Textile Trends

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EDITORIAL

Despite having huge potential Telengana lags its peers in textile industry

Large textile and apparel firms are not set up in Telengana despite being the fourth largest producer of cotton in India. The cotton produced in this state is of high quality long staple variety. Only 7% of 70 lakh bale annual production of cotton is being ginned and spun in the only 35 mills operating in the state. The surplus cotton is shifted for processing and spinning to other states like Tamilnadu, Maharashtra & Gujarat where large number of mills are established.

From this fact, it is evident that state is unable to reap the benefit due to lack of modern processing and dyeing houses. In addition, scanty rainfall and depleting ground water coupled with irregular power supply aggravated the problem.

Over the last few years there has been an improvement in the ground water levels and at the same time, better management of power generation has improved the situation from interrupted power supply. Hyderabad, the capital city of the state strategically well located, regional ring road project may greatly improve connectivity through the cotton producing districts to the Hyderabad by road and railway.

Human plays pivotal role to the textile and garment industries which are highly labour-intensive. These industries need trend workforce. A sustained effort to develop human capital is essential for the industries to survive and thrive. Many schemes to encourage and support handloom industries have been taken into account aiming at the development of handloom clusters and weavers. The ready-made garment industry needs high quality and large quantity of fabric. To make thrive of ready-made garment industry mill-made fabric is essential, there is a lack of major textile players in Telengana to meet the demand for requirement of qualitative fabric.

Encouraging investment in modern spinning and weaving mills by setting up textile clusters will multiply employment and also improve local consumption of high quality cotton fiber. Thus the state can encourage handloom and power-loom sectors to offer greater choice to the ready-made garment industry and this approach will complete the value chain, leading to increased employment, investment and state revenues.

UK economy gathering momentum as hiring restarts

The UK economy is building momentum, with real-time indicators suggesting consumers have started to splurge some of the cash they've saved now that the government has loosened lockdown rules. Restaurant bookings and job postings surged to the highest since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, while road traffic and the number of people travelling to work-places grew in recent weeks, data from Bloomberg Economics and government statistics show. Shops and bars were allowed to reopen on April 12, and most restrictions are set to lapse by June 21. With around two-thirds of adults in the UK immunised against the coronavirus, Prime Minister Boris Johnson is starting to relax advice on containing the virus. Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey anticipates a strong recovery as households unleash some of the 150 billion pounds ($207 billion) of savings accumulated over the past year. The number of online job advertisements in the UK returned to levels seen before the pandemic for the first time, according to data through April 9 from the adzuna jobs website published by the Office for National Statistics. That's a positive sign after a year that saw Britain lag many of its global peers with business lacking the confidence take on new staff. There was a notable jump in catering and hospitality roles. Postings on jobs webstie indeed have recorvered to about 16% below those seen at the start of February 2020. They have jumped by a fifth since the UK set out a roadmap to easing restrictions. Top gainers include sectors that are reopening such as sports, beauty and food services. The proportion of furloughed workers that actually return to the labour market will be key to the consumer recovery, according to Fabrice Montagne, chief UK economist at Barclays Bank. He's cautious about predictions for the kind of "rip-roaring recovery" suggested by the BOE's outgoing chief economist Andy Haldane. "The third lockdown has actually been much less disruptive than we'd thought," Montagne said. "Hence the bounce will be automatically smaller. Sentiment is strong. The recovery will still happen, but in a more civilised way than pictured by Andy 'Mr Boom' Haldane." Recent opening of restaurants with a place to serve outdoors prompted a spike in bookings on the Open Table reservations website. It expects a bigger jump when customers are allowed inside from May 17. The restrictions on hospitality have been hard on the UK's consumer-driven economy. The service sector is still 8.8% smaller than before the pandemic. More than half of the 693,000 drop in employees on payrolls was due to fewer jobs in food services since February 2020. ❐

Myanmar economy may shrink up to 20% as crisis looms

With a tea shop right next to key protest zones in Myanmar's biggest city, Soe is never quite sure whether he should keep the business open. If protesters enter to evade authorities, the 43-year-old risks getting shot, arrested or having his property destroyed as the military and police hunt them down. "Now we can't open our shop on a daily basis but we have to pay regular rental fees, municipal fees, labour wages," said Soe. Small businesses are on the front lines of an economy now seemingly in free fall after a group of generals seized power. Shipping lines have suspended operations as truck drivers strike, leaving cargo containers trapped at the ports. Restrictions on cash withdrawls have businesses struggling to pay employees. An economy that averaged growth rates of over 6 per cent over the past 10 years is now projected by the World Bank to shrink 10 per cent in 2021, by far the worst in Asia as countries rebound from a pandemic-induced slump. "A 10 per cent contraction in growth for a poor country seems to me disaster enough already," said Aaditya Mattoo, the World Bank's chief economist for Asia. Some analysts are expecting things to get even worse : Fitch Solutions is projecting a "conservative" 20 per cent contraction for the 2020-21 fiscal year. It said in April the rising death toll combined with increased social instability means "all areas of GDP by expenditure are set to collapse." "There is no worst-case scenario which we can rule out," Fitch said. ❐

China factory output, retail sales pick up

China's industrial output growth quickened in January-February, beating expectations, as the vast manufacturing sector started 2021 on a firm footing and the economy consolidated its brisk recovery. Retail sales in the period also rose in a boost to domestic demand, giving a strong lift to business activitiy on top of the recent upsurge in exports growth. Industrial output rose 35.1% in the first two months, up from a 7.3% uptick seen in December, data from the National Bureau of Statistics showed recently. That was stronger than a median forecast of a 30% surge in a Reuters poll. China's ability to contain the COVID-19 pandemic before other major economies were able to do so has allowed it to rebound faster, with the recovery helped by robust exports, pent-up demand and government stimulus. While the impressive numbers are in part due to distortions from last year's massive slump in activity, other measures show the recovery is broad-based with industrial output up 16.9% compared with the first two months of 2019, before the pandemic struck. An NBS official said that positive factors for China's economy are increasing but the foundation for the recovery is not yet solid. A rebound in foreign demand drove export growth in February to a record pace, while factory gate prices posted the biggest jump since November 2018. China's economic activity is normally distorted and volatile in the first two months because of the week-long Lunar New Year holiday, which fell in February this year. Retail sales increased 33.8% in the first two months, marking a significant jump from 4.6% growth in December. Sales grew 6.4% compared with the first two months of 2019. Fixed asset investment increased 35% year-on-year in the first two months. ❐

US manufacturing expands at fastest pace since 1983, underscoring rebound

US manufacturing expanded in March at the fastest pace since 1983, catapulated by the firmest orders and production readings in 17 years. The data add to evidence of an economy poised to accelerate. A gauge of factory activity jumped to 64.7 from 60.8 a month earlier, according to Institute for Supply Management data released recently. Index levels above 50 indicate expansion and the March figure topped all but one estimate in a Bloomberg survey of economists. Stronger growth in new orders and output highlight accelerating household and business demand as increased vaccinations, fewer pandemic-related restrictions and fiscal relief provide a clearer path for the economic recovery. Stocks extended gains after the report. "The manufacturing economy continued its recovery in March," Timothy Fiore, chair of ISM's Manufacturing Business Survey Committee, said in a statement. At the same time, purchasing managers "reported that their companies and suppliers continue to struggle to meet increasing rates of demand due to coronavirus impacts limiting availability of parts and materials." All but one of 18 ISM manufacturing industries reported growth in March, led by textiles, electrical equipment and appliances, machinery and computers and electronic products. The US data mirror results from around the world. Factory activity across Asia strengthened after the volatile Lunar New Year period, with Taiwan leading the way, according to IHS Markit. The group's purchasing managers index for the UK advanced to a decade high, while euro area manufacturing was historically strong. ❐

China's GDP surged record 18.3% in Q1

China's economy expanded at a record pace in the first quarter as the country continued its rapid recovery from last year's pandemic-fuelled slump, official data showed recently. The 18.3% expansion in gross domestic product was the fastest pace since quarterly records began three decades ago, but came off a historic contraction in 2020 during the depths of the pandemic. While the coronavirus first emerged in central China in late 2019, the country was also the quickest to bounce back after authorities imposed strict control measures and consumers stayed home. GDP rose 0.6% from Q4 of 2021, slowing slightly amid local virus outbreaks. ■

INDIAN ECONOMY AND TRADE TRENDS

India becomes top recipient of Japanese aid since 2003

India has been the top recipient of the Japanese government's financial aid under the Official Development Assistance (ODA) since 2003, surpassing China, an industry body said recently. China had held the top position for many years, the International Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) said in a statement after a webinar on the significance of Japan's ODA to India. Between 2010 and 2020, Japan has committed a total of JPY 3.1 trillion for a wide variety of infrastructure projects in India, including connectivity projects in the northeast, ICRIER said. The Japan programme at ICRIER was established in 2007 and has actively under-taken in-depth research studies and fostered regular dialogue initiatives. Japan is supporting India's Dhubri-Phulbhari Bridge, connecting Dhubri, Assam, and Phulbhari, Meghalaya, over the Brahmaputra, through ODA, the foundation laying ceremony of which took place in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in February. Indian Ambassador to Japan Sanjay Kumar Verma said as the largest recipient of Japan's ODA, India has become an important strategic international partner to Japan. "India's continued rise on the global stage is supported by Japan, and Japan's continued rise as a global leader is supported with its ODA initiatives in India. JICA director general (South Asia department) Sakamoto Takema emphasised on working together to address concerns of India's private sector in areas such as infrastructure, regulations, human resource, creating a balanced society for sustainability by focusing on environment, gender and vulnerability. ❐

Exports posted 297% increase in the first week of April

Bringing shine into the new fiscal, Indian goods exports posted a 297.2 per cent increase (year-on-year) in the first seven days of April 2021-22 to $6.79 billion, led by engineering goods, gems and jewellery, and petroleum products. Imports during April 1-7 increased 244.2 per cent to $9.66 billion, owing largely to a spurt in import of petroleum and crude and electronics, according to initial data collated by the Commerce and Industry Ministry. The US and China accounted for most of India's rise in exports during the seven-day period, while the UAE and China were responsible for a large part of the increase in imports, the data showed. Much of the rise in exports in the first week of April of 2021-22 could be attributed to a low-base effect, as exports in the first week of April had fallen 72.7 per cent to $1.71 billion due to the Covid-19 lockdown. However, exports in April 1-7 were higher by 8.42 per cent even when compared to exports in the comparable period of 2019-20 ($6.27 billion) when there were no pandemic-related disruptions. Imports in April 1-7 2021-22 were low by a marginal 0.65 per cent compared with exports in the comparable period of 2019-20. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, India's exports took a sharp hit last year falling an estimated 7.4 per cent in April-March 2020-21 to $289.92 billion. Exporters have, however, recently reported that order books have started turning positive and there is fresh interest in Indian products. In March 2021, India reported the highest monthly rise ever with exports increasing 58.23 per cent to $34 billion. ❐

Factory output slumps to a 6-month low of 3.6% in February

Industrial production contracted to a six-month low of 3.6% in February, data released by the government showed, underlining the fragile economic recovery that's now threatened by a rampant Covid pandemic. Separately released data recently showed retail inflation accelerated to a four-month high of 5.52% in March, presenting another challenge to the economy, although experts ruled out any immediate monetary tightening. Industrial production had contracted 0.88% in January this year. In the April-February period of FY21, India's factory output shrank 11.3% compared with 1% growth in the year-ago period. Recent CPI (Consumer Price Index) and IIP (Index of Industrial Production) prints raise concerns over the worsening growth inflation mix. While some part of the decline in IIP was due to a high base, activity remained muted even on a sequential basis," said Sakshi Gupta, economist at HDFC Bank. "On average, the IIP has risen by a marginal 0.1% in September 2020-February 2021, highlighting that the recovery in industrial volumes lacks conviction," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist, ICRA. Manufacturing (–3.7%) and mining (–5.5%) contracted while electricity output rose a modest 0.1%. Consumer durables production, an indicator of urban demand, rose 6.3%, the only sector to witness growth among the use-based classification of the IIP Consumer non-durables production shrank 3.8%. ❐

GST collection hits record Rs. 1.24 trn

Goods and services tax (GST) revenue touched an all-time high in March, with the government collecting nearly ₹1.24 trillion. It surpassed the ₹1-trillion mark for the sixth straight month, and remained over the ₹1.1-trillion mark for the fourth time in a row, revealed the government's provisional data on 1st April. With this, the net tax collection is likely to have exceeded the Revised Estimates (RE) for the fiscal year, resulting in a fiscal deficit lower than 9.5 per cent of gross domestic product estimated for 2020-21 (FY21). The government has attributed the robust mop-up to closer monitoring against fake billing, deep-data analytics using data from multiple sources, including GST, income-tax and Customs information technology systems and effective tax administration. At ₹1.24 trillion, GST collection grew nearly 27 per cent during the month, compared to collection worth ₹97,590 crore in March last year. The collection was 9.5 per cent higher, compared to ₹1.13 trillion in the previous month, said the finance ministry. This is in line with the trend of recovery in GST revenue over the past five months. GST revenue in March 2021 is the highest since the introduction of the indirect tax reform (on July 1, 2017). GST revenue crossed the ₹1-trillion mark at a stretch for the last six months. ❐

India GDP to rise 7.5%-12.5% in FY22, says World Bank

India's economy is expected to grow at 10.1% for the year starting April 1, 2021, as the vaccine roll-out drives activity in contact-intensive sectors, as per the World Bank's South Asia Economic Focus *South Asia Vaccinates* report. However, given the significant uncertainty around epidemiological and policy factors, real GDP growth could range from 7.5% to 12.5%, stabilising at 6-7% in the medium term, it said. "It is not normal to talk about these wide ranges in the forecast," Hans Timmer, Chief Economist for the World Bank's South Asia region, said on a briefing call with reporters. "The reason is that we are really in unprecedented circumstances," he said. Fiscal year 2021 is expected to register the worst economic damage due to the pandemic, the report said (the economy contracted 8.5% in FY20-21 as per the World Bank's estimate). The Bank expects public consumption to contribute positively, but pent-up private demand to fade by end 2021, as investment will pick up very gradually as a result of a large government capital expenditure push. Negative spillovers from financial sector distress (particularly concessions to debtors) are a risk to the growth outlook, the report warned. However, the Reserve Bank of India is expected to maintain an accommodative monetary policy stance during FY22. "So a big bounce back in India, but not completely out of the woods yet," Mr. Timmer said. As to the second wave that is possibly under way now in India and its impact on the economic outlook, Mr. Timmer said that these new waves and new variants of the virus were part of the risk factors to the outlook. ❐

India posts current account deficit of 0.2% in December quarter

India's current account swung to a deficit for the first time in the current fiscal, with the gap coming at $1.7 billion or 0.2% of the GDP in the December quarter. In the current fiscal, as the pandemic impacted trade, the current account had been in surplus in the previous two quarters, at $15.1 billion and $19 billion, respectively, as per the data on balance of payments released by the RBI recently. The critical measure of a country's external strength now stands at a surplus of 1.7% of GDP for the first nine months of the fiscal year as against a deficit of 1.2% in the year-ago period. In the December quarter, there was a rise in the merchandise trade deficit to $34.5 billion from $14.8 billion in the preceding quarter, and an increase in net investment income payments. Net services receipts increased to $23.6 billion, both sequentially and on a year-on-year basis, primarily on the back of higher net export earnings from computer services, the RBI said. Private transfer receipts, which mainly represent remittances by the diaspora, came at $20.7 billion for the reporting quarter. This was a marginal decline when compared to October-December 2019 period but a gain of 1.5% when compared with July-September 2020 period. According to the data, net outgo on the primary income account, primarily reflecting payments of investment income, increased to $10.1 billion from $7.4 billion a year ago. In the financial account, net foreign direct investment recorded a robust inflow of $17 billion in the December quarter as compared with $9.7 billion in the year-ago period. ■

Handloom Industry has to leverage technology and digital platform to prevent its worsening

Handlooms in India have a rich cultural heritage and are renowned the world over for their craftsmanship since ancient times. While the cultural significance of handlooms has been on the wane in recent times, they have not yet lost their special charm in the textile market, much like how a good painting can be a show-stopper in the era of digital photography. However, this charm does not translate into an improvement in the socio-economic status of the weavers.

This is evident when the production of handloom cloth is compared with the income of weavers. According to the latest Handloom Census 2019-20, the overall number of weavers decreased by 19 per cent from 43.31 lakh in 2009-10 to 35.25 lakh in 2019-20. During the same period, the production of cloth in the handloom sector increased quite significantly (Figure 1), which implies an increase in the yield.

However, this increase did not result in any significant improvement for the weavers as 67 per cent of the weavers in the sector earned less than even unskilled labour.

The other worrying symptom for the handloom sector is in the export market, which is concentrated only around products like carpets, rugs and other furnishings; other handloom products, which have the same richness in quality and heritage, are not exported much.

In addition, the export market across most of these product categories has been stagnant over the last few years.

While these are just the symptoms that are apparent in the handloom sector, understanding the underlying problems will help achieve sustainable growth. The major problems can be categorised.

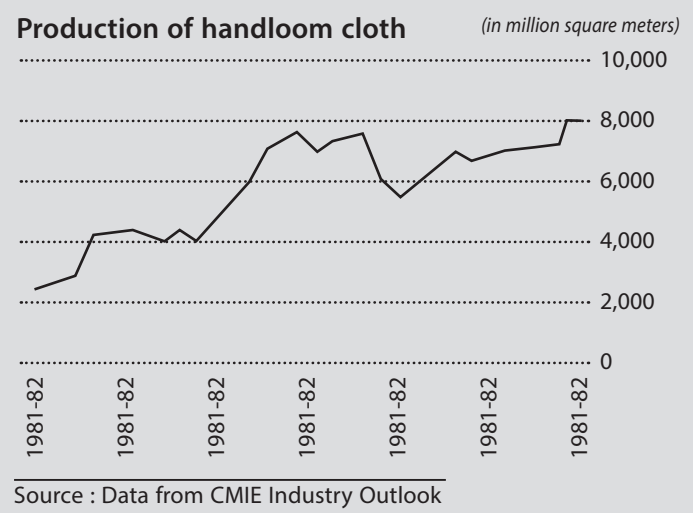
Low income : As per the minimum wage rule, a handloom worker should be able to earn a minimum amount of ₹6,275 per month. But there are still 27,48,445 weavers (67 per cent of handloom workers) earning less than ₹5,000 per month. Weaving is simply not a sustainable economic activity.

Reach of credit facilities : In rural areas, where around 87 per cent of the weavers are present, the banking penetration amongst weavers is just 20 per cent. At an aggregate level, the banking penetration is 23.3 per cent, which indicates that around 76 per cent of the weavers do not have access to banking facilities, let alone being able to get credit facilities from banks.

Due to this limitation, weaver households depend on other sources of credit, which have higher rates of interest. Out of the 31 lakh weaver households in India, only 39,438 households (1.3 per cent) avail themselves of credit from any source, which is a significantly low number.

Attracting new weavers : As an age-old tradition, the art of handloom is passed on from generation to the next by the weavers. However, in the current scenario, weavers are hesitant to encourage the next generations to take up weaving. This is evident from the fall in number of weavers less than 35 years of age from 26.13 lakh in 2009-10 to 16.07 lakh in 2019-20.

Figure 1



Source : Data from CMIE Industry Outlook

Raw material : As per the 2019-20 Census, 76.6 per cent of yarn is purchased by weavers as raw material in the open market and the rest from co-operative societies and government. Since most of the yarn is purchased in the open market as weavers cannot afford to stock raw material, they end up with low margins and are unable to earn higher profits.

Marketing : In India, most of the handlooms enjoy prominence only in their locality and people elsewhere are unaware of the existence of many other varieties. Poor marketing and the industry's inability to adopt newer marketing techniques are the main reasons for this. As much as 64 per cent of the open market sales happens in the local markets. Also, the handloom sector has been unable to utilise e-commerce as an effective channel since digital literacy amongst weavers is low.

The 'Indian handlooms' website is promoting e-commerce sales via platforms such as Weavesmart, GoCoop, Amazon, Flipkart, etc. Most of the e-commerce channels promoted in the Indian Handlooms website are either generic marketplaces, which deal with a large variety of products, or websites exclusive to handlooms but confined to products of a specific region. Each of these channels have their own set of problems which makes development of an authentic e-commerce source for purchase of handloom products necessary for the improvement of the handloom industry.

Branding : This has a huge impact on the purchase behaviour of consumers. Lately, many private brands like 'FabIndia' and 'Raymond Khadi' are selling handloom products. Branding has resulted in the prices of the products going up. However, this does not benefit the weaver due to the presence of middlemen.

Moreover, the creation of individual brands by external players camouflages the weavers' identity and place of origin of various handloom cloths. For example, when customers purchase a khadi shirt, they do not know where it originated from.

Purchasing behaviour of consumers : This is changing, with many now preferring to shop online than offline. Since weavers cannot reach the online consumers directly, many of them do not know the exact demand for their products and also are unable to get good margins.

Suggestion

The problems faced by the weavers can be addressed by leveraging e-commerce, which, in turn, can bridge the gap between the consumers and weavers. The e-commerce platform can also help in increasing the foreign sales of Indian handloom products.

An exclusive e-commerce website, with relevant logistics support, needs to be created to sell authentic Indian handloom products. This should ultimately provide a sales avenue for weavers, while increasing the visibility and reach of Indian handlooms to the consumers.

Handlooms are exported generally in the form of traditional Indian attires. To increase the demand abroad, handloom products should be tailored as per the needs of the foreign markets. A group of designers can be hired to understand the fashion trends of the West and guide the weaver community.

With the change in consumer preferences towards comfort and sustainability, handlooms are regaining prominence gradually around the world. However, Covid-19 has hit handloom other sectors badly. If the industry had a good digital presence, revival would have been easier for the industry. It is time that the handloom industry leveraged technology and digital platforms to become sustainable. ■

Cotton farmers earn more with application of AI solutions

Cotton farmers in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Telangana have seen reduction in damage due to pink bollworm and quality improvement of their crop using AI-based pest management application, according to a report by Wadhwani Institute for AI.

The solution, built by the Institute, works on a simple smartphone and provides real-time, localised, and accurate pest advisory that can help the farmers mitigate the pest problem and save crops. The solution, which works in eight Indian languages, gives recommendations for use of pesticide based on the intensity of the pink bolloworm attack.

Wadhawani Institute said the solution is deployed in four districts across three states in India has helped cotton farmers improve cotton quality and helped in saving cost. While India is the largest producer and among the top exporters of cotton in the world; more than 75% of the nearly 6 million cotton farmers in India are small-holder farmers.

The institute in a report said the farmers in the three states have witnessed 17% increase in yield; they received 8% higher price due to the increase in quality of cotton.

In kharif 2019-20, the solution was deployed with more than 17,000 farmers across Maharashtra, Gujarat and Telangana, three of the largest cotton-producing states in India, in partnership with Welspun Foundation and Deshpande Foundation, members of the Better Cotton Initiative. "We were given a problem in 2017-18 by the Maharashtra government when there was an attack by pink bolloworm and that damaged 60-70% of the crop," said Rajesh Jain, senior director-programmes at Wadhwani Institute. ■

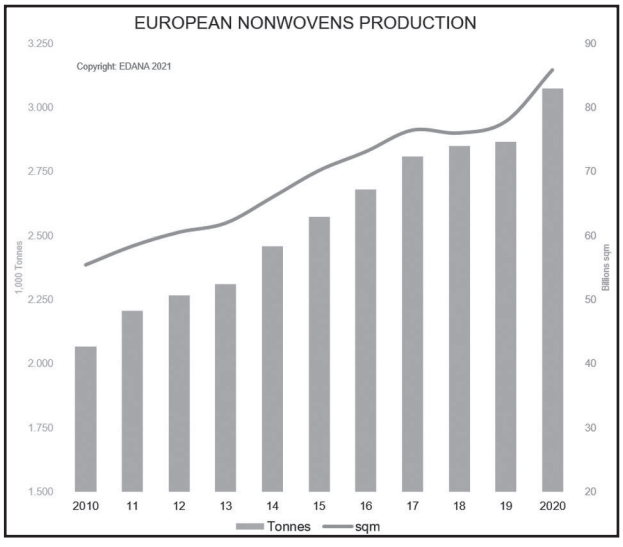
European Nonwoven production grows by over 7% to exceed 3 million tonnes in 2020

Edana Statistics focussing the crucial role played by nonwovens during the pandemic

EDANA, the leading global association serving the nonwovens and related industries, recently disclosed the results of its annual survey of European nonwovens production. Providing a comprehensive overview of the sector, thelatest statistics demonstrate the industry's drive and durability during a period of unprecedented change to demand drivers and supply chains.

According to figures collected and compiled by the EDANA secretariat, production of nonwovens in Greater Europe grew by 7.2% in 2020 to reach 3,075,615 tonnes (and 85.9 billion square metres) with a total estimated turnover of €9,555 million. The total output of the 27 European Union countriesis now over 2.15 million tonnes.

Jacques Prigneaux, EDANA's Market Analysis and Economic Affairs Director elaborated on the main drivers for the impressive growth rate, which well outpaced the annual average growth rate over the last decade of 4.0%, "the highest demand for materials intensively used to fight the pandemic impacted the production. Spunmelt and Drylaid-Hydroentangled nonwovens witnessed two-digit growth rates in both weight and surface area. Thanks to the development in similar applications, the growth in the Wetlaid nonwovens was also substantial last year.Airlaid production, with opposite trends in different applications, recorded a flat situation compared to a year before.



"The main end-use for nonwovens remains the hygiene market with a 28% share of deliveries, amounting to 857,940 tonnes, a 9.6% growth in 2020. For obvious reasons, the most significant growth areas for nonwovens in 2020 were observed in medical (+118.0%) and wipes/personal wipes (+22.0%) followed by garments (+32.6 %)".

In contrast, major declines were noticed in automotive interiors (down 23%), floor coverings, table linen and interlinings. Additionally, several important durable sectors in terms of volumes sold, such as in construction markets and liquid filtration showed limited growth and, in the case of agricultural applications, negative growth.

"Thanks to a convergence of efforts of the participating companies and of the EDANA staff in the last few years, these results are based on the collection of actual data from an increasing number of companies and not less than 118 companies/plants directly reported their 2020 returns this year. More and more accurate figures will certainly make these statistics ever more relevant for planning and benchmarking purposes within member companies" said Jacques.

Pierre Wiertz, General Manager of EDANA said "Behind those figures we see first and foremost the efforts and labour of thousands of women and men who can be proud of working for companies whose purpose has always been, but is perhaps now recognised better than ever, to contribute to deliver excellence for the well-being and health of fellow citizens.

"The modest and yet essential role of these annual EDANA statistics – the most comprehensive available in the world– has been now for 50 years, to document this performance and provide this unique source of business intelligence to our member companies, thanks to direct input from producers and exhaustive market insight."

Further statistical detail and analysis is available in the report "2020 European Nonwovens Market Insights", shared with all EDANA members. EDANA members who are nonwoven producers will receive more detailed data, in recognition of their survey participation. Members can also access comprehensive figures across a full range of applications and production processes via the EDANA Statistics App.

About EDANA

EDANA helps its members to design their future, serving more than 300 companies in the nonwovens and related industries, across over 35 countries. Its mission is to create the foundation for sustainable growth of the nonwovens and related industries through active promotion, education and dialogue.

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Apparel retailers being worse-impacted amid 2nd wave of Covid infection

After a strong start to the March quarter, restrictions following the second wave of Covid infections have dented the sales growth of most segments, with apparel retailers being the worst-impacted.

A sales update by retailers for the March quater conveys strong growth over the year-ago quarter, which had a weak base.

While grocery retailers such as Avenue Supermarts have reported 17 per cent growth in the quarter, Titan (jewellery) saw sales spurt 60 per cent, and quick-service restaurants too are expected to have posted double-digit growth. Among discretionary categories, footwear, innerwear/ athleisure, and kitchen applicances too are expected to sustain strong growth.

Apparel retailers, however, are expected to be at the bottom of the growth chart with average sales either flattish or marginally lower year on year. While higher footfalls at the start of the quarter were aided by end-of-season sales, the gains were offset by a temporary shutdown of malls and stores and other restrictions by state governments, including sales being restricted to essential categories.

Within the segment, the exceptions are Trent and V-Mart, which are expected to post high single-digit growth, led by Zudio stores and a non-metro presence. Higher demand for athleisure and a lower base would also help Page Industries and TCNS Clothing report double-digit growth.

In the near term, the sector faces multiple headwinds both on account of lockdown in multiple states as well as a rise in raw material costs. Companies with a higher presence in Maharashtra will be hit more than pan-Indian players. About 29 per cent of Shoppers Stop stores are in Maharashtra, while the metric for Avenue Supermarts and Westlife Development is 36 per cent and 41 per cent, respectively.

While the margin trajectory is improving, Edelweiss Research high-lights that raw material costs are witnessing a spike, especially for apparel players, with yarn prices rising by 30 per cent over the past six months. The impact on profitability, however, is lower than was the case last year when the sudden lockdown caught them unawares.

Analysts at ICICI Securities say companies have rationalised many fixed-cost items and strengthened their balance sheet via equity dilution over the past year and are in a much better position to operate in the pandemic-hit environment. Investors should await consistent growth improvement before considering investment in the retail space. ■

Jute mills forced to halt operation due to scarcity of raw jute

Four jute mills nemely Delta, Hanuman, Wellington and Budge Budge in the state have stopped operations for shortage of raw jute while 25 more are at the brink of closure.

Despite fresh government orders and the industry's commitment to supply 7.3 lakh bales equivalent of B Twill or jute sacks between April and June this year to the state food procurement agencies and the Food Corporation of India, millers fear that the industry will fall in keeping its commitment.

The shortage of raw jute is to the extent of 5-7 lakh bales but the crisis has been aggravated with the Jute Commissioner's (JC) office mismanaging supplies and failing to control prices. Raw jute prices are at the level of ₹8,000 per quintal at present. Further, the JC's recent raw jute stock holding order for 72 jute mills have left the jute millers in a quandary since the specified stock limit for each of the 72 jute mills doesn't exceed more than a month's stock, according to the Indian Jute Mills Association (IJMA).

IJMA director Debahish Roy said while some jute mills have more stock of high quality raw jute and less stock of low quality raw jute some have just the reverse. The imbalance in stock is either disenabling the millers to produce sacks or to produce hessian fabric.

The IJMA has already urged the jute commissioner to withdraw the latest order restricting raw jute stock or "the jute industry will heavily fall in its commitment for supply of B Twill bags, thereby defeating the very purpose of reservation of packaging food grains in jute bags as mandated under the JPM Act 1987," Roy stated in a written communication to JC.

The letter also states that the earlier order in January this year, "has failed to elicit desired effect due to actual shortage of raw jute during the crop year 2020-21." The JC's January order while specifying stock limit for each and every jute mill of the country's 72 jute mills, also asked the jute mills to file weekly stock returns instead of monthly stock returns to prevent brisk buying. This order was kept valid up to July but a section of millers and balers moved the Calcutta high court challenging the order. ■

AWARENESS TOWARDS CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AMONG CONSUMERS

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Abstract

Corporate Social Responsibility is a broad term used to describe a company's efforts to improve society. The importance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) emerged significantly in the last decade. Over the time, CSR expanded to include both economic and social interests. Present research is focused to find out awareness level of consumers' regarding CSR. The results of study indicates that some consumers' had some extent of awareness, however awareness towards CSR is still not sufficient and only confines to social responsibilities that closely related to their economic interest.

Keywords : Awareness, Consumers, Corporate Social Responsibility.

Introduction

Corporate Social Responsibility, often abbreviated as "CSR" is a corporation's initiatives to assess the responsibility for the company's effect on environmental and social wellbeing. The term generally applies to effort that go beyond what may be required by regulators or environmental protection group. The importance of CSR emerged significantly in the last decade. Over the time, CSR expanded to include both economic and social interests. Companies have become more transparent in accounting and display 'public reporting' due to pressures from various stakeholders. It is possible for companies to behave in the 'desired' ethical and responsible manner towards consumers, employees, communities, stakeholders and environment. They have started incorporating their CSR initiative in their annual reports. At one end of the spectrum, CSR can be viewed simply as a collection of good citizenship activities being engaged by various organizations.

CSR practices in apparel industry emphasises the perspective view of supplier selection, considering CSR issues as opposed to traditional methods using conventional selection criteria such as cost, quality, delivery and service. It employ some of the CSR criteria such as discrimination, abuse of human rights, child labour, long working hours, unfair competition and pollution to assess small- and medium-sized suppliers who produce and deliver products to the automotive and textile industry sectors. In order to gain the positive professional repute, the apparel industries are carrying out social responsibilities more gravely. Strategies are continuously implemented with regard to the issues like child labour, low wages, work place safety, employee's health and impact on the environment.

Consumers' might become more affluent because of increasing level of awareness, towards corporate actions, which eventually influence their decision about buying behaviour. Those consumers with a higher level of awareness or concern of CSR are more likely to show positive attitudes towards the sponsoring firm and its products, and have a higher level of purchase intention.

They may have good intensions but their actual actions are mostly limited to shopping, donation and boycotting products. Higher consumer's rights awareness lead to consumers demand for increased CSR from the companies. Consumer's positive attitude towards CSR encourages firms to act and behave responsibly and ethically. Responsible socially, environmental and economic consumers will help consumers to improve their insecurities towards the CSR products or services. Their rights may not be exploited by the CSR implemented companies. The main objective of the study is to find awareness of consumers towards Corporate Social Responsibility.

Review of Literature

Ali (2015) studied consumer perception about CSR apparel which was based on survey. Target population for the collection of the data was hundred participants within the age group of 18 to 50 years. It was found that, there were 81% of consumers who had desire to buy CSR apparel and 19% do not have the same desire, because they were not affected by social impact behind the implementation of CSR.

Axelsson & Jahan (2015) attempted to analyse the consumer attitude towards CSR within the fast fashion industry. A sample of hundred respondents in Cubus was polled to determine the main attributes related to fast fashion consumption. A pre study with consumers was also conducted earlier to know about Cubus, consumer's behaviour. It was found that, the fifty seven % consumers were having positive attitude towards CSR within fast

fashion and forty three % respondents were with negative attitude towards CSR.

Gigauri (2014) describes attitudes of Georgian consumers towards corporate social responsibility, purpose of his study was to define awareness of Georgian consumers' towards CSR, and also to determine that will the effect of CSR can make changes in the attitudes of consumers. Hundred respondents were there, who were selected by non- probability purposive sampling method the response of questions which were mailed. Results indicate that fifty two % of population having positive attitude as they were more concern about CSR social prospects and forty eight % do not have, as they do not want to implement them.

Safi (2013), explained in his study about CSR and consumer behaviour of Pakistan, which was based on interviews with five hundred consumers' in Pakistan. They were personally administered and interviewed. Collected data was analysed in order to know the significant level and variable relation. The results demonstrate that, there was a significant relation between all CSR elements and consumer behaviour. The economic responsibility has significant relation with consumer behaviour followed by philanthropic, legal and at last ethical responsibilities respectively.

DucHieu (2011) studied awareness of manager and consumers' about CSR in Vietnam; Thirty companies were personally interviewed in three main sectors, namely banking, brewery and clothing textiles. Consumers' in Ha no and Ho Chi Minh cities were interviewed which have more concentration on CSR issues. The results indicated that a high level of awareness towards CSR in consumers' and managers. They both have clear attitude but their purchasing decisions influence significant on the CSR implementation as well as CSR disclosure of the companies.

There is a need to increase the awareness regarding CSR. After getting proper knowledge about CSR they can make changes in their buying behaviour, which will create positivity in the environment and help them to make changes in their behaviour for the beneficial of the society.

Methodology

Locale : the study was conducted in Jaipur city

Sample Size : Eighty consumers were selected for the study out of which 40 were males and 40 were females.

Sampling Method : The data was gathered from respondents by purposive sampling technique from the Jaipur city.

Data Collection : The data was collected through interview schedule based on consumer awareness towards CSR. The schedule consists of 15 items related to awareness level of consumers towards CSR. The interview Schedule helped in categorizing subjects possessing low and high practices followed in apparel industries.

Data Analysis : The collected data was transferred and tabulated. The analysis was done through frequency and %age. Chi-Square test was also used to analysis the data.

Table-1

Distribution of the respondents on basis of Gender

(N=80)

Gender	Aware		Not –Aware	
	f	%	f	%
Male	29	72.50	11	27.50
Female	20	50.00	20	50.00

Table 1 shows that 72.50% of males are aware about CSR and remaining 27.50% males were notaware. Whereas in case of females, 50.00% are aware about CSR and remaining 50.00% were not aware. It is inferred that on the basis of gender, the awareness level about CSR varies. It is inferred that males are more aware about CSR than females.

Table-2

Chi-Square Test for Awareness Level of Consumers on the Basis of Gender

Case processing summary

	Valid		Missing		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Awareness level of consumers on the basis of gender	80	100	0	0.00	80	100

Chi- square test

	Value	df	Asymp. significance
Pearson chi- square	6.925	9	.645
Likelihood ratio	8.159	9	.518
Linear by – linear association	2.157	1	.142
No. of valid cases	80		

It is indicated in table 2 that the value of Pearson chi- square is 0.645. It is seen that the value is more than 0.05; hence we can accept the null hypothesis that gender has an indicating impact on awareness level.

Table -3

Level of Awareness among Consumers' on the Basis of Occupation

(N=80)

Occupation	Aware		Not –Aware	
	f	%	f	%
Business	32	68.08	15	31.92
Service	17	51.51	16	48.49

Table 3 revealsthe awareness level of consumers' who are involved in business, 68% of the respondentsare aware about CSR and 31.92% are not aware. While respondents who are from service class, 51.51% of consumers' are aware about CSR and 48.49% are not aware about CSR. Hence it can be inferred that consumers' who are involved in business are more aware about CSR. They have an obligation from the government to give 2% of their profit towards the CSR.

Table-4

Chi- Square Test for Awareness Level of Consumers on the Basis of Occupation

Case processing summary

	Valid		Missing		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Awareness level of consumers on the basis of occupation	80	100	0	0.00	80	100

Chi- square test

	Value	df	Asymp. significance
Pearson chi- square	10.971	9	.278
Likelihood ratio	12.356	9	.194
Linear by – linear association	1.033	1	.310
No. of valid cases	80		

Table 4 reveals the value of Pearson chi-square as 0.278. It is seen that the value is more than 0.05; hence, we can accept the null hypothesis that occupation has an impact on awareness level.

Table 5

Level of Awareness among Consumers' on the Basis of Income Level

(N=80)

Income level (Rs)	Aware		Not –Aware	
	f	%	f	%
2,00,000- 4,00,000	18	64.28	10	35.72
4,00,000-6,00,000	9	37.50	15	62.50
6,00,000- above	19	67.85	9	32.15

Table 5 indicates that 64.28% consumers are in income bracket of Rs. 2,00,000- 4,00,000, 64.28% are aware about CSR and remaining 32.72% consumers in the same income bracket are not aware about CSR. Thirty seven percent consumers' were from the income bracket of Rs. 4,00,000 – 6,00,000, 37.50% were aware about CSR and remaining 62.50% of consumers' within the same income bracket were not aware about CSR. Consumers' in 6,00,000 & above, 67.85% are aware about CSR and 32.15% of consumers' of same income bracket are not aware about CSR. Hence awareness is more in income level of 6,00,000 & above. Hence it is concluded that higher the income, greater is the awareness level towards CSR.

Table-6

Chi- Square Test for Awareness Level of Consumers on the Basis of Income Level

Case processing summary

	Valid		Missing		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Awareness level of consumers on the basis of gender	80	100	0	0.00	80	100

Chi- square test

	Value	Df	Asymp. significance
Pearson chi- square	20.740	18	.293
Likelihood ratio	22.832	18	.197
Linear by – linear association	.193	1	.661
No. of valid cases	80		

Table 6 indicates that the value of Pearson chi-square is 0.293. It is seen that the value is more than 0.05; hence we can accept the null hypothesis indicating that income level has an impact on awareness level.

Conclusion

On the basis of the results itis concluded that most of the respondents are aware about corporate social responsibility. They have knowledge about the about CSR and are also involved in conducting those activities related to CSR. CSR policy should function as a built-in, self-regulating mechanism whereby business would monitor and ensure its support to law, ethical standards, and international norms.

Consequently, CSR-focused businesses should proactively promote the public interest by encouraging community growth and development, and voluntarily eliminating practices that harm the public, regardless of legality.

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TRAFFIC LIGHT-SYSTEM—A QUALITY TOOL FOR APPAREL INDUSTRY

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Abstract

Globalisation makes apparel manufacturers face very steep competition worldwide. Now to keep up competing in the international market manufacturers have to focus on both quality and productivity continually. Compare to other quality inspection tool, the traffic light inspection system is widely used in the apparel industry.

The demand for better quality at a lower price is increasing and to survive, apparel manufacturers need to improve and optimise their operations by producing the right-first-time quality and waste reduction. Hence, the traffic light system will be one of the best visual tools for inspection of the garment.

Keywords : quality, productivity, traffic light, apparel, inspection.

1. Introduction

Apparel industries are more quality conscious as they have to face steep competition from the global market. Traffic light system is one of the most efficient tools to optimise the product quality at the source point. This is the random inspection system. Compare to other tools this system is more effective in controlling shop floor quality because of its visual communication. Simultaneously this system measures the operator's performance. Hence more operators are excelling to produce better quality with productivity. They concentrate on quality aspect during stitching garments.

In the apparel industry, the rework cost of the garment is doubled the manufacturing cost. It always seems to be right to produce right-first-time quality and this system is used to stop producing defect at the source only.

2. Scope of the traffic light system in the apparel industry

The scope of this Traffic Light System emphasizes the sewing quality assurance, through inline individual process inspections. This inline process inspection shall be conducted as per the controlled machine layout plan and customers requirement. This inspection requires verifying the assembled accuracy apparel cut panels as per the style specification. This procedure also covers the rectification of the sewing process & requires a re-inspection with a frequency.

3. Definition

Traffic light quality system works similarly to the transportation traffic light system works. Like the transportation system, it includes three quality signal cards: green, yellow and red. In the production line, a card characterizes each worker and the card is being hanged above his/her head.

Green is for good quality, yellow is for warning condition and red stands for stopping the production due to quality fault. Seven-piece quality checking system has been implemented and the quality controllers were instructed to check the quality status every two hours interval and collect data of each worker regularly.

4. Methodology

The method used for the implementation of this traffic light system is very simple and easy to understand. The format was prepared for quality audit and it was printed on the A4 sheet. The sheet is hanged on the sewing machine. During the audit, the auditor visits each workstation 4 to 5 times in a shift. The auditor marks the circles with colour coding. In today's modern apparel manufacturing system, the light is placed at the top of each workstation. So as and when the auditor takes the round, he will check the quality aspect of the garment and mark it accordingly.

4.1 Defect, colour code & Frequency of Q.C. Visit

The working is same as that of transportation traffic light system, which has three, lights as Red, Yellow and Green for controlling traffic. In the production line, each worker is characterized by a card. Green is for good quality, yellow is for warning condition and red stands for stopping the production due to quality.

Colour code	Defects inspected	Frequency of Auditor visit	Action Required
	5 or more defects per ten inspected	Thrice per hour	1. Show the corrected method to the operator 2. Involve the mechanic to solve a mechanical problem.
	2 to 5 defects per ten inspected	Twice per hour	Inform operator supervisor to take a note of the process
	No defects	Once per hour	None

Figure 1 : Traffic light system as per defects

The quality auditors are instructed to check the quality status at every two hours interval. The data collected will be analysed for the five pieces quality checking system. Which ensures that each machine operator will be assessed related to the quality and productivity aspects.

As shown in figure 1, the operator with zero defects will be characterised by green card. An operator who commits single defects checked out of five pieces will be warned by giving yellow mark or card. This implies that the particular operator has to be more conscious about the quality of the product. For the operator who commits multiple defects a red sticker is marked which implies that the particular worker has to be focused more related to quality issues and extra care should be taken to this worker.

4.2 Inline process visit of Q.C. Colour code flag raising & Process rectification

A quality person will check for the quality aspects of the line and according to the colour, the flag will be given to each operator as shown in table 1.

4.3 Data Acquisition

The concerned quality controller shall generate Operator quality performance report. Which is filled with the following information

- Operator name, ID Number, Unit number and Line number
- If style change the marking circle area shall be blank
- If machine problem the marking circle's area shall be blue

4.4 Data Authentication and verification

Operator quality performance report shall be authenticated and must be verified by the line chief, Asst. quality manager, production manager and Manager Q.A. as per the requirement of the report format.

4.5 Corrective action and Preventive action

Any non-conformance product and non-productive factor is the factor of time loss & it involves the cost. If any inconsistency found with any stages of cutting, sewing or any other processes, first to find out the root cause if it is a personeven. There after analysing the cause of non-conformance & make the action plan. If it is, a floor visit suggestion from any customer regarding the non-conformance the organization shall document it as a record & must have the defined action plan.

Table 1 : Frequency of QC visit at the defective sewing inline process

1st check	Colour of flag	Time	2nd check	Colour of flag	Time	3rd check	Colour of flag	Time	4th check	Colour of flag	Time
0 fault	Green	1/hr	None	Green	1/hr						
1 fault	Yellow	2/hr	None	Green	1/hr						
1 fault	Yellow	2/hr	1 fault	Red	2/hr	None	Yellow	2/hr	None	Green	
1 Fault	Yellow	2/hr	1 fault	Red	2/hr	1 fault	Red & stop	If 2 red stop/ inform QA manager & line chief			
2 or more red	Red	2/hr	None	Yellow	2/hr						
2 or more red	Red	2/hr	1 or more	Red & stop							

The extra care related to the whole behaviour of the operator may be related to the training of the operator, or related to any other concerned problems could be resolved. Management should not consider this as a tool to push or scold the operator but they have to motivate and aware of them in such a way that the quality cannot be built into the product but it has to be inspected and produce zero defects. Therefore, they will be ready to do the quality for the first time and every time.

5. Emoluments

The emoluments and appreciation should be given to the best worker and the best line that scores highest. It is also suggested to honour the operators performing better in the industry like giving

TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM–A QUALITY TOOL FOR APPAREL INDUSTRY

awards as an outstanding performer. Besides, the best quality badge throughout the month should be provided to the best operator so that they can feel proud and others will be inspired to achieve the highest quality level in the product.

Conclusion

Traffic light system is simple and easy to implement system for visual inspection of the garments. This will definitely help to optimise the cost and the best quality of the goods. Rework or reject cost is double the manufacturing cost of the garment, hence the traffic light system is one of the best tools to inspect the visual quality of the garment. Implementation of the traffic light system will help to get more quality products from the operators.

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Arrival of over 90% of this season's cotton took place in Market : Trade body

Over 90 per cent of the cotton crop for the current season (October 2020-September 2021 has arrived in various markets across the country as on March 31, according to the Cotton Association of India (CAI).

In a press release, the cotton trade body said that against the projected production of 360 lakh bales (170 kg each), 326.76 lakh bales had already arrived in various parts by March-end.

Total cotton supplies during in the first six months of the season stood at 459.26 lakh bales. Besides the market arrivals, the supplies included 7.50 lakh bales of imports and a record opening stock of 125 lakh bales at the beginning of the season.

On the consumption front, CAI has estimated that a total 165 lakh bales of cotton has been utilised by the end-users.

Overall, the cotton trade body has retained its projected consumption of 330 lakh bales for the season of 2020-21 (October to September).

Atul Ganatra, President of CAI, said that there is an increase of 80 lakh bales in the cotton consumption estimate compared with the previous year's offtake estimate of 250 lakh bales. "The consumption is estimated to reach its normal level this year after the disruptions and labour shortage caused by the lockdown imposed in the country to arrest the spread of Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

After its latest review for the crop estimate for the month of March, CAI has hiked the production estimate to 360 lakh bales from previously estimated 358.5 lakh bales for the season.

The upward revision of 1,50,000 bales is attributed to a brightened crop prospects in the Northern part of the country, i.e., 50,000 bales each in Haryana, Upper Rajasthan and Lower Rajasthan. CAI has retained its cotton export projections of 60 lakh bales for the season, but it has noted that cotton imports will be lower by about one lakh bales at 11 lakh bales against earlier estimates of 12 lakh bales.

As for the stock position, spinning mills are estimated to have about 95 lakh bales in their warehouses as on March 31, with an average of 107 days' cotton stock.

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Maharashtra Federation, Multinational companies, ginners, traders and MCX are estimated to have a total stock of about 156.26 lakh bales of stock as on March 31.

CAI has projected to close the current cotton year October-September (2020-21) with a closing stock of about 106 lakh bales. ■

MARKETING OF VARIOUS NATURAL FIBRES TO OBTAIN VARIOUS NONWOVEN END USE PRODUCTS

Prof. (Dr.) N. B. Timble, Ph.D(USA)NCSU
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Abstract

In this paper first the list of various natural fibers is mentioned. Afterwards the end uses of the nonwoven fabrics made from each of the fibers is summarized. Finally the usefulness of the paper is stated.

List of natural fibers

Cotton(ORGANIC, PLANT, SEED)

Kapok (ORGANIC, PLANT, SEED)

MILKWEED (ORGANIC, plant, seed)

FLAX(Organic, plant, Stem)

Hemp (organic, plant, stem)

Jute (Organic, plant, stem)

Kenaf(organic. Plant, stem)

Coir (organic, plant, fruit)

Wool(organic, animal)

Silk(Organic, animal)

Asbestos(Inorganic)

Pineapple

Abaca

Sisal

APPLICATIONS OF NONWOVEN FABRICS MADE FROM VARIOUS NATURAL FIBERS

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from cotton fibers

- Wipes (decontamination)
- Female Hygiene items
- Diapers
- Grown up incontinence items
- Oil Absorption (oil spill cleanups)
- Car composites

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from kapok fibers

- Pillow fillings
- Stuffing's and fillings in beddings
- Upholstery
- Life preservers
- Water safety equipment
- Sound and heat insulation
- Apparel

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from milkweed fibers

- Oil sorbents
- Oil spill clean ups
- Sound Insulation
- Insulation materials in automotives and buildings

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from Flax fibers

- Bed
- Shower
- Table
- Kitchen materials
- Towels
- Sheets
- Industrial applications
- Nonwoven composites
- Aquaculture
- Vibration absorption
- UV Blocking
- Foot bridges
- Wind turbine blades
- Thermal insulation
- Geotextiles
- Marine
- Automobile
- Wind mill industry
- Dry filtration
- Mats
- Medical (cancer and wound healing)
- Sterile and Therapeutic articles
- Medicine, health, cosmetology
- Auto interiors
- Acoustic Insulation
- Tennis Racquets
- Boats and Canoes

Application of nonwoven fabrics made from hemp fibers

- Thermal insulation in industries and household applications
- Building insulation

MARKETING OF VARIOUS NATURAL FIBRES TO OBTAIN VARIOUS NONWOVEN END USE PRODUCTS

- Erosion control
- Oil sorbents
- Generation of materials
- Dress
- Canvas
- Rope cordage
- Archival level paper
- Paper
- Other development materials
- Automotives
- Mats
- Automotive and construction parts
- Household and industrial utilizations
- Household , industrial and construction uses
- Insulators

APPLICATIONS OF NONWOVEN FABRICS MADE FROM JUTE FIBERS

- Interlinings
  - Sew-in
  - Fusible
  - Stiffeners
- Footwear and leather industry
  - Luggage and Handbag
  - Sewn-up Socks
  - Shoe Liners
- Dry Filtration
- Automotive Application
  - Cushioning
  - Noise reduction Layers
  - Floor Carpets
  - Trays
  - Dash Boards
- Household goods
  - Floor Coverings
  - Wall Coverings
  - Fillings
  - Cover of Furniture
  - Beddings
- Agriculture and Horticulture
  - Crop Covers
  - Mulch Matting
  - Wind Breakers
  - Frost Protectors
  - Capillary
- Civil Engineering and Building Industry
- Other Industrial Application
  - Cable Wrappings
  - Oil Sorbents
  - Load Bearing Components
  - Insulators
  - Panel and Packaging Bag and Sockings
  - Protective Wrappings

OTHER ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS

- Household
- Industrial
- Technical end use
- Chair
- Wash basin
- Tool box
- Signal casing
- Serving tray rain pipe
- Disintegration control in expressway dike and cut slope
- Stream bank security
- Ground detachment capacities
- Filtration in street
- Fortification application in provisional unpaved sheets
- Soil adjustment
- Cake development
- Vegetation to soil
- Thermal insulation
- Warm garments
- Table top
- Corrugated sheet
- Fan blade
- Speaker box
- Country boat
- Decoration
- Furnishing
- Bags
- Soft luggage
- Apron
- Hat

- Gloves
- File cover
- Handicraft items
- Sound absorption
- Floor blankets (acoustic retention in auto interiors)
- Door liners, boot liners and parcel shelves in automobiles
- Floor carpets
- Interior decorations
- Geotechnical applications
- Water proofing
- Filter media
- Coarse and medium filtration (material, tobacco dust, wood flour, paper sheets)

Applications of Kenaf fiber nonwovens

Fluid/particle separation operations (oil adsorption, combination, deep bed filtration, filter aids)

- Composite sheets
- Card boards
- Insulation mats
- Geotextiles
- Automotive interior

Basic divider board to supplant timber based plywood

- Oil spills
- Fabric softener sheets
- Furniture underlays
- Spread stocks
- Barrier textiles for therapeutic and agricultural protective dress
- Mash paper
- Roof tiles
- Enlivening board substrates
- Floor tile substrates
- Auxillary segments
- Waste clean up mats
- Light weight seeded grass mats
- Wild bloom mats
- Vegetable strips
- Erosion control mats
- Oil retention tangles
- Cushions and pads
- Substrate for formed car parts
- Composites
- Prevention of soil erosion
- Weed control clean up of waste liquids
- Furniture
- Kitchen cabinets
- Fixtures
- Wall coverings
- Displays
- Growth medium for the establishment of some warm-season and cool-season grass species

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from wool fibers

- Oil spill cleanups

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from pineapple fibers

- Alternative to leather
- Fashion items and accessories
- Home interiors
- Automotive and aeronautics interiors

Applications of nonwoven fabrics made from abaca fiber

- Crude material for cordage
- Fiber specialities
- Mash
- Security papers
- Tea packs
- Meat housings
- Cigarette papers
- Composites in automotive industry
- Medical gas masks and gowns
- Diapers
- Hospital linen
- bedliners
- Household
- Table cloths
- Bags
- Wall covers
- Sound proofing materials
- Interlinings
- Home textiles

MARKETING OF VARIOUS NATURAL FIBRES TO OBTAIN VARIOUS NONWOVEN END USE PRODUCTS

Application of nonwoven fabrics made from sisal fibers

- Home textiles
- Carpet
- Ropes
- Balers
- Binder twines
- Marine and agricultural purpose
- Paper industry
- Low cost and speciality paper
- Dart boards
- Buffing cloth
- Filters
- Geotextiles
- Mattresses
- Carpets
- Handicrafts
- Wire rope covers
- Macrame
- Cordage and Twine based applications
- Automobile industry
- Blankets
- Mats
- Thermal insulation
- Geotextile

Conclusion

This paper will be useful to natural fiber growers as they will become aware of the potential of each natural fiber to be converted into useful nonwoven fabric products for specific end use.

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As orders pickup, textile sector seeks biz continuity

As the pandemic rages on, threatening to disrupt economic activity, the textile industry, which has never had it so good on the export orders front, has sent out an SoS to the Centre and to state Chief Ministers.

The industry is at an inflection point with strong growth potential thanks to geopolitical factors. It has benefited from reports, in the last 6-8 months, of China using Uighurs in Xinjiang province as forced labour. This led to many top global textile brands moving orders to Indian players.

"I think most Western nations have banned sourcing from China. So, India is having a good deal," T Kannan, Chairman and Managing Director, Thiagarajar Mills, told recently.

Prabhu Dhamodharan, Convenor, Indian Texpreneurs Federation, agreed. "Export order outlook is good, and all developed markets and brands are showing good projections. Retail sales in the US are witnessing a robust trend along with lower levels of inventory with retailers leading to good demand for products like apparels and home textiles. The UK also opened its retail sector with the easing of the lockdown, post mass vaccination," he said, adding that the sector is at the cusp of getting back its mojo. But the rising Covid cases is threatening this dream run. "Though the spike in Covid cases is a concern, we have been telling Western clients that there is no major lockdown and operations of textile units are smooth as most units are spread out in rural areas," he added.

Kannan is hoping that with government support the industry can complete the surging orders and establish India as a strong alternative sourcing base to China. But instances of States announcing lockdowns is worrying the sector. The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) has already written to various Union Ministries and Chief Ministers of several States seeking support for uninterrupted manufacturing.

Any full lockdown, at this point, will tear up the hardwork put in by the apparel export sector over the last one year in getting back on the global map, A Sakthivel, Chairman, AEPC, said in his letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah. ■

Indian apparel industry looking to collaboration with global suppliers of man-made fibre

Indian apparel exporters are looking to collaborate with global man-made fibre (MMF) suppliers to overcome the supply shortfall in the country and improve domestic production quality.

Indian apparels are predominantly cotton-based. However, the bulk of the global demand is in the MMF segment. The global market for MMF garments is estimated at $500 billion, including $170 billion for sportswear. The share of MMF garments in India's total apparel exports is only $1.6 billion, or about 10 per cent, whereas the world trade in MMF garments is to the tune of $200 billion.

The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) has identified man-made fibre-based garments as a sunrise industry due to strong demand in the domestic and international markets.

"As the Indian apparel industry seeks to grab a good share of $200-billion global man-made fibre (MMF)-based garment trade, India companies have sought help from international MMF suppliers to overcome the shortage of the fabric in the short run, and also to improve the quality of local production eventually," said AEPC Chairman A Sakthivel, while addressing a webinar on 'MMF Fabric Sourcing from International Suppliers', hosted by AEPC.

India needs to import MMF from international suppliers to increase manufacturing in the country and for their export.

"We are also interested in attracting investments in fabric processing in the country," he said adding : "India has abundant production of yarn, but is in short supply of good quality MMF fabric as domestic producers lack the latest processing technologies."

There are production facilities in India, but do not have the latest technologies in processing. Indian apparel exporters are keen on a joint venture or technology transfer or 100 per cent investment. Meanwhile, the Indian government has also come out with incentives and initiatives such as establishment of seven mega textile parks to promote MMF production and textile exports.

"AEPC will make all arrangements to facilitate any technology transfer, joint venture or direct investment in India," said Sakthivel.

MMF suppliers from China and Taiwan participated in the webinar and discussed their business and requirements from India. ❐

Jute mill owners hit by capacity constraints to take export orders

Jute mills have stopped taking export orders due to capacity constraints, while shortage of raw jute and rising costs have put mills in a quandary.

The 90-odd jute mills across the country, of which 74 are in West Bengal, are already flooded with the Centre's order of supplying jute sacks equivalent of 24 lakh bales (every jute bale produces 500 sacks). The mills have supplied sacks equivalent to 14 lakh jute bales.

Average price of raw jute touched ₹8,100 per quintal on recent report, an increase of ₹500-600 a quintal in a span of two days. Prices were at ₹7,500-7,600 a quintal on 6th April 2021. The jute commissioner's stock limit of 500 quintals has led to lower inventory, higher logistics cost and increased production cost, mill owners said. "Such a situation has caused the millers and the jute commissioner to lock horns," one mill owner said.

Export orders from Europe, East & South East Asia, West Asia, Africa, South America, North America and the Caribbean Islands started increasing mostly during the last quarter of FY21.

"We have stopped taking orders," Sanjay Kajaria, former chairman of the Indian Jute Mills Association said. He said that since order flows are beyond the mills' capacity, the Centre has announced a ₹2,500-crore package.

For not only modernisation of jute mills, but for opening a few closed jute mills and enabling increased cultivation of better quality raw jute.

Jute products valued at ₹1,823.37 crore were exported between April and December last fiscal. Had mills been able to accept all the orders in the last quarter, exports in FY21 would have gone much beyond the 2,423.45 crore figure achieved in FY20. Total exports of jute products in FY21 (final figures not yet compiled) are still on course to cross the FY20 figure. ❐

Exports grew 282%; imports up 205% during April 1-14

Exports of goods shot up by 282.2 per cent during April 1-14, 2021 (year-on-year) to $13.72 billion on account of last year's low base and also due to an improvement in global demand for Indian goods, according to provisional estimates made by the Commerce Ministry.

Imports during the first two weeks of April 2021 increased 204.88 per cent to $19.93 billion, per estimates.

EXPORT PROSPECTS AND MARKETS

While much of the rise in both exports and imports is accounted for by last year's low base—in April 2020 exports fell by 60.9 per cent and imports by 59.69 per cent — part of the increase is also due to better export performance. In fact, exports in the first two weeks of April 2021 were also higher by 11.81 per cent when compared to the comparable period of April 2019. Imports, too, were higher by 2.94 per cent in April 1-14, 2021 as opposed to the same period in April 2019.

Export, excluding POL (Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants), has also increased in the first two weeks of April 2021 by 284.98 per cent over same period of 2020-21 and by 13.16 per cent over same period of 2019-20, the provisional estimates revealed.

Imports, excluding petroleum, also increased in April 1-14 by 259.65 per cent over same period of 2020-21 and up by 10.92 per cent over same period of 2019-20.

After registering sharp decline in the initial months of 2020-21 due to the Covid-19 pandemic disrupting production and supplies, Indian exports started somewhat stabilising in the later months.

In March 2021, exports posted a record monthly growth of 60.29 per cent (year-on-year) to $34.45 billion pushed by sectors such as engineering goods, electronics, petroleum products, gems & jewellery and pharmaceuticals.

In the fiscal year April-March 2021, however, exports declined by 7.26 per cent to $290.63 billion compared to the previous fiscal. ❐

Higher global consumption leads to boost India's cotton shipments

India's cotton exports are set to get further boost with global cotton consumption seen going up and production declining.

In its latest cotton demand and supply estimates, the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) has raised the global consumption projections to 24.5 million tonnes (mt) for 2020-21 season (August-July) against 22.8 mt the previous year.

"With some signs of recovery, the seven per cent expected growth in mill-use would not be a complete rebound from the losses incurred during the pandemic but would exceed production for the current season," ICAC stated in its estimates released recently. However, the rise in the global consumption will boost prospects for Indian cotton exports. Cotton Association of India (CAI) had projected India's cotton exports at 54 lakh bales (each of 170 kg) for the season 2020-21 against 50 lakh bales in the previous year. This, according to trade sources, is likely to further go up by the end of the season in September 2021.

A Rajkot-based exporter said that at current higher rates of nearly 89 cents per pound, Indian prices competitive in the exports market.

The cotton trade has estimated that at least 37 lakh bales (170 kg each) have been exported until February-end, which is seen as a good sign for more shipments.

Indian exporters can look to capitalise on the uptrend in the international cotton prices towards 90 cents. July ICE Cotton futures quoted at 91.52 cents per pound. In India, cotton futures on BSE quoted at ₹46,950 per candy (each of 356 kg of processed ginned cotton), against February's ₹44,275.

Atul Ganatra, President, CAI, said that India's cotton consumption is still sub-par, hence the outlook provided by the ICAC will not have much bearing on the Indian market.

"We are a surplus cotton country. Spinning mills in South India are still not operating at full capacity. This means, there is not much room for India's domestic consumption to go up," said Ganatra. ❐

Pakistan's textile industry in despair over Govt's U-turn

Pakistan's struggling textile industry has voiced its disappointment after the Imran Khan government rejected a proposal to import cotton from India, the world's biggest producer, saying it is the need of the hour to avoid a massive export decline, a media report said.

The Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Khan on 1st April rejected the proposal of a high-powered committee to import cotton from India, with Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi asserting that there can be no normalisation of ties until New Delhi reverses its decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Cabinet's decision has dis-appointed the textile export industry, the *Dawn* newspaper quoted Pakistan Apparel Forum chairman Jawed Bilwani as saying.

The textile export sector, which was already under pressure due to the Covid-19 pandemic, has been continuously demanding duty-free import of cotton yarn from all over the world, including India, to avert any big loss to textile exports. The step would send a negative message to foreign buyers as cotton yarn was not available in the country, he said, adding that prices of cotton yarn have increased after the Cabinet's decision.

"The government must ensure availability of cottony yarn if it did not want to allow its import from India," Bilwani said as he feared massive textile export decline if import of cotton yarn from the neighbouring country was not allowed.

In the current year, Pakistan faced a 40 per cent plunge in cotton production and if it was compared with 15 million bales in 2014-2015, then the drop was 50 per cent this year, he said. Bilwani said sea freights have already increased by 700 per cent due to the pandemic and the goods now reach their foreign destination in 105 days instead of 25 days. "If the government did not want to permit import of cotton yarn from India then it must impose a ban on export of cotton and cotton yarn for at least next five months," he added.

India is the world's largest cotton producer and second-largest exporter. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana and Madhya Pradesh are main cotton growing states.

India's cotton exports jumped over 40 per cent to 10 million bales (of 170 kg each) in the 2018-19 marketing year on strong overseas demand, especially from China, according to industry body CIA. ❐

Myanmar garment workers plea global brands to denounce coup

Tin Tin Wei used to toil 11 hours a day, six days week sewing jackets at a factory in Myanmar. But she hasn't stitched a single garment since a coup in February.

Instead, the 26-year-old union organiser has been protesting in the streets - and trying to bring international pressure to bear on the newly installed junta.

Her union, the Federation of Garment Workers in Myanmar, and others have been staging general strikes to protest the coup and are urging major international brands like H&M and Margo, which source some of their products in Myanmar, to denounce the takeover and put more pressure on factories to protect workers from being fired or harassed - or worse arrested and killed for participating in the protests.

"If we go back to work and if we work for the system, our future is in the darkness, and we will lose our labour rights and even our human rights," said Tin Tin Wei, who has been a clothing factory worker since age 13.

The response from companies so far has been mixed. Only a few have said they would curtail their business in Myanmar. Most others have put out statements that stop short of taking action, saying that while they denounce the coup, they want to support the workers by providing them with jobs.

Tin Tin Wei's union and the Confederation of Trade Unions in Myanmar have also been demanding comprehensive international sanctions - not the targeted sanctions some have imposed - to bring down the junta that ousted the civilian government of Aung San Suu Kyi. As international sanctions were dropped in the mid-2010s when Myanmar began shifting toward democracy after decades of military rule and started to set some labour standards, Western brands looking to diversify their sourcing were attracted to the country's cheap labour. Broad sanctions now would cripple that burgeoning clothing industry, which has been growing rapidly in recent years before the coronavirus pandemic cut orders and eliminated jobs.

Comprehensive sanctions could wreck the livelihoods of more than 600,000 garment workers, but some union leaders say they would rather see massive layoffs than endure military oppression.

"I need to do some sort of sacrifice in the short term for the long term for our next generation," said Tin Tin Wei, who is the sole breadwinner in her family and has been receiving food donations.

The civil disobedience movement, or CDM as it is known, has included railway workers, truck drivers, hospital, bank employees and many others determined to stifle the economy. The aim is "no participation with the junta at all," Sein Htay, a migrant labour organiser who returned to Myanmar from Thailand said in an emailed comment. "We believe that CDM is really working. So we are motivated to continue." But violent crack-downs by Myanmar security forces against protesters including garment workers are escalating. ■

An Interview of Mr. K Mohanrao on some relevant aspects

Interview of Mr K Mohanrao, Director (Technical), Sivaswati Textile, Guntur

1. **Could you please tell us a little bit about Siva Swati Textiles?**

- Siva Swati Textiles was started in the year 2005 with an installed capacity of 60,624 spindles. We are processing counts between Ne 40 and Ne 60 in both warp and hosiery. Our registered office is at Ganapavaram, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh.

Mr K Mohanrao, Director (Technical), Sivaswati Textile

2. **You have been associated with Savio for years. Please tell us about your experience with Savio.**

- Savio makes excellent machines. We appreciate Savio'sconstant attention to technical development and upgrades. Savio is also very cooperative, and they respond to our queries quickly and support us promptly. We are very glad to associate with Savio, as our experience has always been very pleasant.

3. **What were the deciding factors for you to select SavioEcoPulsarS PLUS winder?**

- The winder model EcoPulsarS PLUS is built on a different platform from regular automatic winders and features individual suction, which is a key highlight of the machine. The higher production and reduced hard waste are other advantages. Further, manual doffing is made easier in EcoPulsarS PLUS, thanks to the cradle with the touch sensor.

4. **Having used it, what features do you like the best in SavioEcoPulsarS PLUS?**

- We are happy with the EcoPulsarS' advanced technology which enables efficient winding. The individual suction system for each spindle uses energy only during bobbin changes and splicing. This enables huge energy saving as compared to the common suction model. This machine is also operator friendly. We have been able to realise in actual practise what we expected when we bought the machine.

5. **Apart from technology, what is your feedback on after-sales support?**

- The after-sales support from Savio is good. The after-sales support team is knowledgeable, supportive, and regularly visits us. They also suggest technical upgrades and developments to us.

6. **Could you share your experience about working with A.T.E.?**

- A.T.E. is a highly professional sales organisation with a knowledgeable sales team. We enjoy an excellent relationship with A.T.E. and are very pleased to work with them for all our projects.

7. **What are your future expansion plans?**

- At present we do not have any plans for expansion. A.T.E. is a multi-product company and is always helpful by suggesting us the upgrades required for the existing machines and processes. When we make our plans, we will be in touch with A.T.E.

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TENCEL™ branded fibres by Lenzing Group in collaboration with Anita Dongre unvieled new spring summer 2021 collection

- **The Spring – Summer '21 collection titled 'Sounds of the Forest' aims to inspire conversations around conserving and flourishing forests**

◆ **Collection made from TENCEL™ branded modal fiber**

TENCEL™ branded fibers by Lenzing Group in collaboration with Anita Dongre, on 13.4.2021 unveiled a new Spring Summer'2021 collection – 'Sounds of the Forest'. The collection showcases TENCEL™ branded fibers originating from sustainably managed forests and inspires soul-stirring renditions of nature.

The collection marks a key milestone in the successful partnership of the Lenzing Group and Anita Dongre. The collection uses renewable and biodegradable materials featuring light and easy ready to wear that take after the whimsical beauty of the woodlands with harmonies of flora and fauna reflected in patterns and prints. The colour spectrums take inspirations from pastels of early mornings and deep indigos of midnight. The silhouettes created are perfect for a getaway celebrations or beachy pre-wedding ceremonies.

Speaking about the association, Mr. Avinash Mane, Head of Commercial for Textile Business, South Asia, Lenzing Group said, "We are pleased to bring out another stunning collection with the House of Anita Dongre. Our prior associations with the brand have helped in furthering our narrative for sustainable fashion among consumers and influencers in the fashion fraternity within India. This collection – 'Sounds of the Forest' rings special resonance with TENCEL™ brand as it emphasizes on conserving forests, a thought which is of key priority at all Lenzing fibers. Through this collection, we hope to create a larger outreach among the industry on adopting alternative resources and processes in their brand." Speaking about the association, veteran designer Anita Dongre, shared; "We are delighted to collaborate with the Lenzing Group once again. As a designer who is a nature and animal lover, I think it's important to always look for solutions that are sustainable and good for the planet."

TENCEL™ Modal fibers are derived from sustainably managed forests and manufactured using an award-winning closed-loop process that produces fibers with a significantly lower carbon footprint and thus helps lower the ecological balance. With features like smoothness, breathability, colour retention and biodegradability, this is the perfect alternative option for both brands and consumers moving towards eco-fashion.

About House of Anita Dongre

About TENCEL™

TENCEL™ is the textile specialty brand under The Lenzing Group that covers textile specialty product fiber offerings for apparel and home. The TENCEL™ product brand portfolio defines a new evolutionary step in terms of sustainability, functional benefits, natural comfort and caters for distinctive everyday usage or application. Product brands under TENCEL™ include TENCEL™ Active, TENCEL™ Denim, TENCEL™ Home, TENCEL™ Intimate, TENCEL™ Luxe and TENCEL™ for Footwear.

Featuring botanic origin and biodegradable quality, TENCEL™ branded modal and lyocell

fibers can enhance the breathability of fabrics and have a minimal static charge when used in fabrics. Fabrics made of TENCEL™ Modal and Lyocell fibers are also gentle on skin with smooth, long-lasting softness, color vibrancy and color retention features. TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are versatile and can be combined with a wide range of textile fibers to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of fabrics. Through moisture management, TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers can also absorb moisture efficiently. A variant of the Lyocell production process also produces the TENCEL™ Luxe branded lyocell filament, which is an extremely fine filament yarn for luxury fabrics and supremely smooth to the touch. Exhibiting high flexibility, TENCEL™ Modal fibers enhance textiles with a naturally soft quality. Offering endless design possibilities, TENCEL™ Modal fibers can be blended with other fibers and processed using conventional machinery, significantly improving the softness and comfort of fabrics.

Fibers used under the TENCEL™ brand are derived from certified and controlled sources following the stringent guidelines of the Lenzing Wood and Pulp Policy. Namely, TENCEL™ Modal and TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers, both cellulosic fibers are produced via environmentally responsible production processes and are compostable and biodegradable, thus can fully revert back to nature. TENCEL™ Modal and TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are designated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) BioPreferred® Program.

About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for ecologically responsible production of specialty fibers made from the renewable raw material wood. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner of global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments.

The Lenzing Group's high-quality fibers form the basis for a variety of textile applications ranging from elegant ladies clothing to versatile denims and high-performance sports clothing. Due to their consistent high quality, their biodegradability and compostability Lenzing fibers are also highly suitable for hygiene products and agricultural applications.

The business model of the Lenzing Group goes far beyond that of a traditional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, creating added value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for the efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials and offers solutions to help redirect the textile sector towards a closed-loop economy. In order to reduce the speed of global warming and to accomplish the targets of the Paris Climate Agreement and the "Green Deal" of the EU Commission, Lenzing has a clear vision: namely to make a zero-carbon future come true.

Key Facts &Figures Lenzing Group 2020

Revenue: EUR 1.63 bn

Nameplate capacity: 1,045,000 tons

Employees: 7,358

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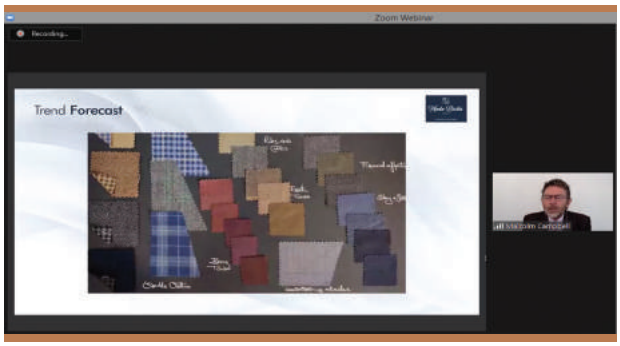
'Moda Biella Master Class' Webinar conducted for 14 NIFT centres across India for students

Taking the textile industry by storm, the Italian Luxury brand Moda Biella, collaborates with prestigious, National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) for a workshop that brings them a wealth of industry experience and knowledge. Moda Biella also launched various educational booklets on yarn, weaves, natural fibres and tailoring.



Mr Vikram Mahaldar (MD & CEO, OCM Private Limited) said,"We are delighted to be helping to train and influence the future fabric and garment designers within our industry, and we are proud that Moda Biella is helping create the top Fashion Designers of years to come, who may one day find themselves influencing the catwalks and the retail stores of our country."

The 'Moda Biella Master Class' webinar was conducted for 14 NIFT centres across India for students in Textile Design course. Mr. Malcolm Campbell, European Advisor, Moda Biella, spoke about luxury and technical features of Merino Wool and all Natural Fibres, art and craft of the master weaver, how the sartorial suit has evolved through time, and how to predict future colour, cloth and style trends.

Mr Malcolm Campbell adds,"It is a pleasure to share my knowledge, my experience and my energy with the young textile design students in India. I hope that they enjoy and value their careers in fashion and textiles as much as I have enjoyed mine over the years, and that their confidence grows as designers and trend setters."

The webinar consisted of two sessions :

Highlights of Session 1 included –

1. Learning about the luxury and technical features of Merino Wool and all Natural Fibres.

2. Admiring the art and craft of the master weaver, in weaving the most beautiful cloths.

3. Respecting the history of how the sartorial suit has evolved through time, and the skill of the master tailor.

Highlights of Session 2 included -

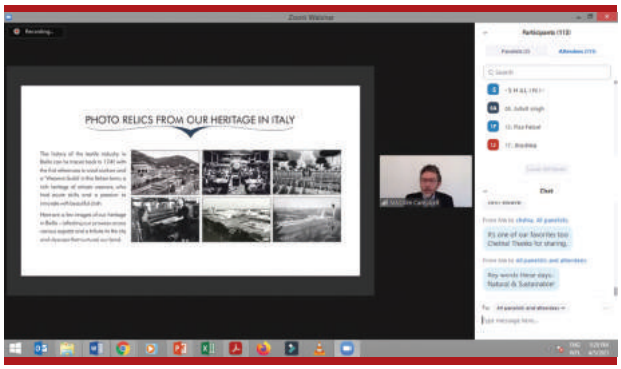
1. Appreciating the variety and the beauty of all colours within the colour spectrum.

2. Understanding the emotion of colour, and how colour can affect your moods and your feelings.

3. Predicting future colour, cloth and style trends with confidence.

Dr. Vasantha, Chairperson – Textile Design, NIFT, said, 'These sessions were very informative which I'm sure strengthened their knowledge on natural fibres, sustainability and significance of colours.'

Moda Biella has also announced a contest for the NIFT students to coin their very own Hero product which may feature in the upcoming Moda Biella Collection!



About MODA BIELLA

MODA BIELLA has been a revered brand in Italy for many years. The fabrics are truly top notch- with superfine exotic fibers to produce a remarkable array of superfine cloths. With a line-up of finely designed fabrics, this brand is not only deep-rooted to its heritage of making world class fabrics but also excels in technical innovation, and outstanding colour and design features.

About OCM

OCM, one of India's largest fabric manufacturers, forays into the Indian market with the launch of Italy's luxurious heritage fashion brand – "MODA BIELLA".

The Company has an extensive 37 acre complex that houses a new-age plant with an annual capacity of 8 million meters of fabric and an employee base of 1,900. The company's ownership lies with the promoters of the Donear Group.

The product design function is at the forefront of global styling. Today, the Company has an extensive product range of high quality all-wool and wool-blended worsted fabrics.

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Oerlikon signs agreement to acquire INglass, a global leader in high precision polymer flow control equipment, to scale up expansion strategy in polymer processing market

- INglass and its HRSflow Division is a market leader spezialized in hot runner sytems
- Technology is highly complementary to Oerlikon's existing capabilities in polymer flow control and will expand Oerlikon's market access
- Acquisition accelerates Oerlikon's strategy in diversifying its manmade fibers business to expand into the high-growth polymer processing solution market
- Oerlikon renames 'Manmade Fibers' Division to 'Polymer Processing Solutions'
- Acquisition is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2021

Oerlikon, a leading provider of surface engineering, polymer processing and additive manufacturing, announced today that it has signed an agreement to acquire Italy-headquartered INglass S.p.A. and its innovative hot runner systems technology operating under its market-leading HRSflow business.

The strategic acquisition is a significant step in expanding Oerlikon's current manmade fibers business into the larger polymer processing market. The acquisition accelerates and enhances existing organic initiatives to diversify and strengthen the company's core high-precision polymer flow control capabilities, products and services. The completion of the transaction is subject to customary regulatory approvals and is expected by the second quarter of 2021.

To reflect Oerlikon's expansion into a larger high-growth market, the Manmade Fibers Division will be renamed as Polymer Processing Solutions Division. This division will have two business units: Flow Control Solutions and Manmade Fibers Solutions. The busines unit Flow Control Solutions will combine the expertise of Oerlikon Barmag's existing gear metering pumps business line and INglass' HRSflow operations. The business unit Manmade Fibers Solutions will continue to focus on growing the existing chemical fiber machinery and plant engineering business, offering plant solutions for the production of polyester, polypropylene and polyamide.

"Our new Polymer Processing Solutions Division and the acquisition of INglass S.p.A. and its HRSflow business are critical components of Oerlikon Group's growth strategy. We are accelerating our efforts to drive sustainable organic and inorganic growth in all of our businesses. The acquisition enables new synergy opportunities between both Oerlikon divisions in specific end markets such as automotive. With INglass and its HRSflow operations, we acquire leading suppliers in their markets with proven success of their technologies and services," said Dr. Roland Fischer, CEO Oerlikon Group.

"We firmly believe that within the Oerlikon Group we can further exploit the potential of our hot runner systems technology and, when combined with the capabilities of Oerlikon Barmag gear metering pumps and their melt distribution engineering competence, will position our business as one of the leading precision flow control specialists for multiple applications in a global growth market", said Antonio Bortuzzo, CEO of INglass S.p.A.

New business unit offers great growth potential

The Oerlikon Barmag competence brand already offers high precision flow control related components, including a large selection of gear metering pumps for textile and non-textile markets. These highly efficient pumps are used in silicone casting, dynamic mixing and oil spraying for the chemical, paint, polymer processing and automotive industries. This double-digit million CHF business, which has grown in recent years, will be merged with INglass' HRSflow hot runner technologies under the new business unit Flow Control Solutions. HRSflow's excellent market access to many OEMs in and outside the automotive industry brings significant growth opportunities.

INglass is a leader in automotive and expanding in other sectors

INglass S.p.A. is an internationally operating successful company established in 1987. Its product portfolio includes hot runners as well as engineering and consultancy services for the advanced development of polymer processing products. INglass' HRSflow hot runner systems are applied in multiple industries from automotive, consumer goods and household appliances to packaging, waste management, construction and transportation.

INglass is headquartered in San Polo di Piave, Italy, near Venice. 2020 revenues of INglass were approximately CHF 135 million and the acquisition is expected to be immediately accretive to Oerlikon's margins and cash flows. INglass has more than 1 000 employees and 55 sites worldwide, including production plants in Italy, China and the US. Among these sites are INglass' newly renovated headquarters and production at its primary location in San Polo di Piave near Venice, Italy. The investment modernized the facilities with automated production, underlining the company's commitment to sustainability and the environment. The other two modern production sites are in Zhejiang (Hangzhou Province) in China and Michigan (Grand Rapids) in the USA.

Following the integration with Oerlikon Barmag's gear metering pumps business of about 200 employees in Remscheid, Germany, the new Flow Control Solutions business unit will have round about 1200 employees.

"We see great potential for growth in our new Flow Control Solutions business unit," said Georg Stausberg, Polymer Processing Solutions Division CEO and Member of the Executive Committee of the Oerlikon Group. "The businesses form the two core growth pillars and benefit from each other in global market development, in modern and digitized production, and in customer services. We also see potential synergies in R&D by combining existing know-how in the field of polymer processing. New technological solutions between hot runner systems and gear metering pumps are conceivable. We also anticipate collaborating more closely with the Oerlikon Surface Solutions Division, particularly in future mobility applications and functional polymer component solutions for the automotive industry. All in all, we will offer our customers innovative and attractive solutions in the field of polymer processing and high precision flow control components."

Next steps for further diversification of the division product portfolio are already ongoing

Combining the divisions plant engineering and process know how with expertise on high precision flow control components technologies has a significant impact on product quality in nearly all applications, which opens up a platform for further organic and inorganic growth. "We are closely observing the megatrends in the markets and developing new business models to match. In the area of sustainability, covering topics such as circular economy, the recycling of materials using mechanical and chemical recycling solutions, as well as the handling of new, more environmentally friendly and biodegradable materials, we are on the verge of a breakthrough. We are ready to actively participate in these growth areas," added Georg Stausberg.

"In realigning the Polymer Processing Solutions Division, Oerlikon will continue to apply our successful recipe of a lean organizational structure to efficiently manage the business. This means clear processes, short decision-making paths and competent teams in a diverse and multicultural organization in which everyone can contribute innovatively to create customer value," said Georg Stausberg.

About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a global innovation powerhouse for surface engineering, polymer processing and additive manufacturing. Its solutions and comprehensive services, together with its advanced materials, improve and maximize performance, function, design and sustainability of its customers' products and manufacturing processes in key industries. Pioneering technology for decades, everything the company invents and does is guided by its passion to support its customers' goals and foster a sustainable world. Headquartered in Pfäffikon, Switzerland, the Group operates its business in two divisions – Surface Solutions and Polymer Processing Solutions. It has a global footprint of more than 10 600 employees at 179 locations in 37 countries and generated sales of CHF 2.3 billion in 2020.

About Oerlikon Polymer Processing Division

With its Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven brands, the Oerlikon

CORPORATE NEWS

Polymer Processing Division is focusing on manmade fibers plant engineering and flow control equipment solutions. Oerlikon is one of the leading providers of manmade fiber filament spinning systems, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber systems and solutions for the production of nonwovens and – as a service provider – offers engineering solutions for the entire textile value added chain. Furthermore, Oerlikon has a high precision flow control components business that currently offers a large selection of gear metering pumps for the textile and other industries, including the automotive, chemical and paint markets.

As a future-oriented company, the research and development at this division of the Oerlikon Group is driven by energy-efficiency and sustainable technologies (e-save). With its range of polycondensation and extrusion systems and their key components, the company caters to the entire manufacturing process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn and other innovative polymer processed materials and applications. The product portfolio is rounded off with automation and Industrie 4.0 solutions.

The primary markets for the product portfolio of Oerlikon Barmag are in Asia, especially in China, India and Turkey, and – for those of Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven – in the USA, Asia, Turkey and Europe. Worldwide, the division – with more than 3,500 employees – has a presence in 120 countries with production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the R&D centers in Remscheid, Neumünster (Germany) and Suzhou (China), highly qualified engineers, technologists and technicians develop innovative and technologically leading products for tomorrow's world.

About INglass

INglass S.p.A. is an internationally operating successful company established in 1987. Its product portfolio includes hot runners as well as engineering and consultancy services for the advanced development of polymer processing products. INglass' HRSflow hot runner systems are applied in multiple industries from automotive, consumer goods and household appliances to packaging, waste management, construction and transportation. INglass is headquartered in San Polo di Piave, Italy, near Venice. 2020 revenues of INglass were approximately CHF 135 million. INglass has more than 1000 employees and 55 sites worldwide, including production plants in Italy, China and the US. HRSflow directly serves OEM customers in the automotive business and other industries. www.inglass.it

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In view of success in 2020 Lenzing's TENCEL™ Brand and Red Carpet Green Dress™ in collaboration to bring custom-made Eco-Couture Look to the OSCARS®

Following the success of their 2020 partnership, Lenzing's TENCEL™ brand and Red Carpet Green Dress (RCGD) collaborated for the second year running at the 93rd Academy Awards® (also known as "the Oscars"). As a part of the collaboration, RCGD × TENCEL™ launched an eco-couture material made with TENCEL™ Luxe

filament yarn that was adapted into a bespoke look for this year's Oscars® physical red-carpet guest – Marlee Matlin. Paying homage to RCGD's roots as a design contest, the look and the talent wearing the design were unveiled the night of the Oscars on Sunday 25th April. For the first time in its history, the Oscars® is to be hosted across multiple sites in the USA and Europe. In what has been an unusual year for many, Red Carpet Green Dress is working to honour their commitment in creating design solutions that work from moment to movement on the red carpet of the biggest of all global stages.

This year's design included TENCEL™ Luxe filament yarn which is of 100% botanic origin. Derived from renewable wood sources, the filament yarn is produced using eco-responsible production processes. With silky smoothness, liquid-like drape and color vibrancy, TENCEL™ Luxe filament yarn gives fabrics an exquisite sensual appeal and is ideal for eco couture and luxury fashion.

The couture gown created under the RCGD X TENCEL™ campaign was unveiled and worn by Oscar presenter Marlee Matlin, who represents as the campaign's talent ambassador, showcasing elegance and the power of eco-couture to the world.

Marlee Matlin wore an ethical and eco-responsible Vivienne Westwood custom-made gown in black in a newly launched Red Carpet Green Dress™ vegan textile which is partly made from TENCEL™ Luxe filament yarn, incorporating an archival Westwood fabric.

Drawing attention to the importance of more sustainable practices in fashion and being part of bringing those solutions to the global market, Red Carpet Green Dress was conceived in response to a lack of ethical choices on the red carpet. Founded by leading environmental advocate, Suzy Amis Cameron, the organisation has been committed to creating positive change for over a decade. TENCEL™ brand share a similar vision and aspire to lead the pursuit of eco-friendly solutions for textiles, garments and fashion as they aim to blend high fashion with sustainability whilst maintaining quality. Coming together and partnering to launch the eco-couture textile felt like a natural next step. With the fashion industry being one of the top polluters across the globe, the RCGD x TENCEL™ textile is now contributing towards positive change for a more green future.

"Once again, we are thrilled to partner with Red Carpet Green Dress to bring eco couture to the spotlight. While our TENCEL™ Luxe filament yarn is derived from wood harvested from certified and controlled sources and is one of the most sustainable materials used in fashion, we are not stopping there. At TENCEL™, we are on a journey to True Carbon Zero, with a vision to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and contribute to a carbon neutral fashion industry. We hope that our collaboration will encourage more designers and brands to look out for materials that do not only expand the frontiers of aesthetic appeal, but also make a difference to our planet." - Harold Weghorst, Vice President of Global Marketing & Branding at Lenzing Group.

''Our partnership with TENCEL™ is one of the most exciting and rewarding for Red Carpet Green Dress. The organisation represents some of the key pillars of sustainability, ranging from accessible sustainable design solutions with a focus on circularity and decarbonisation, across to its inherent understanding of the need for responsible production and consumption. Our Oscars collaboration is always a highlight, and we are so excited that innovations like this exist for the global design community.'' - Samata, CEO at Red Carpet Green Dress.

About TENCEL™

TENCEL™ is the textile specialty brand under The Lenzing Group that covers textile specialty product fiber offerings for apparel and home. The TENCEL™ product brand portfolio defines a new evolutionary step in terms of sustainability, functional benefits, natural comfort and caters for distinctive everyday usage or application. Product brands under TENCEL™ include TENCEL™ Active,

CORPORATE NEWS

TENCEL™ Denim, TENCEL™ Home, TENCEL™ Intimate, TENCEL™ Luxe and TENCEL™ for Footwear.

Featuring botanic origin and biodegradable quality, TENCEL™ branded modal and lyocellfibers can enhance the breathability of fabrics and have a minimal static charge when used in fabrics. Fabrics made of TENCEL™ Modal and Lyocellfibers are also gentle on skin with smooth, long-lasting softness, color vibrancy and color retention features. TENCEL™ Lyocellfibers are versatile and can be combined with a wide range of textile fibers to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of fabrics. Through moisture management, TENCEL™ Lyocellfibers can also absorb moisture efficiently. A variant of the Lyocell production process also produces the TENCEL™ Luxe branded lyocell filament yarn, which is an extremely fine filament yarn for luxury fabrics and supremely smooth to the touch. Exhibiting high flexibility, TENCEL™ Modal fibers enhance textiles with a naturally soft quality. Offering endless design possibilities, TENCEL™ Modal fibers can be blended with other fibers and processed using conventional machinery, significantly improving the softness and comfort of fabrics.

Fibers and filaments used under the TENCEL™ brand are derived from certified and controlled sources following the stringent guidelines of the Lenzing Wood and Pulp Policy. Namely, TENCEL™ branded modal and lyocellfibers are produced via environmentally responsible production processes and are compostable and biodegradable, thus can fully revert back to nature. They are designated by the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) BioPreferred® Program. TENCEL™ Luxe is registered by The Vegan society.

About Red Carpet Green Dress™

RCGD is a women-led global change-making organisation working from 'moment' to movement, bringing sustainability to the forefront of conversation and action within the fashion and apparel industry. Celebrating its 10th year in 2019, the campaign was conceived by Suzy Amis Cameron (actress, environmental advocate, and author of OMD: The Simple, Plant-Based Program to Save Your Health, Save Your Waistline and Save the Planet). When faced with the lack of ethical fashion choices while attending global premieres of husband James Camerons' 'Avatar', Suzy decided that it was time for a change. The RCGD goal is to draw attention to the importance of more sustainable practices in fashion and be part of bringing those solutions to the global market. Suzy created an international design contest, challenging emerging and established designers worldwide to develop sustainable Oscar-worthy gowns, thus fulfilling the Red Carpet Green Dress criteria to serve the need for more sustainability in the industry. Additionally, focusing on social impact consideration, fair and humane treatment of manufacturers, a clear supply chain, and materials that use a high proportion of recycled and biodegradable materials.

Leading fashion houses including Louis Vuitton, Vivienne Westwood, Armani, Elie Saab, Swarovski, Christian Siriano, Bulgari, Dunhill and Reformation have joined the campaign to create sustainable red carpet wear. Celebrities including Sophie Turner, Emma Roberts, Gina Rodriguez, LaKeith Stanfield, Kellan Lutz, Camila Alves, and Naomie Harris have joined the campaign as representatives. RCGD™ has been featured in Vanity Fair, W Magazine, People, Hello Giggles, The Hollywood Reporter, WWD, Washington Post, Harper's Bazaar, VOGUE, Refinery29, The Guardian, ELLE, LA Times, The New York Times, InStyle and others.

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OCM Pvt. Ltd. sponsors the up-and-coming Tennis Superstar, Rohan Mittal

Encouraging The Youth Every Step Of The Way!

One of India's largest fabric manufacturers, OCM Pvt. Ltd., has believed in and worked towards encouraging young talent. With this vision, OCM Pvt. Ltd. has collaborated with the up-and-coming tennis superstar, Rohan Mittal, who showcases ferocity on the court and his mottoishard work and commitment.

Hailing from Kurukshetra, having coached under his father's guidance, Rohan has played

tennis for several years now, and has won many accolades, like, AITA Championship series singles winner in 2018 & 2019; Placed 4th in U-12 Haryana State Tennis Championship; Ranked 85th in U-18 National ranking, to name a few. He has now set his sights on winning gold for India.

VikramMahaldar, MD & CEO, OCM Pvt. Ltd. said, "We at OCM, are honoured to collaborate with the young and budding tennis superstar, Rohan Mittal. Our vision has always been to encourage yound talent and we are extremely proud to associate with the youth of today, the future of tomorrow and support them.

About OCM

OCM, one of India's largest fabric manufacturers. The Company has an extensive 37 acre complex that houses a new-age plant with an annual capacity of 8 million meters of fabric and an employee base of 1,900. The company's ownership lies with the promoters of the Donear Group.

The product design function is at the forefront of global styling. Today, the Company has an extensive product range of high quality all-wool and wool-blended worsted fabrics.

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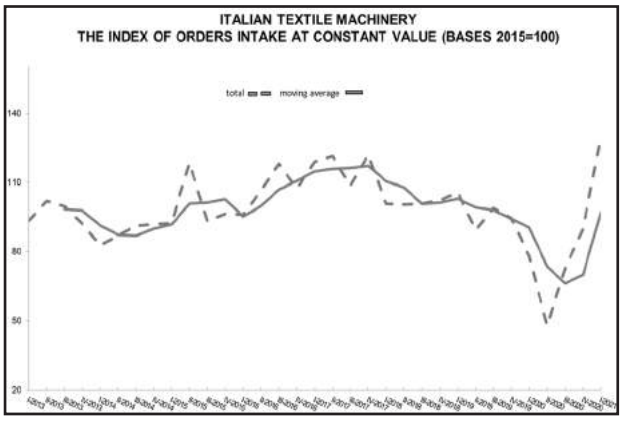
Textile Machinery : Orders once more on the surge for first quarter 2021

The index of orders intake for textile machinery compiled by ACIMIT, the Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers during the period January-March 2021 was up by 66% compared to the same period for 2020. The value of the index was confirmed at 129.3 points (basis: 2015 = 100).

This result depended on a positive performance for orders coming in from abroad as well as from Italian market. A 68% increase was recorded on foreign markets, with the absolute value of the index reaching 125.5 points. On the domestic side, the upward trend in orders was more contained, but still significant (+54% compared to the first quarter of 2020), with an absolute value of the index at 164.1 points.

ACIMIT President Alessandro Zucchi commented on these results, "This significant increase in orders should be compared with the first quarter 2020 results, the period in which the pandemic began and production almost completely stopped."

"Still, these numbers are certainly encouraging," adds Zucchi, "even though the pandemic is still not under control, especially in Countries that are essential markets for our industry, such as India. Investments in the textile sector have thus seen a rather patchy recovery. Without a widespread vaccination plan on a global scale, our people remain limited in their movements, jeopardizing the possibility of seizing business opportunities in different markets."



"A future recovery is also threatened by rising prices for raw materials," states ACIMIT's president. "A significant growth trend is currently under way, beginning from last summer and continuing to swell between late 2020 and early 2021. These price hikes are pushing up input costs and, in the absence of a price adjustment, the negative impacts for machinery manufacturers could be quite significant."

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ITMA 2023

8-14 June 2023
Fiera Milano RHO
Milan, Italy

Great Expectations as ITMA 2023 Opens Space Application

Highly anticipated by the global textile and garment industry, ITMA 2023 is expected to enjoy the same success when it was last held in Milan in 2015, as the world emerges stronger from the pandemic.

The world's largest international textile and garment technology exhibition, ITMA is the only place where the entire value chain is present. Plan ahead to be there to witness new trends, the launch of innovative solutions, and live machinery demonstrations.

As we invite the world's most reputable technology manufacturers to participate, expect the momentum to build up from now till ITMA opens its doors in 2023. In the meantime, join ITMAnetwork to get timely updates.

What's New in ITMA 2023

Ride on the Growth Opportunities of Composites

The composite industry is bursting with opportunities and poised to become a dominant force in the textiles industry.

For further information, please contact :
email : marcom@itma.com ❐

SITA & ITC in partnership with India ITME Society hosted Textile-Exchange 2021 from 23 to 24 April 2021

Win-win : India ITME Society & SITA-ITC partnership connects the Textile Sectors of East Africa and India virtually

On Friday 23 and Saturday 24 April 2021, the International Trade Centre (ITC), a joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, in partnership with India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions (ITME) Society, hosted TextilesExchange 2021. It was a virtual trade fair for the textile industry where Indian and East African textile businesses met potential trading partners and capitalized on market opportunities. TextilesExchange 2021 is under the framework of Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa (SITA), a project funded by the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

Mr S. Hari Shankar, Chairman, India ITME Society, gave the keynote address at the opening ceremony that took place on Friday morning. "This TextilesExchange 2021 platform is enabling buyers and sellers to interact based on their mutual business interests. And which will hopefully result in long-term business relationships", he explained.

Over 700 business to business (B2B) meetings were planned for the event, and many more happened during the two days of the event. Close to 250 businesses from Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda are using the TextilesExchange platform to:

- present their company's products,
- source inputs,
- exchange knowledge, ideas and technology, and
- create vibrant business networks in the process.

Mr Govind Venuprasad, Coordinator, SITA, explained the rationale at the opening ceremony: "Covid-19 pandemic with ensuing travel restrictions has limited opportunities to network through physical trade fairs and exhibitions; this has been to the detriment of business and trade. We shall overcome and this that occupies us today will be a distant memory soon! In the meantime, SITA is attempting to fill the gap through virtual means, by hosting this online Trade Fair for the Textile Sectors of India and East Africa"

On the first day, the participants also interacted with international experts in technical seminars on access to finance and import compliance regulation, two of the biggest challenges for East African Textile companies. Giving Rwanda's perspective at the opening ceremony, Ms. Kanzayire Theopiste, Chairperson, Apparel Manufacturing Group (AMG) of Rwanda, highlighted access to finance as a major challenge for their members, 99% of whom are women. Her remarks were followed by a presentation by Ms. Anda Valla, SITA Project Officer, who announced the launch of SITA's Access to Finance guide that seeks to address this problem. This practical guide will assist companies to get connected to financial institutions.

Three quarters of the East African TextilesExchange delegates were women. Since Textile and Apparel is a women-led sector, growing and strengthening the textile value chain is key opportunity to economically empower women and contribute to sustainable development at the same time. With this in mind, Ms. Sheena Frida from the Kenyan Fashion Council, emphasized the timeliness of the TextilesExchange event, since the sector has been particularly badly hit by the Covid-19 pandemic.

As well as connecting companies with each other to do business, TextilesExchange2021 served as a platform for insights on technology transfer and other partnerships including investments between Indian and East African companies operating across the textile and apparel value chain. In particular, TextilesExchange 2021 focuses on machinery, fibre, yarns, fabric, trimmings and accessories.

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Seema Srivastava, Executive Director
India ITME Society ❐

TME Istanbul 2021

International Textile Machinery Exhibition

08-11 September, 2021

TME 2021 Will Win Exhibitors and Visitors

Istanbul International Textile Machinery Exhibition will take place at İFM, largest fair center in Turkey, on 8-11 September on a 250.000m2 fair areas and in 11 halls.

Organizing Textile Machinery Events for many years for the textile sector, Ümit Vural provided some information on the TME 2021 as their new project. Ümit Vural, while maintaining his position as the chairman of the board of Birleşik Fuar Yapım A.Ş., which was established as a consortium with the merge of numerable fair companies, continuing his role at the International Fair Producers Association as the Vice President.

We interviewed with Ümit Vural, ECR Fuarcılık General Manger on the topics coming to the agenda about the Istanbul International Textile Machinery Fair TME taking place around October 2021.

Question

- **Challenging Covid-19 has resulted in cancellation of fairs. What is your opinion on this reality? Do you think it would be an appropriate decision to run fairs under this growing uncertainty?**

Ans.

Covid-19 pandemic that emerged in Wuhan, the third quarter of 2019, then spread into world regions. To highlight, there were many casualties in 2020 and many fairs were either canceled or postponed in an environment of uncertainty. As known, with the discovery and application of vaccines for the treatment of Covid 19, negative effects are decreasing day by day. To recall, Biontech Chairman of the Board has made a statement couple of months ago who found the first vaccine. In this statement, it was said that the life would return to normal in between end of May and mid of June globally. Similarly, the number of covid 19 cases recorded in England, at around 60 thousand at the beginning of January, fallen dramatically to 3 thousand last week after the available vaccinations. Again, the number of cases in America, 300 thousand in January 2021, has decreased tremendously to 60 thousand's. It is possible to enrich examples as well. There is a positive correlation between the vaccination and affected cases. Reports indicate that 18 million were given vaccinations in Turkey and 100 million vaccination doses are planned until the end of May. Within given figures and data, the founder of Biontech Prof. Dr. Uğur Şahin's anticipation about the termination of covid-19 cases in between the end of May and mid of June are now in a close review.

As known, Itma Asia fair will take place within June in China where pandemic emerged. The fair will have an international concept that taking place at the heart of pandemic and no one will probably have concerns about getting infected. However, pandemic will dominate while fairs taking place in Istanbul around September. This statement is not a reality. Even Chinese Officials already set compulsory 15 days quarantine period to every visa classes entering into China as part of their policy. Would it be safe to implement police-controlled quarantine in a hotel (or a place similar to it) enforced by them and held a fair in such an environment?

During TME 2021, all safety and health measures regarding Covid 19 will be taken, details regarding this affair are broadcasted on our fair website. In addition, the halls of the IFM fair center were renewed, and the IFM management channeled significant amount of capital for air conditioning and for air intake systems and for filtration applications. While the exhibition area stand drawings and planning were being made, our preparations were completed by taking into account many anti-epidemic measures.

On the other hand, trade continues at full speed. Export of Turkey in textiles and raw material has risen by %40 per cent and further breaking records. The current capacities of textile factories are insufficient but new investments and machine modernization continue uninterruptedly. Order delivery times of domestic and foreign machinery manufacturers have been extended by 6 to 9 months. When we look at the Textile Machinery import figures published last month, textile machinery imports have risen by %45 per cent and textile machinery imports increased to 1.5 billion dollar in 2020. To strengthen figures, when we examine the annual reports published by Cematex member's machinery associations, it was shown that Turkey ranked as the first two under the important market classifications. Another advantage for TME fair taking place in Turkey is that we do not set any significant visa rules compared to Schengen countries. We do not also suffer from any travel restriction true for countries affected by the pandemic although England was encountered with short lived restrictions. Further, a traveler who has negative covid-19 test result can enter to our country safely. As an example, delegations from many countries where textile is on shore, textile investors from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, India and Egypt have already confirmed their visits. Moreover, hotel reservations are already started.

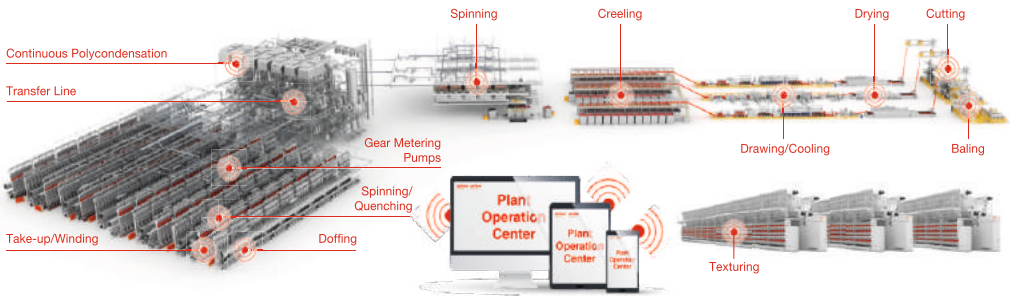
For further information, please contact :
2021 Ecr Fuarcılık Ltd Şti
Senlikkoy Mn Eceler Sok N13,
Florya, Istanbul ■

Clean Technology. Smart Factory.

From Melt to Yarn, Fibers and Nonwovens

Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions Division with the competence brands Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven is one of the leading provider for filament spinning systems, texturing machines and BCF carpet yarn, staple fiber spinning as well as nonwovens solutions.

For further information visit us at **www.oerlikon.com/polymer-processing**



oerlikon barmag

oerlikon neumag

oerlikon nonwoven

ITMA ASIA | CITME

中国国际纺织机械展览会
暨ITMA亚洲展览会
ITMA ASIA + CITME 2020

ASIA'S PREMIER TEXTILE MACHINERY INDUSTRY PLATFORM

BE PART OF ASIA'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS TEXTILE MACHINERY INDUSTRY EVENT

NEW DATES
12 - 16 JUNE 2021

NATIONAL EXHIBITION
AND CONVENTION CENTER
SHANGHAI, CHINA

- A mega showcase of cutting-edge solutions for textile makers
- Strong support from all the major textile machinery trade associations
- Textile machinery and accessories structured by product category

For more information, please contact

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Oerlikon

2nd block of webinars emphasising on industrial textiles

Safely does it : textiles and processes

In a series of webinars focusing on industrial textiles and processes, the Manmade Fibers division experts from the Swiss Oerlikon Group provide their clients with information on manufacturing safety yarns and on state-of-the-art recycling technologies. If you are interested in these webinars, you can register by going to www.oerlikon.com/manmade-fibers.

Lifesavers: high-tenacity industrial yarns form the basis for safety belts

- **Invest in your future: support local supply chains by manufacturing nonwovens for personal protective equipment**

  May 5, 2021 2 – 2:45 p.m. CET

  The coronavirus pandemic has impressively demonstrated the dramatic impact that global sourcing can have on critical materials if individual key regions within the supply chain fail. Juliane Müller-Weigel, Sales Manager at Oerlikon Nonwoven, will be holding a talk about nonwoven systems with which producers can make an effective contribution towards securing local supply chains for personal protective equipment (PPE), for instance for the production of oronasal masks and OP surgical apparel, among other things.

- **Fasten your seatbelt... Oerlikon Barmag's solutions for high-tenacity yarns**

  Wednesday, May 12, 2021 10 – 10:45 a.m. CET

  No safety belt without quality industrial yarn. Safety belts play a decisive role in protecting vehicle occupants and reduce the risk of injury and death. Their manufacture from polyester yarn comprising up to 100 individual high-tenacity filaments is highly-complex. In his webinar, Dr. Roy Dolmans, Technology Manager Industrial Yarn Polymer Processing & Analyses, focuses on the Oerlikon Barmag system concept for high-tenacity (HT) yarns and its – within the market – unique properties, which enable the production of high-quality yarn for manufacturing safety belts.

- **How you can cut C02 emissions and production costs with fiber-to-fiber recycling using the VacuFil Visco+**

  Wednesday, May 19, 2021 2 – 2:45 p.m. CET

  While the recycling world is focusing on bottle flakes, which are limited in terms of volume, the potential of another resource remains extensively unexploited. The recycling of residual fibers and fabric remnants into high-quality POY/FDY not only cuts C02 emissions, it also reduces production costs. With its VacuFil Visco+, Oerlikon Barmag's subsidiary BBE offers the requisite technology for cleaning and utilizing PET waste. Within the context of his webinar, Matthias Schmitz, Head of Recycling Technology Engineering, presents fiber-to-fiber technology and applications.

About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a global innovation powerhouse for surface engineering, polymer processing and additive manufacturing. The Group's solutions and comprehensive services, together with its advanced materials, improve and maximize performance, function, design and sustainability of its customer's products and manufacturing processes in key industries. Pioneering technology for decades, everything Oerlikon invents and does is guided by its passion to support customer's goals and foster a sustainable world. Headquartered in Pfäffikon, Switzerland, the Group operates its business in two Divisions – Surface Solutions and Manmade Fibers. It has a global footprint of more than 10

600 employees at 179 locations in 37 countries and generated sales of CHF 2.3 billion in 2020.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com

About the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers division

With its Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven brands, the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers division is one of the leading providers of manmade fiber filament spinning systems, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber systems and solutions for the production of nonwovens and – as a service provider – offers engineering solutions for the entire textile value added chain. As a future-oriented company, the research and development at this division of the Oerlikon Group is driven by energy-efficiency and sustainable technologies (e-save). With its range of polycondensation and extrusion systems and their key components, the company caters to the entire manufacturing process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn. The product portfolio is rounded off with automation and Industrie 4.0 solutions.

The primary markets for the product portfolio of Oerlikon Barmag are in Asia, especially in China, India and Turkey, and – for those of Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven – in the USA, Asia, Turkey and Europe. Worldwide, the division – with more than 3,000 employees – has a presence in 120 countries with production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the R&D centers in Remscheid, Neumünster (Germany) and Suzhou (China), highly-qualified engineers, technologists and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com/manmade-fibers

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S. K. Associates

S. K. Associates includes new products : Circular Bale Plucker & Skaat Care Products

Auto Lube 1000

Special Grade Autoconer Spray

Shake well before use

Features

- Effectively cleans dust, dirt, fly and other contaminations instantly evaporates
- Leaves long lasting smooth dry lubricant
- Prevents further sticking of dust, dirt, fly and adhesive particles
- Reduces wear and tear
- Prevents rust and corrosion Non-toxic and Non-staining Easy to use and plastic safe Eco-Friendly

Applications

Specially designed for cleaning and maintaining Splicers and cutters in Textile Autoconer Machine High performance clearner-cum-lubricant for flat chains, pocker rods, traverse rod, knitting and sawing machines, sliding mechanisms, etc.

Instructions

Shake well before use, till the movement of steel ball in the can is audible.

Hold can 10 to 15 cm from the surface to be coated. Repeat the process if thicker coating is needed.

Caution : Highly flammable, Pressurized container, Protect from sunlight and do not expose to temperature exceeding 50°C. Do not puncture or incinerate even after use. Keep away from sources of ignition. Use only in well ventilated area.

For Industrial use only

Skaat MAAX 500 Spray is an aerosol preparation designed for cleaning, lubricating and antistatic treatment of Autoconers.

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

Usage factor

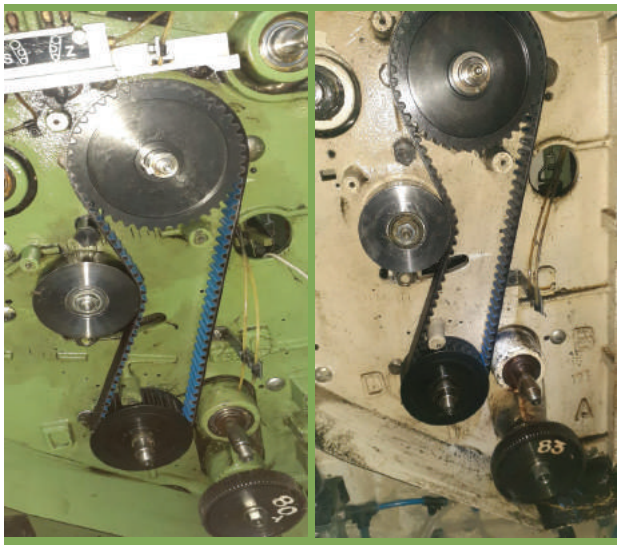
- It is pressurized with non-flammable CO2 propellant.
- No Water required.
- Don't use on electrical devices.
- Spray untill dry.
- Spray from a distance of 6 to 7 inches.

SK Poly Bel-con

Poly-chain Drive conversation

Benefits :

1. Zero maintenance.
2. No elongation - No slippage.
3. 100% power transmission
4. Life of polychain belt leads up to 10 years.
5. Graded steel used for timing pulleys.
6. No productivity loss due to zero slippage.
7. No quality deterioration.
8. Power savings achieved.
9. Weight of timing pulleys used is very less compared to the existing pulleys in machine



Strategy

- If we go for conversion in G5/1 or LR-6S variator drive to Polychain, the existing weight of the variator assembly is drastically reduced and accordingly power saving is achieved.
- No routine change of nylon keys in top and bottom variator.
- Bottom variator servicing not required.
- Temperature of motor gets reduced accordingly life of motor is extended.
- Selection of steel for timing pulley is in such a way it synchronize with belts to a avoid abrasion in both belt and timing pulley.

American Technology Now in India Gates Polychain Belt Main Drive Conversion.

- L R Ring Frames.
- KTTM Ring frames.
- RIETER Ring frames.
- Suessen Compact Drive belts.

Also we cater

- Industrial 'v' belts, quad power/SuperHC/ Predator/Vulco power V belts.
- Polychain GT sprockets
- Powergrip/HTD Sprockets.

  Power grip flexible coupling/ Taper lock bushings.
- Polychain GT - Carbon belts.

Rust Shield

Maintenance Spray

Highly Inflammable

Refer Technical Data Sheet for application details See M.S.D.S. for complete safety information

Caution

Contents under pressure, keep away from heat, spark, open flames and children. Do not puncture, crush or incinerate (burn) can, even when empty.

Features

Excellent multi-functional spray provides environmentally safe, superior performance in harsh conditions. Magical thin film adheres to all metal surfaces.

- Excellent Penetration
- Displaces Moisture
- Stops Squeaks
- Loosens Rusted Parts
- Frees Sticky Mechanisms
- Lubricates Moving Parts
- Cleans Effectively
- Prevents Rust & Corrosion

Application

Industrial, Automotive, Cement, Chemical, Food Process Home Appliances, Text, Telecom,

Pneumatic, Railways and wide range of general purpose maintenance applications.

SK Smart Plucker

Salient Features

Sensors provided

A. Front carriage safety sensor - 4 nos.
B. Beater up and down detector - 2 nos.
C. Beater step down sensor - 1 no.
D. Beater level sensor - 4 nos.
E. Chain level sensor - 2 nos.
F. Water level sensor - 1 no.
G. Beater Door Safety sensor - 1 no.
H. Material level sensor - 2 nos.
I. Sample running sensor (swing movement) - 2 nos.
J. Front panel sensor - 1 no.
K. Pressure sensor - 1 no.

Models

A. 1600MM Width 1300 MM Height for 33 bales stacking.
B. 2200MM Width 1300 MM Height for 54 bales stacking.
C. 2800MM Width 1300 MM Height for 77 bales stacking.

Electric connection slip ring

We provde 12 rings which is specially designed, normally 8 rings are sufficient, we provide spare of 4 nos. In case of any emergency we can use the same.

Electrical panel

Siemens PLC equipped with 7" HMI display to facilitate all faults which will be displayed, user friendly, also energy meter is provided for knowing current consumption. Running, stoppage, movement of beater, rotation of beaters etc will be displayed.

Travelling motor

Provided 2 travelling gear motors for smooth and friction less running.

Spec for 1&2 Models

1. Main motor - 3.0 HP.
2. Travelling motor - 1.0 KW × 2 nos.
3. Up and down motor - 1.0 HP
4. Compressed air is required for spraying

Spec for Models 3

1. Main motor - 5.0 HP.
2. Travelling motor - 1.5 KW × 2 nos.
3. Up and down motor - 1.5 HP
4. Compressed air is required for spraying

Spray tank

Twin Spray tank is made up Stainless steel with a capacity of 40 + 40 litres and the air jet nozzles can work with salt water also, No need for R.O. Water.

Beater

Beater is dynamically balanced and the laser cut beater provides gentle rotation and avoid fibre ruptures.

Siemens inverter drive controls for main motor and carriage motor.

Skaat

TEXSIL 400

Features

- Superb damping property.
- Re-lubrication period.
- Excellent solvent resistant.
- Handy & easy to use.
- Plastic & rubber safe.

Application

Autoconer cradle adopters, long term lubricant for chains, sliding surface, metal locks, pocker rod and all industrial application.

Special use for Textile Industry for Industrial use only.

For further information, please contact :
S. K. Associates
No. 216/2, First Floor, Avinashi Road
Gold Wines, Civil Aerodrome post,
Coimbatore-641014
E-mail : salesska@skassociates.org
Ph : +91-98940 54014, +91-99524 01838

Mimaki Europe BV

Why Mimaki's Brand New '100 series' is useful for users to over come the impact of Covid-19

100 Percent Success in a Post Pandemic World

by Martial Granet, Branch Manager, Mimaki France

After a turbulent year, it seems strange to be thinking about 'after the pandemic', but with millions of vaccinations underway, the light at the end of the tunnel is visible. As we turn the corner, choosing technology partners that understand how to proactively respond to changing market needs and support the evolving requirements of print businesses and end customerswill be vital. The printers in Mimaki's '100 series' portfolio, which consists of the high quality, high productivity entry level roll-to-roll inkjet printers the UJV100-160 UV and the JV100-160 solvent, and the high performance textile printer, the TS100-1600, are a perfect reflection of the way technology requirements

are adapting in line with the industry as we look to the future. To demonstrate this, we have identified three post-pandemic technology touchpoints that will help print businesses target success amid uncertainty.

Productivity

The pandemic has served as a major catalyst for existing trends, and our growing appetite for everything on-demand has been given a huge COVID-related boost. For printers, a digital solution that offers premium productivity, quality and efficiency at an entry-level price point is sure to be an invaluable investment to meet evolving 'on-demand demands'. Adding a digital production element to your business doesn't need to be daunting, complicated or overpriced – the Mimaki '100 series' truly lives up to the tagline 'Expert Printing Made Easy', offering an incredibly intuitive user experience for streamlined, ultra-efficient printing, high-quality output, and cost-effective implementation. The powerful and

productive new textile printer in the '100 series', the TS100-1600, is a shining example of equipment developed with the future of the market in mind – the textile industry is fast-paced and constantly innovating, and the printer you invest in needs to keep up with your creativity.

Diversity

2021 is set to be a period of transition. While that will mean navigating uncertainty, the 'glass half full' approach is to view the year ahead in terms of opportunities such as expanding your business, exploring alternative revenue streams, and taking the plunge into new markets. In the past, it may have felt as if the barriers to entry when it came to looking beyond your core business were too great. However, in a post-pandemic world, we need to break some of those barriers down and demonstrate that success with digital print is within reach if you invest in the right equipment. With the '100 series' portfolio, Mimaki is acknowledging what print service providers need from their technology partners – the UJV100-160 and the JV100-160 are suitable for a wide range of applications that will allow you to easily and affordably diversify your offering, and with the TS100-1600 textile printer, it has never been easier to target growth in the thriving textile sector, even in challenging times.

Affordability

Affordability is one of the most significant barriers to entry into new markets. 2020 was a year of unprecedented economic challenges, so it's more important than ever to be thinking about gaining a competitive edge, and the printers in the '100 series' from Mimaki have been specifically formulated to help you ramp up productivity while keeping running costs low. Whether you want to take your first foray into digital print production, expand the services you offer or simply grow your customer base, cost can be a major sticking point, which is why supporting customers is Mimaki's

number one priority, designing the '100 series' around your needs and continuing to listen to how those needs are developing. Making an investment

in the JV100-160 in order to move into outdoor graphics; meeting demand for faster turnaround times by adding the instantly curable UJV100-160 to your production setup; or taking a leap into new revenue streams with the TS100-160 – it's all '100' percent accessible.

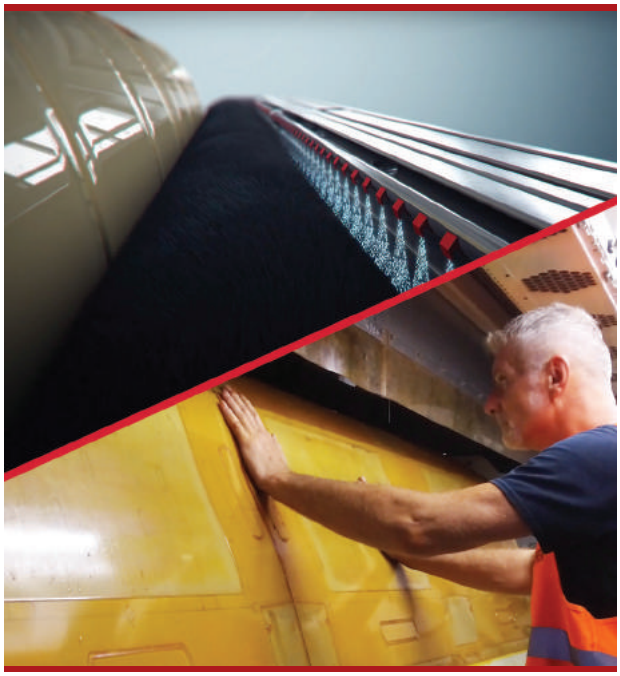
For further information, please contact :
Mimaki Europe BV
Stammerdijk 7E,
Diemen, AA 1112 Netherlands ❐

Baldwin Technology Company Inc.

Baldwin bags three FlexoCleanerBrush™ orders in 30 days

Full-width automated cleaning system will be installed on high-graphics corrugated presses

Baldwin Technology Company Inc. has successfully landed three new FlexoCleanerBrush orders, with a total of 16 cleaning heads, from customers in the US and Germany. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Baldwin has delivered a total of 30 FlexoCleanerBrush cleaning heads, thanks to close collaboration between onsite team members, local agents, the company's global sales organization, and support from its product and technology center in Germany.



With the FlexoCleanerBrush system, an inline cleaning station installed within each print unit uses a brush that runs the full width of each printing plate. Paired with a precision spray application system, the FlexoCleanerBrush evenly distributes a mixture of detergent and water across the plate as it spins, gently cleaning its surface. The plates are then dried by the integrated air knife.

"With two of the recent orders, the customers had already installed the FlexoCleanerBrush in other locations. One of them reported as much as a 30 percent production capacity increase, thanks to the installation," said Lee Simmonds, Regional Sales Manager at Baldwin. "Both customers have experienced insufficient results with their original traversing cloth cleaning systems, which will now be removed and replaced with the full-width, stand-alone, automated FlexoCleanerBrush technology from Baldwin."

Improving sustainability is one of the key drivers for investments in the corrugated printing industry. The FlexoCleanerBrush dramatically cuts water waste by cleaning plates more efficiently. In a recent independent study that was conducted to validate the capacity of the automated system, the FlexoCleanerBrush could fully clean and dry

all printing plates in less than four minutes and pick hickeys in seconds.

Besides offering efficient cleaning during runs and fast end-of-job cleaning, the FlexoCleanerBrush system also enables operators to remove dry plates from the machine without the potential risk of plates sticking together once they are placed back in the plateracking system. This helps to ensure increased board throughput, less downtime and a safer working environment by eliminating operators' contact with nip points, moving parts and chemicals.

About Baldwin Technology Company Inc.

Baldwin Technology Company Inc. is a leading global manufacturer and supplier of innovative process-automation equipment, parts, service and consumables for the printing, packaging, textile, plastic film extrusion and corrugated industries. As a total solutions provider, Baldwin offers our customers a broad range of market leading technologies, with a focus on improving the economic and environmental efficiency of production processes. Through a global footprint of 21 company owned locations and an extensive network of partners, our customers are supported globally, regionally and locally by dedicated sales and service team members who add value by forming long-term relationships. Baldwin is privately owned by BW Forsyth Partners, a Barry-Wehmiller company. For more, visit baldwintech.com.

About BW Forsyth Partners

BW Forsyth Partners is the investment arm of multibillion-dollar global manufacturing and engineering consulting firm Barry-Wehmiller. Established in 2009, BW Forsyth Partners blends Barry-Wehmiller's unparalleled legacy of value creation and people-centric culture development with keen investing experience to help companies realize their true potential. With a focus limited to areas known well, BW Forsyth Partners seeks to partner with leadership teams to acquire small- to middle-market companies in the capital and component equipment, and professional services sectors. In each of our operating companies, BW Forsyth Partners deploys operational improvements and strategy development without compromising the autonomy, strategic vision and entrepreneurial spirit of their leadership teams. For more information, visit bwforsyth.com.

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❐

A.T.E. Enterprises Private Limited

An article on "Truetzschler T-SCAN TS-T5" high end quality foreign part separation

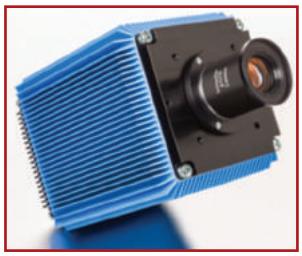
The presence of foreign matter in yarn and fabric remains one of the most vexatious quality challenges a textile mill faces. An impurity that creeps in in the fibre stage can create a series of problems at every further processing stage. Only a small amount of foreign matter can impact a large quantity of fabric. That is why spinning mills try to remove foreign parts as early as possible during the fibre preparation stage. The automatic detection and ejection of foreign parts has been steadily evolving over the last decades. However, it remains especially difficult to detect foreign parts that are transparent or thin, white, or thread-shaped. The Truetzschler T-SCAN TS-T5 meets these and other detection requirements with an unprecedented quality.

Truetzschler T-SCAN TS-T5

T-SCAN modules

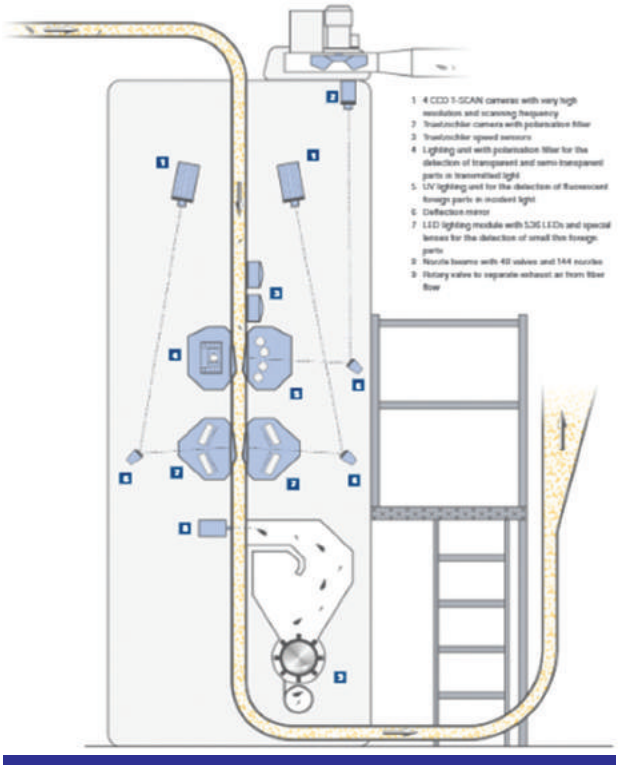
Truetzschler uses five modules for the detection of foreign parts. Each one is specialised to

reliably detect various foreign parts in the fast fibre flow. The reliable detection of foreign parts provides the basis for reaching an extremely high separation rate of foreign parts in the downstream process and simultaneously preventing the separation of too many good fibres. This unique Truetzschler technology makes the T-SCAN TS-T5 essential for the quality formation in the blow room.



In addition to colour, 4-CCD T-SCAN cameras can also detect shininess

Module	Type of foreign part detection
F-module	Coloured/dark foreign parts
P-module	Transparent foreign parts
UV-module	Fluorescent foreign parts
G-module	Shiny foreign parts
LED-lighting	Small/thin foreign parts



T-SCAN modules

F-module detects coloured parts (1)

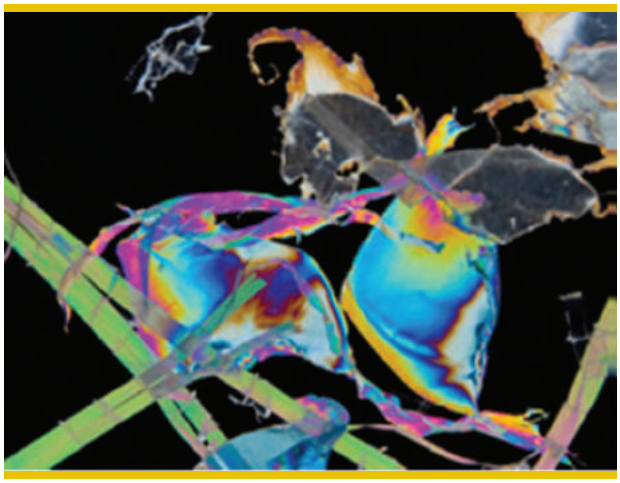
Truetzschler uses internally developed T-SCAN cameras with high resolution and scanning rates. The flow of cotton tufts is continuously monitored from both sides with reliable detection of even small coloured foreign parts.

G-module detects shiny parts (2)

Many foreign parts show no contrast to cotton, but they reflect light because they are shiny. The Truetzschler gloss module uses this effect. Two T-SCAN cameras detect parts from two sides that differ in their shininess from cotton. To detect smallest shiny foreign parts, this module works at high resolution and scanning frequency.

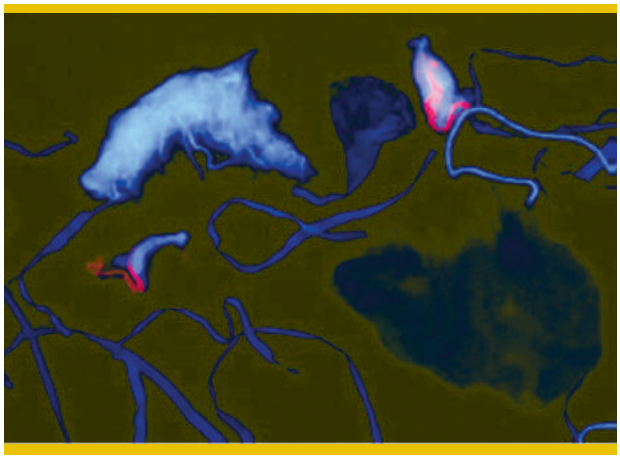
P-module detects transparent and semi-transparent parts (3)

The Truetzschler P-module detects transparent and semi-transparent parts, regardless of their colour. To achieve this, the patented method uses polarised transmitted light. If the cotton contains transilluminable foils, packaging residues from PP fabric and similar parts, they are reliably detected by this module.



UV-module detects fluorescent parts (4)

Some cotton sources contain foreign parts that have a fluorescent glow in UV light. Even parts that are difficult to detect, e.g. bleached cotton, PES or fluorescent PP strips, are reliably detected by the Truetzschler UV-module.



LED lighting detects thin, thread-shaped parts (5)

After a few months – invisible to the eye – the fluorescent tubes of common foreign part separators lose the light's important proportion of blue, which is crucial for colour detection of foreign parts. By contrast, 1,072 high-performance LEDs with just as many focused lenses work in the T-SCAN TS-T5. The high light intensity allows the use of cameras featuring increased resolution and scanning frequency. To ensure that the light intensity is maintained in the long run, it is monitored and independently readjusted.

Self-optimisation with embedded image processing technology

The machine control performs a number of optimisation functions on request or permanently:

- Balancing of white reference value
- Detection of cotton colour and colour variations
- Permanent consideration of current material speed
- Stop and go detection in feeding and corresponding adjustment

Intelligent waste prevention

Cotton tufts of different colour, trash, stem parts or leaf fragments are also foreign parts. These, of course, are detected as well. However, waste prevention optimisation eliminates high separation rates. It is better and safer to remove such parts on the card. A separation on the T-SCAN would result in unnecessary fibre loss. Naturally, the separating sensitivity can be adapted to the cotton quality.

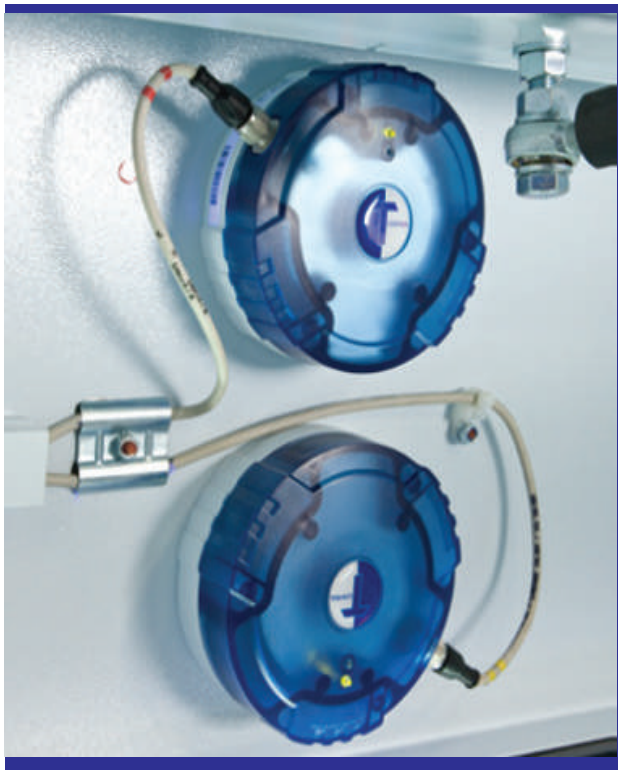
The separation of such parts should be handled by the card

Reduced loss of good fibres and lower air requirement

The controlled flow in the flat and wide fibre channel distributes the tufts evenly over the width. The selective response of one of the 48 valves ensures that only a minimum number of good fibres is separated. Compared to other

systems, this results in annual material savings of 15,00,000-37,00,000.

The permanent speed measurement of the tuft flow also makes it possible to reduce the response time of the nozzles to a minimum. As a result, the compressed air requirement is only approx. 20 % of that of other systems.



Truetzschler speed sensors minimise the compressed air requirement and fibre loss

Reducing cleaning to a minimum

The Truetzschler T-SCAN is very effectively sealed against penetration of dust. Compared to other systems, it requires substantially less cleaning. Thus, downtimes are reduced by more than 80%.

Minimal maintenance

Standard fluorescent tubes permanently lose their intensity in the blue light range. They must be replaced approx. after 6 months, otherwise the separation effectiveness declines. The Truetzschler LED module with 2×536 LEDs is monitored and readjusted as needed. This self-optimisation function ensures a constant light intensity.

Every downtime means a production loss and a restart of blow room and cards. The Truetzschler T-SCAN runs for approx. one week without having to be cleaned. Other systems must be cleaned daily or sometimes even once per shift. Due to the increasing contamination, their separation effectiveness declines as well.

For further information, please contact :
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