, Turkey, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Netherlands,

Russia and Taiwan. Trade Promotion Organization of Iran & Iran International Exhibitions Company are supporting this show and is being organized by four Iranian textile trade associations.

Organisers of the show say exhibitors from the Indian and Chinese textile industry are debuting at the exhibition for the first time.

On display will be various textile raw materials like – fibres, yarns, dyes and chemicals; home textile products including upholstery, curtain fabrics, bed linens, napkins, table cloth, etc.

Visitors will also be able to see various textile processing machinery and equipment like embroidery machines, sewing machines, cutting machines, etc. Exhibitors will also be showcasing men's, women's and kids apparels and fabrics. Alongside, engineering service providers and consultants are also partaking at the trade show. Irantex 2014 will host 15 science workshops and two conferences, at which experts from the industry will address delegates. According to the organisers, the exhibition seeks to introduce latest products from across machinery, textile raw materials, apparels and home textiles to visitors.

The exhibition will also help the Iranian textile industry find new overseas markets and offer foreign overseas firms to find investment opportunities in Iran's textile industry.

## The Iran nuclear deal made a wakeup call for business interests from different countries so Turkey has increased its targets

Turkey aims to step up foreign trade as Iran and the P5+1 – the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and Germany – finalized the nuclear talks with an agreement. Economy Minister Nihat Zeybekci said trade between Iran and Turkey could easily reach \$50 billion even though the targeted level is set at \$35

The media outreach is just as astounding as the fair itself, with industry stalwarts like My U.A.E Guide & Yarns and Fibers figuring among the media partners list, alongside exhibitions by Gamma Industries (Thailand) and Schaefer & Te Neues GmbH (Germany).

Rather than remain complacent after enjoying immense success, the ITF is still unwavering in its determination to expand with each event; and becoming a major influence in the U.A.E fashion scene. Dilip Nihalani, MD (ITF) explains, “At ITF, we strive to provide a professional atmosphere conducive to business and networking; and acknowledge U.A.E’s rise as the leading destination for textile industry automation.”

International Textile Fair- Dubai is UAE’s premier platform for fashion and fabrics. ITF, Dubai showcased Pre-collection Spring/Summer 2016 and Autumn/Winter 2015 highlights. With close to 150 exhibitors, the Fair aims to expand with each event become a major influence on the UAE fashion scene.

Principally a “trade only” event, ITF provides a professional and conducive atmosphere to business and networking for manufacturers, traders and designers both internationally and within the region. In response to the need for a dedicated trade exhibition in Dubai- UAE, the show has been designed as a quality event for the Fashion Fabrics Business in the UAE. ITF is attended

With exhibitors coming in from Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia the event set an eclectic ambience. The participation of acclaimed fashion houses like Carlo Pozzi (Italy) and Bella Donna (U.A.E) stand testimony to the revered stature of the ITF.

The diplomatic presence at the fair was palpable, as H.E Bhutti Saeed Al Ghandi (Vice Chairman, DWTC) inaugurated the event. His Excellency visited a number of exhibitor stalls and expressed appreciation for the organizers and the scale of the event. The April edition saw over 100 exhibitors, highlighting the nascent yet promising mindset of the ITF.

Clarence Greens, a first-time exhibitor at the ITF, marveled, “This was our first year at a trade show. It is a wonderful platform and we need to be having it more often. The crowd has been beautiful; we had a good crowd mix. Having visitors from around the world at our stall was great.”

### Apparel

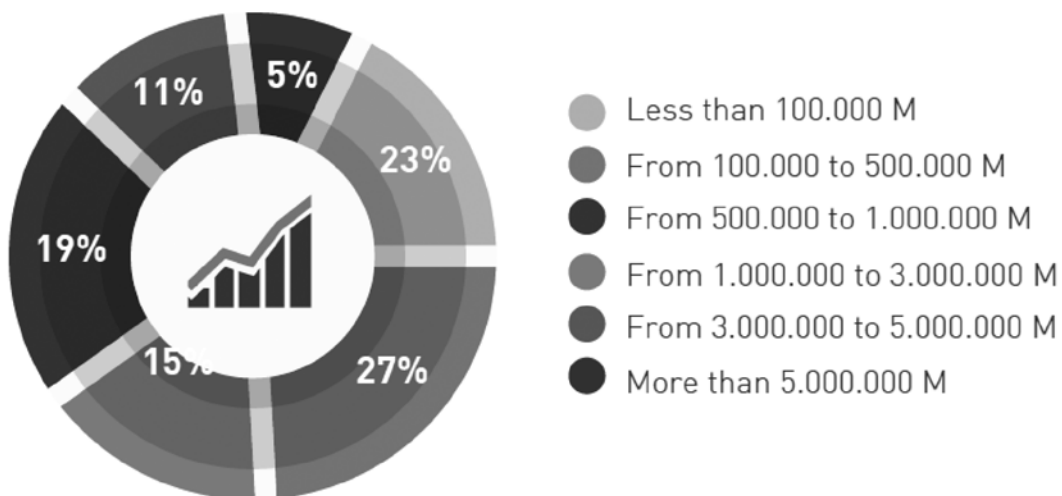


*Dubai World Trade Centre, U.A.E* : The International Textile Fair returns to the Dubai World Trade Centre for its second annual outing on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2015. At a time when the global trade and apparel sector is expanding tenfold per annum, the ITF has gained prominence as an elite textile expo with an intercontinental outlook.

The ITF witnessed unprecedented success even during its first edition, attracting 5,173 visitors of 64 nationalities across five continents. The benchmark was ephemeral, as another was set in the ITF's April edition this year; when an astounding 6,732 visitors registered for the event.

## TOTAL VISITORS: **6732**

Yearly volume bought in meters





*Page 3 – Textile Colourant and Chemical Leaders Forum and Nonwovens Forum at ITMA 2015 draw strong industry support*

To register or for more information on conferences at ITMA 2015, please visit [www.itma.com](http://www.itma.com) or contact Angelica Madrid at [angelicamadrid@mpinetwork.com](mailto:angelicamadrid@mpinetwork.com).

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#### **About CEMATEX & ITMA**

The European Committee of Textile Machinery Manufacturers (CEMATEX) comprises national textile machinery associations from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. It is the owner of ITMA and ITMA ASIA. Considered the 'Olympics' of textile machinery exhibitions, ITMA has a 64-year history of displaying the latest in machinery and software for every single work process of textile making. It is held every four years in Europe.

#### **About MP Expositions**

MP Expositions is a subsidiary of MP International Pte Ltd, a professional exhibition and conference organiser established in Singapore in 1987. To date, MP has organised and managed over 2,000 major national, regional and international events, including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2009 Leaders' Week. It is the organiser of ITMA 2011 and 2015, and ITMA ASIA 2001 and 2005. It is also co-organiser of the ITMA ASIA+CITME shows 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014. A member of the Pico group, MP International is headquartered in Singapore with a global footprint across Asia and Europe. MP's success with various partners is a testimony of its ability to identify opportunities and maximise the rewards for win-win partnerships.

#### **About EDANA**

EDANA serves more than 240 companies across 37 countries in the nonwovens and related industries, helping its members to design their future. The Association's mission is to create the foundation for sustainable growth of the nonwovens and related industries through active promotion, education and dialogue. Information about upcoming events can be found at [www.edana.org](http://www.edana.org)

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*Page 2 – Textile Colourant and Chemical Leaders Forum and Nonwovens Forum at ITMA 2015 draw strong industry support*

### **Nonwovens Forum**

To be held on 16 November, the Nonwovens Forum @ ITMA is jointly organised by EDANA and MP Expositions. The forum will address pertinent issues, challenges and opportunities in the rapidly evolving world of nonwovens.

Pierre Conrath, Sustainability & Public Affairs Director, EDANA (Belgium) who will kick-off the forum with an introduction on the nonwovens industry, said: "The programme is built around the theme - "Nonwovens: A World of Growth and Opportunities". Presentations on the latest applications and finishings will benefit ITMA visitors who are involved in or have the intention to move into nonwovens manufacturing. Participants will find it very useful to be able to visit the ITMA exhibition and view many of the technologies on show at the exhibition."

The first session will focus on applications and technologies for nonwovens:

- Overview of Nonwoven Production Technologies and Applications by Laurent Jallat, Head of Marketing Department, ANDRITZ Nonwoven (France)
- From Melt to Nonwoven: Spunbond Lines for Technical Applications by Martin Rademacher, Sales Manager & Ingo Mahlmann, Senior Manager Product Management Nonwoven, Oerlikon Neumag (Germany)
- Nonwoven Production Lines Installed by a General Contractor by Johann Philipp Dilo, General Manager, Dilo Group (Germany)

The second session explores added value ingredients and finishing for nonwovens:

- Spin Finishes and Additives in the Production of Nonwovens by Stephan Reil, Marketing Manager Nonwoven, Pulcra Chemicals (Germany)
- Added Value Through Selected Functionalisation of Nonwovens by Michael Bildhauer, Head Technical Service Fibre Auxiliaries & Robert Zyschka, Head Technical Service Coating/Finishing, CHT R. BEITLICH (Germany)
- Advantages of Ultrasonic in Web Splicing Applications by Pierre Croutelle, Sales Manager - Nonwoven/Textile & Plastic Division, Spoolex (France)
- Striking Colors and Performance for PP SpunMelt Nonwovens by Francis Baud, Global Fibre Marketing Head, Clariant (Switzerland)
- The Nonwovens Industry and Markets in Numbers by Jacques Prigneaux, Market Analysis and Economic Affairs Director, EDANA (Belgium)

In addition to the forums, ITMA participants can gain valuable insights on new technologies and research at the Research & Innovation Pavilion's Speakers Platform. ITMA 2015 will also feature the World Textile Summit, a high-level knowledge sharing platform on 13 November. Co-located with ITMA 2015 is the Digital Textile Conference on 15 November.

ITMA 2015 will be held at the Fiera Milano Rho from 12 to 19 November 2015. It showcases end-to-end solutions for the entire textile and garment making chain. The exhibition has a gross size of over 200,000 square metres. To-date, over 1,500 exhibitors from 47 economies have signed up to take part in the exhibition. Visitors can purchase their ITMA 2015 badge online in order to enjoy early-bird rates.

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
For Immediate Use

## **Textile Colourant and Chemical Leaders Forum and Nonwovens Forum at ITMA 2015 draw strong industry support**

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28 May 2015 – ITMA 2015 has attracted various industry groups to initiate activities that address critical sectorial concerns, as well as challenges faced by the textile, garment and fashion industry.

The exhibition, billed as the world's largest textile and garment manufacturing technology showcase, will be complemented by a wide range of knowledge sharing events that will feature discussions on issues that impact the industry's sustainability.

Among the exciting events are the Textile Colourant and Chemical Leaders Forum and Nonwovens Forum @ ITMA 2015.

### **Textile Colourant and Chemical Leaders Forum**

Launched at ITMA 2011, the forum was a success, drawing lively participation from colour and chemical professionals, and fashion and sports brand owners from around the world. This year, the agenda will focus on sustainability in dyeing and finishing processes and participants will be updated on industry opportunities and best practices.

Covering a comprehensive range of issues, such as current challenges, solutions and future trends, the one-day forum on 14 November is divided into three sessions:

- The issue: topics related to chemical pollution and environmental issues and how these impact the market place
- The solution: how does the supply chain respond
- The future: what are the trends and/or game changers moving forward

Alessandro Gigli, board member of the Association of Italian Textile Chemists and Colourists who chairs the forum programme committee, said: "Topics to be covered include the chemical/colourant suppliers' response to current environmental issues, updates on REACH regulation, new dyeing and printing technologies and their impact in a more sustainable supply chain.

"We have received many paper submissions as there is strong interest in sustainability issues impacting the textile and garment industry. We hope the forum will be a focal point for meaningful dialogues which will contribute to improvements in this sector."

Besides Mr. Gigli, other members of the committee are:

- Andrew Filarowski, Society of Dyers and Colourists
- Enrique Meltzer, Latin American Federation of Textile Chemists
- Jan Marek, The International Federation of Associations of Textile Chemists and Colourists
- Janak Mehta, The Dyestuff Manufacturers Association of India

To-date, the confirmed speakers include

- Alberto Gallina from Benetton Group srl. who is representing the ZDHC Group
- Prof. Giuseppe Rosace from Department of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Bergamo
- John Mowbray, owner and founder of UK-based B2B publisher, MCL Global
- Prof. Marc VanParys, President at UNITEX

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