

# textile.4U

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**TEXDATA**  
INTERNATIONAL

KEY TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES  
AHEAD OF ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024

**CHINA'S ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

**REVIEW:  
ITM 2024**

**AUTOMATION IN TEXTILE MANUFACTURING:  
THE IMPACT OF STÄUBLI'S SAFIR  
ON WEAVING PREPARATION**

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## FROM THE EDITOR

# DEAR READER,

Over the past months, it seems that one word has dominated discussions in our industry: crisis. Everywhere we turn, from boardroom meetings to international forums, the talk has revolved around disruptions, downturns, and declining demand. But now, I find myself wondering - have we not heard enough of this word? Surely, there must come a point where we move from crisis mode toward a more optimistic horizon. I very much hope that this moment is approaching and I am sure that many in the industry share this hope.

A recent survey by the ITMF reflects the cautiously hopeful mood of many within our sector. The majority of participants expressed a belief that the situation will begin to improve within the next six months. This expectation of recovery is not based on blind optimism but on an underlying sense that things can, and should, begin to shift in our favor. However, when asked what is driving the current gloomy outlook, respondents were clear: low demand. It's this lack of consumer and industrial interest that has been dragging down the mood across the board.

Yet, as I observe the industry and the wider market, I can't help but question why this should be the case. After all, some of the biggest players in textile retail are reporting positive news. Take H&M and Inditex, for example. Both retail giants have announced strong figures for the

first half of this year, with solid increases in both sales and profits. If major retailers are thriving, shouldn't this success translate to positive momentum across the entire textile value chain? Increased sales should lead to higher demand for fabric production, raw materials, and yes, the very textile machinery that is so crucial to our industry.

One would expect that the healthy performance of such large retailers should spur optimism and act as a catalyst for the broader industry. And yet, we seem to be caught in a paradox. On one hand, leading retailers are posting robust numbers, while on the other, many manufacturers are reporting the opposite: shrinking orders, inventory overhangs, and uncertainty about the future. This contradiction is difficult to reconcile, but it gives us hope that this disparity will soon correct itself, especially if consumers start spending more again as a result of significantly lower inflation and falling interest rates, and retailers continue their upward trend. The stock markets, where the future is traded, are sending out such signals.

The textile machinery sector has not been immune to the effects of the broader slowdown. Like many parts of the industry, machinery manufacturers have faced weakened demand as mills and factories hesitate to invest in new technologies amidst uncertain market conditions.

But there is a glimmer of hope on the horizon. The Chinese government's stimulus to keep the economic growth target of 5% high in the face of the real estate crisis is not only seen as very promising for China. The world market could also benefit if one of its locomotives picks up speed again. In this context, the upcoming ITMA Asia + CITME trade fair offers textile machinery manufacturers a valuable opportunity to present their latest innovations in this optimistic mood. China remains the most important market for textile machinery manufacturers and, in addition to its growth targets, also aims to improve sustainability and to bring textile production to a higher or, as they like to say, the highest technological level. This promises at least a revival in demand that should boost the sector.

I, for one, am ready to leave the word "crisis" behind. Now we need to tackle the challenges and convert the positive signs into new energy for our projects. Let us hope that in the coming months we can talk less about crisis and more about recovery and growth.

Sincerely yours

**OLIVER SCHMIDT**

#Editor-in-chief



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**COUNTRY FOCUS**

# CHINA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY:

**KEY TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD OF ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024**

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Over the past three years, China has experienced a dynamic period of economic transformation, marked by recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, rapid modernization of industry, and increasing focus on sustainability. For professionals and businesses in the textile industry and textile machinery manufacturing, understanding these shifts is crucial for navigating the evolving market landscape. This article explores China's economic trajectory, its impact on the textile industry, and how companies can seize new opportunities as the country pursues digitalization, high-tech manufacturing, and sustainable development.

## **ECONOMIC RECOVERY AFTER THE PANDEMIC: IMPACT ON THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

China was one of the first major economies to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the textile industry played a pivotal role in this recovery. In the immediate aftermath of the pandemic, global demand for personal protective equipment (PPE), including masks and medical textiles, surged, providing a short-term boost to China's textile exports. However, as demand normalized, the industry faced supply chain disruptions, fluctuating orders, and rising labor costs.

The broader economy bounced back strongly in 2021, with GDP growth of 8.1%, but growth slowed to 3% in 2022 due to intermittent lockdowns and global inflation. Despite these challenges, the textile industry remained resilient, aided by China's robust infrastructure and ongoing investments in digitalization and automation. The government's focus on stabilizing exports and encouraging domestic consumption created opportunities for textile companies to pivot toward higher value-added products and new market segments.

In 2023, China's GDP grew by 5.2%, exceeding the official target. While industrial production and fixed-asset investment picked up in the fourth quarter, retail sales slowed in December, pointing to a uneven recovery. The high-tech sector fared better than the economy as a whole, with stronger growth in industrial production, investment, lending, foreign direct investment and exports. Weak consumer spend-

ing and sluggish imports highlighted the need to boost domestic demand. Investment was increasingly concentrated in the high-tech and green energy sectors, while policymakers were expected to introduce further measures to stabilise the property sector and boost the economy. Domestic demand was expected to grow in 2024 if larger and better-coordinated policy measures were implemented to strengthen confidence.

What are the prospects for the current year? China has announced the ambitious goal of achieving economic growth of 5% in 2024. At the midpoint of the year, many experts shared the opinion that China would achieve its goal. At the 15th annual meeting of the New Champions in Dalian, People's Republic of China, from 25 to 27 June, Chinese Premier Li Qiang once again emphasised the will to achieve the target. "We have the confidence and capability to achieve the growth target," he said. By contrast, the World Bank followed up with its forecast of weakening growth for China. In April, it assumed 'only' 4.5 per cent in 2024. It cited the reasons as being that 'domestic demand in China remains weak and is contributing to low inflation, while the political scope for economic stimulus measures is limited. The weak business climate, due in part to the downturn in the property market, would continue to weigh on growth'.

In fact, China's GDP grew by 5.3% in the first quarter, setting the stage for the economy to achieve its official target of 5%.

Amid a surge in the manufacturing sector, China's industrial output grew by 6.1%, with high-tech manufacturing leading the way at 7.5%. After this relatively strong start to the year, China's economy lost momentum in the second quarter of 2024. Real GDP growth slowed to 4.7 per cent in the second quarter, resulting in overall growth of 5.0 per cent for the first half of 2024, which is in line with the economic target set at the beginning of the year.

In the third quarter, the situation of the Chinese economy was increasingly seen as problematic. The reasons were continued weakness in the stock market, a crisis in the real estate sector and insufficient consumer spending. In September 2024, China's central bank responded by approving the most comprehensive package of measures since the pandemic, initially to counteract the problems with new liquidity and support for the stock market and the real estate sector, and to help the economy of the People's Republic gain new momentum. The reserve rate for banks was lowered by 0.5 percentage points, giving financial institutions an additional 1 trillion yuan (almost 130 billion euros) in additional leeway for lending.

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) also indicated that the rate could be lowered again by 0.25 to 0.50 percentage points during the year, depending on the liquidity situation. Most importantly, interest rates for outstanding mortgage loans will be cut by an average of around 50 basis points, which will also benefit those who took out such a loan earlier.

This can also boost private consumption, as households' debt service is reduced and money is freed up for other purposes.

The package of measures quickly had an effect on the stock market, with prices rising. Alibaba, for example, climbed directly by 4% on the day the measures were announced and has since risen by almost 30%. Thus, the textile industry should also benefit significantly from these measures and be able to tackle the next steps in its development.

### **WAGE GROWTH AND ITS IMPACT ON PRODUCTION COSTS**

Wage growth in China has been a double-edged sword for the textile industry. While rising incomes boost domestic consumption, increasing wages—especially in coastal regions—have driven up production costs for labor-intensive sectors like textiles and clothing. In response, many textile manufacturers have relocated operations to lower-cost regions in central and western China or adopted advanced automation technologies to offset labor expenses.

For textile machinery manufacturers, this presents an opportunity to market automation solutions that reduce the reliance on manual labor. Digitalized textile production lines, advanced weaving and knitting machines, and smart factory systems are becoming essential tools for maintaining competitiveness in an environment of rising wages.

### **CHINA'S ROLE AS A GLOBAL EXPORTER AND IMPORTER OF TEXTILES**

China remains the world's largest producer and exporter of textiles and apparel, accounting for over 30% of global textile exports in 2023. However, competition from lower-cost producers in Southeast Asia and South Asia has intensified. Countries like Vietnam and Bangladesh have gained market share in low-cost production, pressuring Chinese manufacturers to shift toward higher-end textile products, such as technical textiles, smart fabrics, and environmentally friendly materials. The Chinese government has responded by encouraging textile companies to move up the value chain, focusing on innovation, quality, and sustainability. Imports of high-tech textile machinery have also risen, reflecting the industry's shift towards modernization. For machinery manufacturers, this shift represents a growing market for high-performance equipment capable of producing advanced fabrics.

### **TARGET VS. ACTUAL PERFORMANCE IN THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

The 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) has set ambitious goals for the textile industry, including increased innovation, digital transformation, and a stronger focus on sustainability. The government aims to transition from being a low-cost producer to a leader in high-quality, technology-driven textiles. Actual progress has been notable in terms of digitalization and eco-friendly practices, although some targets—particularly those related to labor-intensive production—remain challenging due to external pressures like global trade shifts and rising wages.

Flagship projects such as China's "Smart Textiles" initiative have emerged as success stories, integrating artificial intelligence (AI), automation, and Internet of Things (IoT) technologies into textile production. Pilot projects in regions such as Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces showcase the adoption of smart factories, where textile machinery is interconnected with cloud platforms to enable real-time monitoring, predictive maintenance, and optimized production.

#### **MODERNIZATION OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY: DIGITALIZATION AND HIGH-TECH TRANSITION**

China's textile industry is undergoing a significant transformation, with digitalization at the core. Textile companies are investing heavily in automated production lines, AI-driven quality control, and IoT-enabled machinery to enhance efficiency and reduce waste. Flagship projects such as the "Smart Manufacturing" initiative in Zhejiang have created model factories equipped with fully automated spinning and weaving lines, reducing labor costs and improving production accuracy.

The government has been actively supporting these efforts through subsidies and tax incentives for companies that adopt advanced manufacturing technologies. For textile machinery manufacturers, this digitalization drive offers substantial opportunities to provide cutting-edge equipment tailored for smart factory environments. Pilot projects such as the "Intelligent Textile Manufacturing Demonstration Zone" in Jiangsu have set the stage for widespread digital adoption in the textile sector. These

facilities serve as testing grounds for new digital technologies, such as machine learning algorithms for optimizing fabric production and automated systems for reducing defects.

#### **BOOSTING DOMESTIC DEMAND: OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEXTILE COMPANIES**

While China has traditionally been an export powerhouse, the government is increasingly focused on boosting domestic demand as part of its "dual circulation" strategy. Rising wages and a growing middle class have led to increased demand for higher-quality, sustainable textiles and apparel within China. Domestic brands such as Li-Ning and Anta Sports have capitalized on this trend, expanding their presence in the apparel market with products that cater to eco-conscious and tech-savvy consumers.

For textile companies, this shift towards domestic consumption represents an opportunity to develop new product lines that align with Chinese consumer preferences for premium, sustainable, and technologically advanced textiles. Expanding online sales channels, particularly through e-commerce giants like Alibaba and JD.com, has become crucial for reaching China's increasingly digital consumer base.

#### **THE PUSH FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

Sustainability is now a key priority in China's textile industry. The government has set ambitious goals to reduce carbon emissions and promote the use of eco-friendly materials. As part of the 14th

Five-Year Plan, China aims to peak carbon emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060. In response, textile companies are adopting sustainable practices, such as using recycled fibers, reducing water consumption, and implementing cleaner production technologies. Several flagship sustainability projects are already underway. For instance, leading textile producer Shenghong Group has invested in green technologies, including energy-efficient dyeing machines and zero-water discharge systems. In addition, many companies are transitioning to biodegradable materials, responding to both consumer demand and regulatory pressures for eco-friendly products.

For textile machinery manufacturers, the push towards sustainability creates demand for equipment that supports eco-friendly production processes. Machines that reduce energy consumption, minimize chemical use, and optimize resource efficiency are increasingly in demand.

#### **KEY CHINESE TEXTILE BRANDS AND RETAILERS LEADING THE WAY**

In recent years, several Chinese textile brands and retailers have taken significant steps forward, positioning themselves as leaders in innovation and sustainability. Anta Sports, one of China's largest sportswear brands, has expanded its market share through a combination of domestic growth and international acquisitions, such as the purchase of Amer Sports. Similarly, Li-Ning, another sportswear giant, has capitalized on growing consumer interest in high-quality, locally produced apparel.

These brands have adopted digital marketing strategies, eco-friendly materials, and collaborations with fashion designers to stay competitive in both domestic and global markets. Their success underscores the importance of innovation, quality, and sustainability for textile companies aiming to maintain or expand market share.

#### **CONCLUSION: SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES IN CHINA'S EVOLVING TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

As China continues to modernize its economy and textile industry, there are numerous opportunities for businesses in both textiles and textile machinery manufacturing. Digitalization, automation, and sustainability are no longer optional—they are critical factors for staying competitive. Companies that invest in advanced machinery, smart factory technologies, and eco-friendly production processes will be well-positioned to succeed in this new landscape.

For textile companies attending ITMA Asia + CITME 2024, the key to maintaining market share lies in embracing innovation and aligning with China's broader economic goals. By focusing on high-tech solutions, sustainability, and tapping into domestic demand, textile manufacturers and machinery suppliers can not only survive but thrive in China's rapidly evolving market. Let's hope that the latest measures to boost the economy will also give the Chinese textile industry a push and that it will contribute to China's growth. ■

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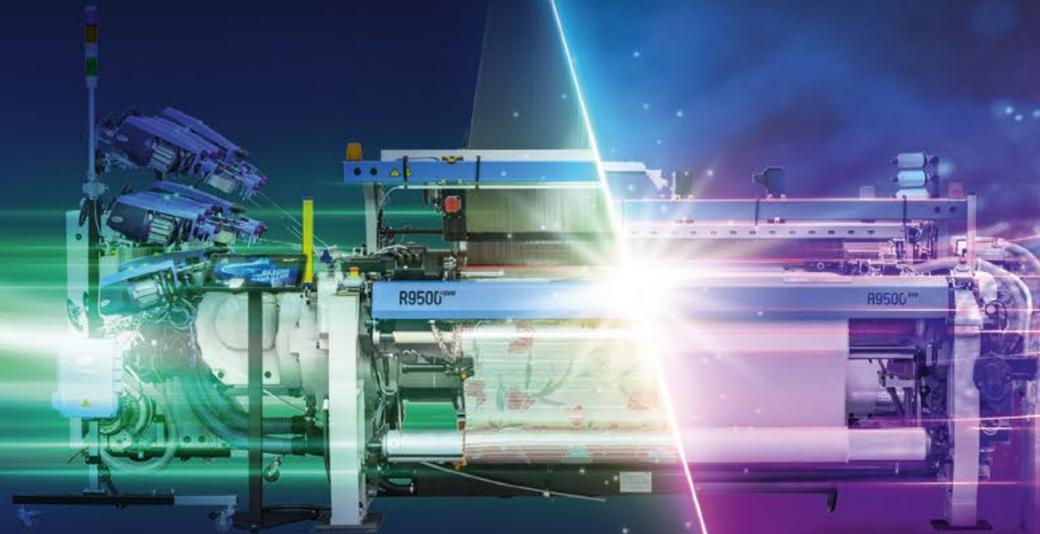
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High and rising wages. Fewer and fewer well-trained workers and a decreasing willingness to perform hard, monotonous work. Almost all textile companies are familiar with these problems. Automation provides a remedy here, and there are excellent solutions for almost everything. We will look at the possibilities of successful automation here using the example of the development of an automation solution in weaving preparation.

AUTOMATION IN TEXTILE MANUFACTURING:  
**THE IMPACT OF STÄUBLI'S  
SAFIR SYSTEM ON  
WEAVING PREPARATION**

In textile manufacturing, weaving preparation has traditionally required a high level of manual labor, particularly in the warp drawing-in process. This stage involves threading each warp yarn through the heddles and reed, an essential step before weaving can begin. In the past, this task was performed manually, which was labor-intensive, time-consuming, and prone to errors. However, Stäubli, a global leader in textile machinery, has changed this with the introduction of the SAFIR series of automatic drawing-in machines. By automating this crucial process, the SAFIR system has revolutionized weaving preparation, bringing significant improvements in efficiency, precision, and productivity to weaving mills around the world. And if you look at the latest developments in these Stäubli machines, you understand automation will penetrate the market.

### THE HISTORY OF STÄUBLI'S SAFIR SYSTEM

The SAFIR series, which started its career in the early 2000s and was first introduced to the wider public at ITMA 2007 in Munich, was developed in response to the growing need for automation in textile manufacturing. Stäubli aimed to address the challenges faced by weaving mills—particularly the need to reduce manual labor, increase production speed, and improve the overall quality of fabrics. The first model in the series, the SAFIR S60, was designed to automate the warp drawing-in process, allowing for faster and more accurate preparation of warp threads.

Since the introduction of the SAFIR S60, Stäubli has continuously refined and expanded the SAFIR range with the centerpiece of Active Warp Control (AWC) to meet the changing demands of the textile industry. Over the years, newer models have been constantly introduced, each with more advanced features and either greater flexibility or specialization.

### CURRENT PORTFOLIO AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF TECHNOLOGY

The SAFIR series currently includes the SAFIR S32, designed for the specific requirements of filament weaving mills; the SAFIR S40, for a wide range of standard applications and denim; the SAFIR S60, for universal use and a wide range of fabric types of medium complexity; and the SAFIR S80, which meets the highest demands when weaving highly complex fabrics with one or two warp beams. The SAFIR PRO S67 and SAFIR PRO S47 automatic high-speed drawing-in machines are brand new to the series and absolutely state-of-the-art. They represent the pinnacle of automation in weaving preparation, incorporating the latest technologies in robotics, sensors, and data management.

### THE RECENTLY INTRODUCED SAFIR PRO S67

The latest model in the SAFIR series, the SAFIR PRO S67, is the most advanced automated drawing-in machine currently available. This model builds on Stäubli's expertise in automation and includes a range of cutting-edge features that enhance both performance and ease of use.

The SAFIR PRO S67 is equipped with high-speed drawing-in capabilities, allowing it to process warp threads at unprecedented speeds, significantly reducing the time required for weaving preparation.

Stäubli debuted the SAFIR PRO S67 at the ITM 2024 trade fair in June. Visitors to the fair could witness for themselves the impressive speed and efficiency of automatic drawing in with the SAFIR PRO S67 model. It is designed for universal use and a wide range of fabric types of medium complexity. This means that it is also optimally suited to the needs of cotton weaving mills, whose main applications are colored warps for shirting or other fabrics. The main features of the SAFIR PRO S67 are a speed of up to 200 ends/minute, optimal ergonomics with pictograms and context-sensitive help texts, as well as its individual configurability.

One of the standout features of the SAFIR PRO S67 is its automatic yarn recognition system. Using AWC 2.0 (see below), the machine can automatically detect different types of yarns and adjust its settings accordingly to ensure the correct positioning of each thread in the warp. This eliminates the need for manual intervention, further speeding up the process and ensuring a consistent, high-quality outcome. Additionally, the digital interface on the SAFIR PRO S67 allows operators to monitor and control the machine with ease. The intuitive touch-screen system enables quick adjustments and provides real-time feedback on the machine's performance, ensuring minimal downtime and maximum productivity.



The mobile automatic drawing-in machine SAFIR S30, was showcased in operation at ITMA Asia 2014 © 2024 TexData International



Four years later Stäubli presented the SAFIR S40 automatic drawing-in machine on the ITM 2018 exhibition © 2024 TexData International



At the ITMA 2019, Stäubli presented the SAFIR S60 automatic drawing-in machine © 2024 TexData International



And at ITMA 2023, there was a new version of the flagship Safir S60 © 2024 TexData International



Premiere at ITM 2024: Stäubli presented the brand new SAFIR Pro S67 for the first time here.  
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The SAFIR Pro S67 comes with many new features that give weaving mills clear advantages and make them competitive for the future © 2024 TexData International



Happy faces: Stäubli team including Bertrand Leroy, Stäubli Textile Division Executive President (2nd from left), and Stäubli Textile Global Head of Marketing, Sales and Service WPS Fritz Legler (right) welcoming the first buyers of the new SAFIR Pro S67 on the stand at ITM 2024  
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### THE NEW ADDITION: SAFIR PRO S47

The new SAFIR PRO S47 drawing-in machine is the latest development and is perfectly adapted to the needs of the Chinese market. It features innovative AWC 2.0 (see below) and Layer and Offset Management for efficient automatic drawing in of double-warp-beam applications for staple fibers and especially fancy denim applications. It will be unveiled at the ITMA Asia + CITME 2024 in Shanghai in October.

### AWC 2.0 TECHNOLOGY SETS NEW STANDARDS

The new centerpiece of the SAFIR machines is Stäubli's cutting-edge "Active Warp Control 2.0" (ACW 2.0) technology, which Stäubli already presented at ITMA 2023 for the SAFIR S60. The technology is based on Stäubli's fundamental idea that the most modern fabric requirements can only be met if the warp thread is actively and automatically fed into the weaving harness in perfect order during weaving preparation. The goal of AWC 2.0 is to detect and handle warp threads 100% under control in order to achieve the highest quality and reliability for an efficient downstream weaving process. And this is where Stäubli is setting new standards with AWC 2.0 for automatic warp drawing-in. The technology enables optical, contactless detection and measurement of yarn properties. Sophisticated algorithms and ingenious software enable fast, error-free, automatic feeding – all supported by intelligent sensors and optics.

The essential function of the AWC 2.0 technology is interpreting the measured data through image processing and data analytics. This allows the determination of titre, colour, twist direction and, within certain limits, even hairiness, transparency, and monofilament or multifilament characteristics. For multi-coloured warps, AWC 2.0 can detect a great number of colour nuances per warp. This gives mills expanded capabilities to produce innovative, outstanding, and unique designs. In addition, SAFIR machines now integrate the new secure cloud-based productivity control solution Active Drawing-In Control that enhances the workflow in weaving preparation. It includes production monitoring, remote assistance, outsourced Stäubli diagnostics and machine maintenance.

### COMPARING MANUAL DRAWING-IN WITH THE SAFIR AUTOMATED SOLUTION

Traditionally, the warp drawing-in process was carried out manually by skilled workers who threaded each warp end through the heddles and reed dents. This manual method, while effective for small-scale operations or specialized production, was highly labor-intensive and demanded significant skill and experience. For complex warp patterns or wide fabrics, manual drawing-in could take hours, leading to long production delays. Moreover, human error was always a concern, with misdrawn threads often leading to weaving defects that could compromise fabric quality.

In contrast, the SAFIR system automates this entire process, using high-speed robotics and sensor technology to ensure that warp threads are drawn in quickly and accurately. The automated process reduces the time required for warp preparation by a significant margin, enabling mills to switch between warp setups faster and more efficiently. Furthermore, the SAFIR's sensors and computerized control systems eliminate the risk of human error, ensuring that threads are always drawn in correctly. The result is fewer weaving defects, better fabric quality, and overall improved efficiency.

#### ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE TWO SYSTEMS

While manual drawing-in remains a viable option for smaller weaving mills or operations producing highly specialized fabrics, it comes with several limitations. The most significant disadvantage is the time and labor required. A skilled operator may spend hours completing a single drawing-in cycle, especially for wide warps or intricate patterns. This reliance on manual labor also makes it difficult for mills to scale up production or handle large volumes of fabric. On the other hand, manual drawing-in offers a level of flexibility that can be advantageous for very specific or low-volume orders.

In contrast, the SAFIR system offers numerous advantages. It significantly reduces the need for manual labor, leading to cost savings for weaving mills, especially those operating on a large scale.

The system's automation also ensures consistent and high-quality warp preparation, with far fewer errors than manual methods. Mills that use the SAFIR system can handle more complex fabrics and larger production volumes, thanks to the machine's speed and precision. The downside, however, is the initial cost of investing in the SAFIR system, which can be substantial for smaller mills. Additionally, the use of automated systems requires skilled technicians to operate and maintain the machines, though this training investment is outweighed by the long-term gains in productivity and efficiency.

#### WHY SHOULD WEAVING MILLS CONSIDER THE SAFIR SYSTEM?

Weaving mills looking to enhance their operational efficiency and improve fabric quality should seriously consider investing in the SAFIR system. Automation not only reduces the time required for warp preparation but also minimizes the risk of errors that can lead to weaving defects. By reducing reliance on manual labor, the SAFIR system helps mills lower their operational costs and increase productivity. Moreover, as demand for high-quality, complex fabrics continues to grow, weaving mills equipped with advanced automated systems will be better positioned to meet market demands and remain competitive.

The initial cost of investing in a SAFIR system may seem high, but the long-term benefits far outweigh the expense. The reduction in labor costs, combined with the improvements in efficiency and fabric

quality, means that mills can expect a significant return on investment (ROI) within a relatively short period. Additionally, the flexibility of the SAFIR system makes it a sound investment for mills that are looking to diversify their product offerings or enter new markets.

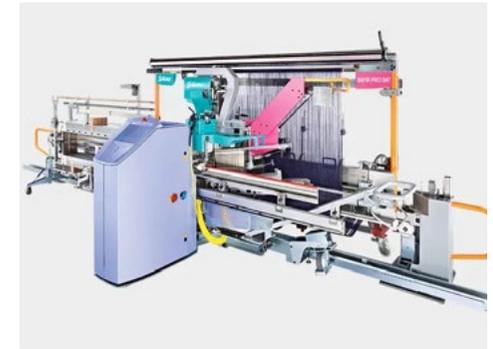
#### CONSIDERATIONS FOR STANDARDS IN AUTOMATION

In terms of compatibility, Stäubli has designed the SAFIR system with open interfaces, allowing it to integrate seamlessly with a wide range of weaving machinery and production systems. This ensures that mills can adopt the SAFIR system without the risk of incompatibility with their existing equipment. Additionally, Stäubli provides ongoing technical support, ensuring that mills can take full advantage of the system's capabilities while minimizing downtime and maintenance costs.

#### CONCLUSION: AUTOMATION AS THE FUTURE OF WEAVING PREPARATION

The Stäubli SAFIR series has transformed the warp drawing-in process, bringing the benefits of automation to weaving mills around the world. By reducing the need for manual labor, improving precision, and speeding up production times, the SAFIR system offers significant advantages to mills looking to stay competitive in today's textile industry.

While the upfront cost of investment may be high, the long-term benefits of increased efficiency, lower labor costs, and improved fabric quality make the SAFIR



The newest member of the SAFIR fleet is the new SAFIR PRO S47 drawing-in machine. It is perfectly tailored to the needs of the Chinese market and will be presented at the ITMA Asia + CITME 2024 in Shanghai in October 2024. © 2024 TexData International

system a valuable addition to any weaving mill focused on growth and innovation. As demand for high-quality textiles continues to rise, weaving mills that embrace automation will be best positioned to succeed in an increasingly competitive market.

[WWW.STAUBLI.COM/TEXTILE](http://WWW.STAUBLI.COM/TEXTILE)



# CINTE TECHTEXTIL CHINA 2024: MORE VISITORS AND GOOD BUSINESS

**T**he recently concluded Cinte Techtextil China 2024 once again showed that in the face of a changing economic landscape, the technical textiles and nonwovens sectors are often at the forefront when it comes to adaptation and innovation. Almost 400 exhibitors from 13 countries and regions presented their latest products in three halls of the Shanghai New International Expo Centre from 19 to 21 September, attracting almost 17,000 visitors (2023: 15,542) from 77 different countries and regions.

The most comprehensive product groups at the fair included nonwovens, woven fabrics, laid webs, knitted fabrics and braidings, as well as technology, equipment and accessories. Highlights included a series of supporting events focused on innovation and sustainability, as well as the return of the German Pavilion and the European Zone, whose participants touted the renewed potential of the domestic market in a range of application areas.

Speaking as the show wrapped up three successful days of business, Ms Wilmet Shea, General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd, said: "Once again, this show has proven its status as Asia's leading technical textiles and nonwovens trade fair. We were of course pleased to welcome back the European Zone and German Pavilion, with those banners and their well-known exhibitors acting as big draws for visitors. As has our fringe programme, after making strong efforts to broaden its appeal while also spotlighting the sustainability and innovation across the show floor. The range of buyers has been fantastic, in terms of both internationality and application area. We saw strong demand in many areas, with products and solutions focused on medical, protective, automotive, industrial and construction especially promising, and we look forward to expanding our offering for these sectors going forward."

Demand for technical textiles and nonwovens is surging across several key industries. The public's heightened concern for effective medical treatment has boosted market opportunities for quality medical textiles. Meanwhile, expanding populations, industrialisation, and urbanisation have also bolstered the need for construction, industrial and protective textiles, with the rise of e-mobility a major driver for growth in automotive textiles.

Covering high-demand products ranging from automotive nonwovens to weaving machines and composite lines, key international players displayed their latest innovations across the show floor. Within the German Pavilion, exhibitors included AUTEFA, J.H. Ziegler, Lindauer DORNIER, Perlon, and Reifenhäuser. Among other standout brands were the likes of ANDRITZ Nonwoven, DILO Group, and Groz-Beckert.

Several prominent companies joined the fair's international exhibitor contingent for the first time, such as Hansa Industrie Mixer and Neuenhauser Maschinenbau in the German Pavilion. Other new exhibitors included AiDLab (Hong Kong), FPC Industrial Company (Saudi Arabia), KSA Polymer Hanoi (Vietnam), Themoanano (Korea), and Nihon Glass Fiber (Japan).

Meanwhile, six Chinese regional pavilions joined the show, namely Foshan Jiujiang; Foshan Xiqiao; Hubei Xiantai; Jiangsu Funing; Zhejiang Tiantai; and Liaoning, making its debut and appealing to buyers of medical, protection, and filtration products. Whether new or returning, or hailing from China or beyond its borders, exhibitors expressed positive sentiments about the fair and its propensity to connect them with the recovering domestic and international markets.

### EXHIBITORS' FEEDBACK

"As one of the most important fairs for us in China, Cinte Techtextil China covers the domestic market, while we also receive a lot of international visitors here, allowing us to exchange ideas and gain market insights. Coming to this show helps us to connect more directly with our customers.

As China is a very big market, very often we sell directly and indirectly to them during the fair, where all our users come together. Today, we can see players from different countries gathering together in one platform, and we believe that China's visa-free policies are indispensable for economic growth", said Mr Kabilen Sornum, Vice President, Asia Pacific, Marketing & E-Commerce, Groz-Beckert East Asia, Singapore.

### VISITORS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

Visiting countries and regions increased by 25 compared to the previous edition, with Korea, Taiwan, India, and Germany among the top ten by visitor number.



© 2024 Messe Frankfurt / HK

VIP buyers were invited from 15 countries, representing 19 diverse companies such as AERO TEXTILE CONCEPT from Mexico, Bartlett Manufacturing from Australia, and Supreme Industries Limited from India.

Meanwhile, the European American Chamber of Commerce & Industry gathered a buyer delegation from 16 countries, with visitors across the fairground impressed with the options on show.

### VISITORS' COMMENTS

"The fair has introduced me to new suppliers and a variety of innovative products, and I am pleased with the sustainable options available. Seeing the future significance of these products, I have already made valuable contacts for potential collaboration. Cinte Techtextil China serves as an excellent gateway to the Chinese and Asian industries, fostering collaboration between European technologies and Chinese manufacturing strengths. While I initially sought specific raw materials such as nonwovens for bag making, I have also discovered interesting safety and protection products", said Ms Claudia Moreno, Sourcing Manager, Group Dragon, Mexico.

### SPEAKERS' INSIGHTS

Mr Karl Borgschulze, Managing Director, Consulting Service International, Hong Kong (Moderator of panel discussion – Innovation as a Driver for Sustainability: Managing Complex Requirements in the Global Textile Industry; Host of Sustainability

Guided Tours) praised the diversity of what was on offer. He said: "On the panel, we learned the necessary production processes already exist, and legislation and financial markets are pushing us in a sustainable direction.

It may be a difficult transition to a circular economy, and that is why fairs are so important – at the different Messe Frankfurt textile fairs, visitors will find a solution for almost everything. Industry players attend Cinte Techtextil China to see what is happening in the market, what is new, and what can be relevant for them. With our Sustainability Tours and Econogy Talks, we aim to provide them with more context and understanding"

### INNOVATIONS AT FRINGE EVENTS

Various fringe events gave fairgoers important insights and increased opportunities for networking and collaboration. These included a panel discussion on how innovation is an important growth driver for sustainability, as well as two Sustainability Guided Tours to highlight green solutions for Mobiltech and other application areas. Other key events included the 12th China International Nonwovens Conference and the Innovation Product Presentation. A real highlight was the AiDLab's (Laboratory for Artificial Intelligence in Design) presentation on how AI can automate the textile inspection process.

Prof Calvin Wong, CEO and Centre Director of AiDLab in Hong Kong, gave a brief summary of the trade fair and his presentation: "What I presented and discussed with the panel was how to use AI to automate the inspection process for woven fabric, knitted fabric, and even nonwovens."



EMS booth at the fair © 2024 Messe Frankfurt HK



Award ceremony at the Cinte Techtextil. © 2024 Dilo



DILO has been awarded for the MicroPunch technology © 2024 Dilo

For example, we integrated our system with Banitore®'s face mask machine which produces 500 pieces per minute, and they can now detect over 99.9% of defects. It is very useful for us to combine a panel discussion with a booth at the fair.

In the presentation we can present what we are doing very clearly, then during the panel discussion draw more attention from the audience, who will be more interested to visit our booth".

### CINTE TECHTEXTIL CHINA INNOVATION AWARD WINNERS

The Cinte Techtextil 2024 Innovation Award was won by DILO with its MicroPunch line and EMS-GRILTECH with its abrasion-resistant and flame-retardant fibre Nexylon®.

### DILO 'MICROPUNCH'

For many years, DILO has been working on the idea of making needling technology usable for nonwovens with a weight range of less than 100g/m<sup>2</sup>, as this would result in numerous advantages compared to the established water jet technology process in terms of the use of the resources of water and energy. In recent years, the German manufacturer of complete lines for needling technology has once again intensified its research in the context of the increasing importance of process sustainability and has once again placed a particular focus on the fine and light nonwovens sector.

The individual elements of the intensive needling technology were once again put to the test and subjected to a complete revision. It was clear that the high production outputs can only be achieved with the elements of two-dimensional kinematics of the needle bar 'HyperPunch' or 'CyclcoPunch'. The high feed rates of approx. 50 mm per stroke required for this, combined with the highest penetration densities for good abrasion resistance values, resulted in the need to double the number of needles or the needle density again, from approx. 20,000 needles/metre/board to approx. 45,000 needles/metre/board. In this context, it became clear that a high level of efficiency was also required when equipping the needle boards with needle modules. To achieve this, completely new ground had to be broken in the design of the needle boards in order to ensure that the modules could be quickly replaced and that a very high level of mechanical precision could be achieved. The previous needling technique was used mainly in materials with a basis weight of approx. 100 g/m<sup>2</sup> to several kilograms per m<sup>2</sup>.

The development of the area below 100 g/m<sup>2</sup> to regions around 30 g/m<sup>2</sup> in the foreseeable future rounds off the applicability of the needling technique and, thanks to the 'MicroPunch' intensive needling technique, opens up an economical field of a wide range of lightweight nonwovens that can now be produced using this purely mechanical process.

The product properties achieved in this way, for example in terms of abrasion values, are fully comparable with hydroentangled nonwovens. However, needled nonwovens are slightly bulkier and more extensible with comparable maximum tensile strength values. These special quality features are particularly interesting for applications in hygiene, medicine, cosmetics and technology.

This new development has made it possible to reduce the energy required to produce lightweight nonwovens by around 75% compared to the bonding technologies used previously. .

### EMS-GRILTECH NEXYLON®

Nexylon fibres are developed by EMS-GRILTECH, a division of the Swiss company EMS-CHEMIE AG, which, among other things, produces and sells Grilon, Nexylon and Nexylene fibres. Nexylon® are high performance PA66 fibers which are processed to high quality nonwovens and spun yarns. Important applications are technical textiles, flame-resistant protective clothing as well as work-wear and uniforms. Nexylon® fibers in the titer range from 1.0 – 220 dtex are available for technical and textile applications with different staple lengths.

### NEXT EXDITION 2024

The next edition of Cinte Techtextil China will be held from 3 – 5 September 2025.

[CINTE-TECHTEXTIL-CHINA.HK.MESSEFRANKFURT.COM](http://CINTE-TECHTEXTIL-CHINA.HK.MESSEFRANKFURT.COM)



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# ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024

THE FAIR IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SHOWCASE FOR BUYERS IN THE CHINESE TEXTILE INDUSTRY, KEEPING THEM ON THE PATH TO TRANSFORMATION

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There are only a few days to go before Asia's leading trade fair for textile machinery, the ITMA Asia + CITME 2024, opens its doors again in Shanghai from 14 to 18 October 2024. Even though the last event, ITMA Asia + CITME 2022, took place just about 11 months ago, as it had to be postponed from 2022 to 2023 due to the pandemic, the current edition is eagerly awaited by all market participants, exhibitors and visitors alike.

This is, of course, because both sides are hoping for good business. For textile machinery manufacturers, China remains an important, if not the most important, market for the sale of their machines and technologies. For textile buyers, the trade fair is the showcase for the latest technologies that they need to meet the ambitious goals of transforming the industry to a higher quality level, which they have set themselves together with the government in the 14th 5-year plan (2021-2025). This means that the basic conditions for a successful trade fair are already in place.

#### **TAILWIND FROM THE CHINESE CENTRAL BANK**

Things could get even better due to current developments. On 24 September, the Chinese central bank approved a package of measures to stimulate the economy. A looser monetary policy should help the economy gain new momentum. As central bank chief Pan Gongsheng announced on Tuesday, the reserve rate for banks is to be lowered by 0.5 percentage points.

This will give financial institutions the equivalent of around one trillion yuan (almost 130 billion euros) in additional leeway for lending. The central bank (PBOC) also held out the prospect of a further 0.25 to 0.50 percentage point cut in the rate over the course of the year, depending on the liquidity situation. Mortgage rates are also set to fall, and the stock market is to be boosted. The measures are obviously intended to stabilise the economy and make it easier to achieve the growth target. The announcement of the measures quickly had an effect on the stock markets, and it is easy to assume that this will also strengthen the investment opportunities of Chinese textile companies.

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON THE LATEST TECHNOLOGIES**

Let's take a look at a few facts and figures about the fair itself. As in previous years, this year's edition will once again be held at the ultra-modern NECC (National Exhibition and Convention Centre) exhibition centre, which was built in 2015 in the Qing-

pu District in the west of Shanghai, close to Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport, and offers 500,000 square metres of exhibition space. The show organisers – CEMATEX and the Sub-council of CCPIT for the Textile Industry (CCPIT-TEX), the China Textile Machinery Association (CTMA) and the China Exhibition Centre Group Corporation (CIEC) – announced at the end of May that they are pleased with the positive response to the registration of exhibition space and that the show is expected to be larger than the previous edition.

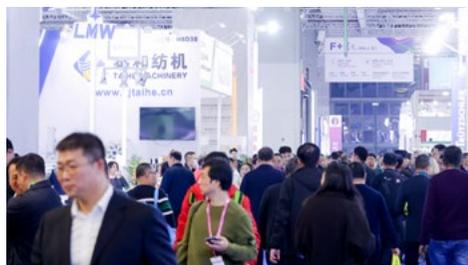
Mr Ernesto Maurer, President of CEMATEX said: "The textile industry is undergoing rapid transformation due to factors such as digitalisation and sustainability. Automated systems are driving efficiency across fibre processing, yarn production, weaving, dyeing and finishing. Textile machinery manufacturers are excited to promote these technologies at the upcoming ITMA ASIA + CITME exhibition."

Mr Gu Ping, President of China Textile Machinery Association concurred: "The textile industry is witnessing rapid changes driven by the progress of the Internet and AI technological advancements, and textile processing technologies are also developing rapidly. ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024 will showcase the latest development trends of the global textile machinery sector. We warmly invite buyers to visit the exhibition to source the highest quality and efficient technologies."

### MORE EXHIBITORS THAN IN 2023

According to the organisers, around 1,700 leading textile machinery manufacturers had applied for a stand by the end of May. Among them are CHTC, Cixing, Fadis, Groz-Beckert, Iteima, Karl Mayer, Memminger-Iro, Murata, Picanol, Rifa, Saurer, Savio, Shima Seiki, SPGPrints, Staubli, Tsudakoma, Trützschler, Toyota, Vandewiele and Yoantion.

The final number of exhibitors is likely to be in this range. Although no official figure has yet been announced, a glance at the exhibitor database shows 1,474 exhibitors from China alone. In addition, there are 50 from Germany, 52 from Italy, 12 from Switzerland and 19 from Japan. Six exhibitors come from the Netherlands, four from France and nine from Belgium. A total of 22 countries are represented with exhibitors. The figures show that ITMA Asia no longer has the internationality of past events in terms of exhibitors. This is certainly a consequence of



Over 100,000 visitors flocked to ITMA Asia + CITME 2022, which was held in November 2023. It will be interesting to see how many visitors there will be at ITMA Asia + CITME 2024. More important than quantity, however, is the quality of the visitors. © 2024 ITMA ASIA+CITME 2024

the pandemic. If we look at the 1474 exhibitors from China in relation to the total number, exhibitors from China account for 87%. However, the Chinese subsidiaries or branches of international companies can be found among them. One example of this is Trützschler, which, in addition to being listed among the German companies, is also taking part in the trade fair with its Chinese subsidiary Trützschler Shanghai and is therefore included in both the number of Chinese exhibitors and the number of German exhibitors. However, this multiple listing only results in marginal shifts overall.

Compared to the previous edition, there will be an increase of more than 10% in the number of exhibitors. It featured more than 1,500 exhibitors from 23 countries and occupied over 160,000 square metres of exhibition space.

### MANY VISITORS CAN COME

ITMA ASIA + CITME 2022 attracted 100,000 visitors from 105 countries and regions, and the organisers would certainly be pleased if this number, like the number of exhibitors, could be increased by 10-20%. Advance visitor registration for ITMA Asia + CITME has been possible since the end of May and is expressly encouraged by the organiser to avoid long waiting times. Visitors who pre-register on the combined show websites (itmaasia.com and citme.com) by 13 October will enjoy early bird rates which are at a 40% discount.

The early-bird rates are US\$9 (RMB 60) for a five-day badge and US\$5 (RMB 30) for a one-day badge. Standard onsite rates are RMB 100 for a five-day badge and RMB 50 for a one-day badge.

### SECTOR CLASSIFICATION AND HALL ALLOCATION IS CLEAR AND SIMPLE AS ALWAYS

In terms of the structure of the fair, everything remains the same. As usual, ITMA ASIA + CITME 2024 will cover 18 product chapters of the textile manufacturing chain and will present a comprehensive range of machines, from spinning, weaving, knitting, nonwoven fabric production, printing and inks, dyeing and finishing to clothing production, recycling, testing and packaging.

Six of the eight halls will be used for the exhibition (3, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1 and 8.1) and two will remain empty (1.1 and 2.1). The largest area will be occupied by spinning machines, with two halls (7.1 and 8.1). These are followed by machines for dyeing and finishing, with 1.5 halls (5.1 and 6.1), rounded off with technologies for digital printing. Machines for weaving (3.1) and knitting (4.1) each occupy one hall, while nonwovens machines occupy part of the spinning halls (7.1). The size of the hall reflects the number of exhibitors. Here you will find 387 exhibitors in Chapter 1 (Machinery for spinning preparation, man-made-fibers production and spinning) and 154 exhibitors in Chapter 2 (Machinery for winding, twisting and texturing). That makes 541 exhibitors involved in yarn production, accounting for 32% of the total number of exhibitors.

## FOCUS ON MEGATRENDS

As ITMA Asia 2024 approaches, the textile industry is facing tremendous changes driven by several megatrends such as sustainability, automation, digitalization and the use of new materials, including recycled fibers. All these changes also affect the Chinese textile industry, as they are in line with the country's broader goals as set out in the current five-year plan. These goals emphasize the need to modernize the manufacturing sector, promote innovation, reduce environmental pollution and, in addition, strengthen local demand. In this context, the innovations presented at the fair will play a crucial role in helping the textile industry achieve these ambitious goals.

## THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO SUSTAINABILITY

One of the main pillars of China's five-year plan is sustainability. The country is committed to reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency, particularly in resource-intensive manufacturing sectors such as textiles. Innovations such as energy-efficient dyeing machines and water-saving textile finishing systems are essential to achieving these sustainability goals. These "sustainable machines", which exist for every textile sector, reduce resource consumption, minimize waste and help manufacturers comply with stricter environmental regulations, while also meeting the increasing demand for environmentally friendly textiles at domestic and international levels. Although sustainability has been at the top of the agenda for textile machine manufacturers for more than ten years, sig-

nificant improvements are still being made with each innovation cycle. For example, there are new, improved machine generations as well as retrofit sets to operate existing machines in a more resource-efficient manner. At the cutting edge of technology, there are even completely new approaches to machine design that lead to very large savings in the use of resources. More sustainable technologies were offered by all world market leaders at the last ITMA and these will certainly be in the spotlight again at the ITMA Asia.

## AUTOMATION AS THE CORNERSTONE FOR PENETRATING NEW MARKETS

Another area of focus is automation, which is essential to improving productivity and quality in textile manufacturing. Automation is particularly important as China grapples with rising labor costs and seeks to reduce its reliance on manual processes as part of an overall effort to improve quality. Automated technologies, such as all types of loading, exchange processes or transport processes, are leading the way in this regard. Automated systems enable factories to optimize their operations, reduce human error and increase production. But these machines not only increase production output, they also ensure the consistent quality needed to compete in local and global markets and to enter higher-quality market segments.

## DIGITIZATION AS A HIGH-TECH BACKBONE

Digitalization is another key trend that supports China's overarching goal of be-

coming a global leader in innovation and high-tech manufacturing. Smart technologies, real-time data analysis and networked production systems enable manufacturers to optimize their operations, reduce waste and improve product quality. This digital shift enables more precise control over production processes, improves product quality, and optimizes resource use. For example, AI-powered spinning systems, intelligent weaving machines, and digital knitting and warp knitting solutions enable manufacturers to automatically track and adjust production processes, not only increasing efficiency but also improving the quality and variety of fabrics produced. They enhance flexibility and customization. This is in line with the government's efforts to promote technological self-reliance and develop advanced industries.

## PRODUCTIVITY BOOSTS ARE ALWAYS A HOT TOPIC

Of course, increasing productivity remains a key focus for all textile manufacturers, even if it is no longer at the top of the exhibitors' posters. Innovations that increase productivity and product quality are essential to ensure that companies remain competitive in a rapidly evolving market. Of course, productivity is also increased by using less energy or making better use of materials. However, there are also more traditional ways of improving speed and throughput. These include the further development of alternative technologies. For example, air-jet spinning machines are moving from a niche position into the mainstream.

Last but not least, new materials and fibers, including recycled fibers, are gaining traction. As sustainability and circularity become non-negotiable, textile producers are exploring innovative ways to process these materials without sacrificing quality or performance. Industries such as healthcare and automotive seek innovative materials with specific performance characteristics. Nonwovens technology is advancing rapidly to meet these needs, with high-speed production and precise quality control systems becoming key features. Lastly, other emerging trends include the rise of functional textiles, with applications in sports, medical, and protective fabrics, demonstrating how the sector is branching into more specialized and high-tech markets. These innovations reflect the industry's shift toward a future that is smarter, greener, and more responsive to global demands.

## CONCLUSION

With all these conditions in place, the stage is set for a remarkable ITMA Asia + CITME 2024. Buyers will find every type of cutting-edge technology they are looking for and that will help them. Exhibitors are looking forward to welcoming their customers, welcoming large numbers of visitors and doing good business. That's the way it should be and the way it could be.

**TEXDATA NEWS ITMA ASIA 2024**

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**ITMA ASIA 2024 (OFFICIAL)**

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[WWW.CITME.COM.CN](http://WWW.CITME.COM.CN)

## ITALIAN MANUFACTURERS LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR TOP FOREIGN DESTINATION

About 50 Italian companies will exhibit at the show. With an area of around 1,400 square meters, Italy ranks among the top exhibiting countries, as in previous editions. 29 Italian exhibitors will show their innovations within the National Sector Groups, organized by ACIMIT and Italian Trade Agency. ITMA ASIA + CITME show has always been the main showcase for textile machinery manufacturers in Asia, that absorbs over 50% of global exports. Moreover China is the world's largest market in the sector (the value of imported textile machinery in 2023 was around 2.6 billion euro).

For Italian manufacturers as well, the Chinese market is the top foreign destination. In 2023, Italian sales to China amounted to 222 million euro. In the first six months of this year, exports to China increased by 38%, while the performance of total Italian exports declined slightly in the same period.



Italy at Techtextil 24 © 2024 TexData International

"We hope that the recovery of the Chinese market, observed in this first half of the year, may be an early indication of a more general upturn in global demand for machinery," says ACIMIT President Marco Salvadè. Over the past few years, demand from Chinese companies has turned to technologies that combine savings in production costs and environmental friendliness, as also demanded by brands and end consumers. "Today, Italian manufacturers can offer highly customized solutions that are particularly suited to making textile production more sustainable," confirms Salvadè. "The Chinese textile machinery market is rapidly evolving, and the level of innovation in the technology requested has risen due to the growing international competition that even Chinese companies face. In Shanghai, Italian manufacturers will display their latest innovations, essential for making textile production more efficient and sustainable."

ACIMIT (Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers) represents an industrial sector that comprises roughly 300 manufacturers (employing around 13,000 people), which produce machinery for a turnover worth of around 2.3 billion euro, of which 86% are exported. Creativity, sustainable technology, reliability and quality are the hallmarks that have made Italian textile machinery worldwide leaders.

[www.acimit.it](http://www.acimit.it)



## STRONG VDMA PARTICIPATION

With 49 exhibiting member companies, ITMA ASIA + CITME will see again a strong VDMA participation. German exhibitors make up the largest foreign presence at the trade fair.

The exhibiting VDMA members cover nearly all different machinery chapters with a focus on spinning and manmade fibers, nonwovens, weaving, braiding, knitting & hosiery, finishing & dyeing and textile processing. The heading of this year's VDMA activities in Shanghai will be "smart technologies for green textile production". The VDMA members are committed to reducing the consumption of resources in the textile value chain with highly efficient technologies. The goal is to utilise potential for resources, such as textile material, water, energy and chemicals, to minimise CO2 emissions. So, for VDMA members the show is an opportunity to reassert that they remain at the forefront of new ideas, products and technologies in the textile machinery sector.

With a view to the expectations for this year's ITMA ASIA, Dr. Harald Weber, Managing Director of the VDMA Textile Machinery Association said: "ITMA ASIA 2023 was the first edition of the show after the Covid pandemic. After years of lockdowns and travel restrictions, people could meet

again, which made the event something special. In the meantime, the economic situation has deteriorated noticeably. But there is some light at the end of the tunnel. This makes the participation of VDMA member companies at ITMA ASIA 2024 even more important. The presence at the event is essential to ensure an exchange of information between machinery manufacturers and textile producers in Asia and to get ready for the sector's restart."

Throughout the last years, around 50% of the German exports of textile machinery and accessories went to Asia. Between January and July 2024, textile machinery worth about 580 million euros have been shipped from Germany to Asia, a decrease of 25% compared to 2023 due to the weak global economic situation. With 240 million euros, the biggest export market was again China, followed by India, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Pakistan and Vietnam.

The VDMA team in Shanghai is staffed again with colleagues from the VDMA headquarters in Germany as well as from VDMA China. With these joined forces, the team is well prepared to support the exhibiting member companies on site.

[www.vdma.org](http://www.vdma.org)

## SWEDISH MACHINE BUILDERS MEETING THE NEEDS OF A CHANGING MARKET

At this year's fair, members of TMAS, the Swedish textile machinery association, will introduce technologies to assist regional manufacturers in the production of more sustainable fabrics for today's increasingly demanding markets.

China's mills, for example, currently consume more than 50% of all of the world's fibres and its synthetic fibre manufacturers are responsible for over 70% of global production.

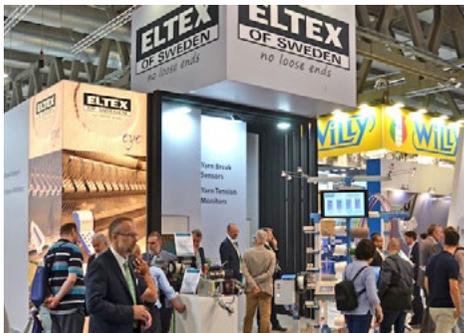
To meet their sustainability goals, many leading brands are now looking for the incorporation of even higher percentages of recycled fibre into the yarns that their products are made from.

"Many Chinese cotton spinning companies have been processing yarn mill waste for decades using rotor spinning technology, which is best suited for recycled yarns that contain a high short-fibre content," says TMAS Secretary General Therese Premler-Andersson. "In the past, the practice of incorporating a percentage of recycled content into yarn blends has not been anything to do with meeting sustainability goals, but simply about achieving an acceptable quality with the cheapest available fibres. Now, however, these mills are in the position of potentially being able to charge a premium for yarns containing higher recycled content."

According to the Zurich-based International Textile Machinery Association (ITMA), China has installed just under four million new rotor spinning spindles since 2015.

The potential is huge and this industry-wide development puts high demands on changing and adopting production with upgraded technologies not only in spinning, but also further up the production chain, something that TMAS members are well aware of and prepared for.

[www.tmas.se](http://www.tmas.se)



Eltex booth at ITMA 2023  
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# OERLIKON OFFERS ENERGY-EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR FURTHER CONVERSION AND EXPANSION OF A SUSTAINABLE CHINESE MANMADE FIBER PRODUCTION

This year's ITMA Asia + CITME 2024 trade fair appearance of the Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions Division will once again focus on current challenges for the global textile machinery industry: the consistent replacement of old systems with energy-efficient and sustainable technology solutions, the use of digital software and hardware solutions to increase productivity and ensure material quality, and the traceability of all products to enable the recycling of the raw materials used in a future-oriented circular economy.

## OERLIKON POLYMER PROCESSING SOLUTIONS

Oerlikon invites all visitors to address their questions to their experts on site and enter into dialogue with them. In Hall 7, B09 they will be waiting to discuss their answers to current questions of the present and future on a ca. 100m<sup>2</sup> booth between 14 and 18 October 2024.

Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions offers complete solutions ranging from extrusion and polycondensation systems to texturized yarn, accompanied by automation and digital solutions. The supply of all process steps from a single source ensures a coordinated technology that guarantees the high quality of the fibers and yarns produced. The entire product portfolio of one of the world's leading suppli-

ers of machines and systems primarily to produce polyester, polypropylene and nylon will therefore take centre stage at this year's trade fair.

"The Chinese market continues to have enormous potential for us, even if it has not been able to match the previous times in terms of large new installations of man-made fiber plants and the associated expansion of production capacity for good two years. However, there is still a great need for renewal, especially in terms of sustainability. Shutting down old plants and replacing them with new, modern and energy-efficient technologies is the path to a better and lower-emission future for us all," explains André Wissenberg, Head of Marketing, Corporate Communications and Public Affairs.



With its BCF technologies (right), Oerlikon Neumag is even more the leading supplier of carpet yarn production systems today © 2024 Oerlikon

"We have been contributing to sustainability with our technology solutions for decades. Be it by increasing energy efficiency with each new generation of machines or by processing new materials," Wissenberg continues.

Oerlikon is proud of the fact that the company has been offering innovative solutions for the textile industry under the e-save sustainability label for 20 years and has saved over 15 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> thanks to the machines and systems developed and installed on the market during this time.



André Wissenberg, Head of Marketing, Corporate Communications and Public Affairs © 2024 Oerlikon

[www.oerlikon.com/polymer-processing](http://www.oerlikon.com/polymer-processing)



With WINGS POY (left), Oerlikon Barmag continues to set the benchmark for innovative manmade fiber production © 2024 Oerlikon

# TRÜTZSCHLER WILL UNVEIL LATEST CARDING TECHNOLOGY FOR CHINA



The world's first 12-head comber, the TCO 21XL © 2024 Trützschler

The Trützschler Group will present its innovative machines and technologies in spinning, card clothing and nonwovens at Booth C11 in Hall 7. The whole team is looking forward to numerous visitors and good discussions at the trade fair and is counting the days until it finally starts.

## TRÜTZSCHLER SPINNING

Trützschler Spinning will present the newest carding technology for China. Details about this innovation will be disclosed at the show. Visitors should not miss the opportunity to experience this new technology first hand.

Experts from Trützschler's Spinning business unit will also present the third generation of the Integrated Draw Frame, the IDF 3. And of course, the teams will also stand prepared to give up-close insights into the world's first 12-head comber, the TCO 21XL. These innovations achieve higher efficiency, lower energy consumption, digitalization and intelligent automation for fiber processing in spinning mills. The technological expertise enables customers to boost value and profit by producing sliver with higher levels of quality at outstanding production speeds.

## TRÜTZSCHLER NONWOVENS

Representatives from the Nonwovens business will showcase solutions for more sustainable wipe materials made of pulp and other fibers from renewable resources. This includes results from trials of bamboo pulp combined with viscose/lyocell fibers to make fine baby, body and flushable wipes with mechanical, haptic and visual properties comparable to traditional paper-grade NBSK (Northern Bleached Softwood Kraft) pulp. Bamboo is fast-growing and can be harvested after just three years. That makes it a more sustainable alternative to pulp from softwood trees like pine, spruce or larch because those trees take decades to grow – so harvesting them has a larger negative impact by depleting forest resources.

The teams will also put a spotlight on Trützschler's market-proven technologies for Wet-Laid/Spunlace (WLS) and Carded/Pulp (CP). These processes have proven effective in creating cost-efficient, biodegradable nonwovens for flushable wipes and single-use wet wipes.

## TRÜTZSCHLER CARD CLOTHING

Last but not least, Trützschler Card Clothing (TCC) will present a wide range of their comprehensive service portfolio, demonstrating



Trützschler will unveil its newest carding technology in China at the ITMA Asia + CITME 2024  
© 2024 Trützschler

how the combination of expertise in clothings, wires and service will bring machinery performance to the next level.

[www.truetzschler.com](http://www.truetzschler.com)

# PIONEERING YARN TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FUTURE

Saurer will showcase its latest advancements in spinning and twisting technology, reinforcing its leadership in the textile industry. From cutting-edge machines to sustainable solutions, Saurer will present an impressive lineup of innovations at booth A55 in hall 8, offering a glimpse into the future of yarn production.

## REVOLUTIONARY SPINNING SOLUTIONS

Saurer will introduce its next-generation Autoairo air spinning and Autocoro 11 rotor spinning machines, designed to provide maximum flexibility and efficiency for a variety of yarn types, including recycled fibers. The Autocard SC 8 will make its public debut, featuring a new design that enhances fiber uniformity and material utilization. The Zinser 51 ring spinning machine, known for high speed and energy-saving capabilities, will also be demonstrated live, showcasing its ability to produce high-quality compact yarns, such as Siro Compact, with minimal energy consumption.

## SUSTAINABILITY AT THE CORE

Saurer continues its commitment to sustainability with machines that are optimized for recycled fibers. The Autocoro 11, with its Recycling Xtreme edition, is particularly suited for processing short,

mechanically recycled fibers. This machine reduces energy consumption by an additional 10% compared to previous models, making it an ideal solution for eco-conscious textile producers. The BD 8 semi-automatic rotor spinning machine offers further energy savings and ergonomic features, making it a standout choice for economic waste spinning.

## NEW AUTOCARD SC 8: HIGH PERFORMANCE AND AUTOMATION

The new Autocard SC 8 is engineered for productivity, with the largest carding section in the industry, ensuring improved fiber uniformity and treatment. Its automated settings and smart monitoring systems, including temperature detection, keep carding gaps consistent for enhanced sliver quality. This machine is particularly effective for processing recycled fibers, simplifying operations and boosting production efficiency.

## PRIMETWISTER AND COMPACTTWISTER: ENERGY-EFFICIENT TWISTING

Saurer will also present the PrimeTwister, a two-for-one twisting system designed for staple fiber yarns, offering exceptional flexibility across a wide range of yarn counts. Its innovative spindle geometry reduces energy consumption by up to

40%, making it an eco-friendly option for yarn producers. The CompactTwister, with its advanced spindle and drive design, further optimizes energy use and doffing times, ensuring high-quality twisted yarns for various applications.

## AUTOMATION AND DIGITALIZATION FOR ENHANCED PRODUCTIVITY

Saurer will highlight its automation and digitalization solutions aimed at streamlining operations and improving productivity. The Senses data analysis tool offers real-time insights into machine performance, enabling manufacturers to respond quickly to quality deviations. Additionally, Saurer's automated systems for roving, ring spinning, rotor spinning, and twisting mills help reduce lead times, enhance output, and minimize labor costs.

## A LOOK AHEAD

Saurer's presence at ITMA Asia 2024 emphasizes its focus on sustainable, high-efficiency textile production. With innovations like the Autoairo, Autocoro 11, and PrimeTwister, Saurer is well-positioned to lead the industry into the future, offering solutions that meet the evolving demands of yarn production while maintaining a commitment to sustainability and quality.

Visitors can expect to see these groundbreaking technologies in action and learn how Saurer's machines are shaping the yarns of tomorrow.

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



Autocoro rX Recycling Xtreme yarn guide upgrade  
© 2024 Saurer



High performance card Autocard SC 8 will be unveiled at the exhibition © 2024 SAURER

# ATY ONE-STOP SOLUTION PROVIDER READY FOR CHINA HEBERLEIN LAUNCHES NEW COMPONENT AT THE SHOW

Heberlein, the leading supplier of air interlacing and air texturing jets, aims to impress visitors with an amazing technical achievement in DTY and the latest components, including the brand new HemaJet-LB06. The jet housing shows great compatibility and makes the Swiss company a one-stop supplier for air-texturing processing.

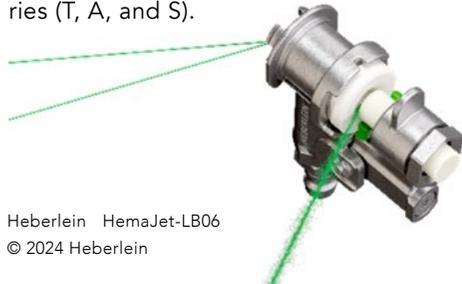
In China, the ATY industry is an interesting niche of synthetic yarn production. The sector is exposed to strongly fluctuating cycles and recently at a peak level. Various industries, including fashion, home textiles, and industrial applications demand air-textured yarns for the local market and export. Heberlein reports satisfying ATY business in China. Heberlein optimistically look forward to upcoming ITMA Asia + CITME 2024 in Shanghai (China) where they expect an interested audience for ATY and their jet housing novelty.

Heberlein is also proud to present the latest DTY jet insert X44.29 with the smallest dimensions ever produced. This jet is designed for applications up to 30dtex – that's super tiny.

Visitors are welcome in hall 7 at the Heberlein booth D25!

## HEMAJET-LB06 – ECONOMIC SOLUTION FOR ATY

Heberlein, known for the production of high-quality jets for air texturing, offers the complete solution from a single source. The brand new robust HemaJet-LB06 jet housing is compatible with all jet core series (T, A, and S).



Heberlein HemaJet-LB06  
© 2024 Heberlein

This compatibility makes it an ideal solution for various air texturing process requirements. The distance between the impact body and the jet core can be easily adjusted using various gauges, allowing for precise control and optimization of the texturing process. Heberlein jet cores are the reliable solution for ATY since decades. Suiting a wide range of requirements like compact and uniform yarns from 30dtex up to 3,000dtex or softer, textile yarns achieved through a higher overfeed potential, finally Heberlein provides a solution for every application. Customer can choose from the great jet core portfolio and whatever jet core fits the needs, it fits – guaranteed – the housing too.

## SAVINGS BY THE HOUR IN CHINA

Even in China where energy costs are relatively low, the saving potential was recognized. Heberlein's new APe series with the capability to reduce compressed air consumption by 15% with the same number of knots had DTY yarn producers reaching for their calculators. While energy costs are lower in China compared to most markets, a texturizer there still saves about one dollar per hour. For this calculation, Heberlein cites GlobalPetrolPrices.com and uses a price of \$0.087 per kilowatt-hour (December 2023 meridian). It is also based



Heberlein APe-142  
© 2024 Heberlein

on the industry standard for costing of 0.12 kWh for one Nm<sup>3</sup>. The effective cost savings in China for a machine equipped with APe series jets (288 positions) amount to \$24.3 per day on the basis of 3bar and 24 hours. The APe series covers an application range from 67 dtex up to 800 dtex. The new type of jet insert APe141 helps to achieve a high interlacing density of 80 to 160 FP/m and a light to medium stability.



Heberlein PolyJet-TG-3 © 2024 Heberlein

## THE NEW GENERATION OF SPINNING JET

Worldwide recognition finds the PolyJet-SP3 for spinning textile yarn. For producers of demanding technical yarns the PolyJet-TG-3-HP405A/WO70 (TopAir) produces yarn with unmatched even and uniform interlacing density as well as with strong, reliable knots for high tenacity yarn (HT and HMLS). Heberlein's PolyJet-TG-3 achieves more than 12 knots per meter with 1100f98dtex and 1670f98dtex. Yarn parameters of tensile strength, elongation, and elasticity show smaller variations, for ultimate quality benefits, as well as improved unwinding behaviour of the bobbins.

A typical Heberlein benefit comes with the PolyJet series SP-3 and TG-3. The high-performance air interlacing jets for textile and technical yarns offer a unique quick-release system, so jet packs can be exchanged within seconds, with just a single 180° turn. They also feature a compact, space-saving design and a roll bar to protect the ceramic surfaces.

[www.heberlein.com](http://www.heberlein.com)

# INNOVATION AT THE FOREFRONT SAVIO WILL SHOW LATEST TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

Savio will be participating to ITMA Asia + CITME exhibition and will present the newest automatic winder Proxima Smartconer® and air-jet spinning machine LYBRA Smartspinner®. Industry leaders and key players will have the opportunity to get together in Shanghai, the earth of Chinese business hub, to explore new business opportunities, forge worldwide connections, and showcase the latest products, services, and technologies in the textile industry.

Savio will display its latest product range solutions which testify Savio's dedication to innovation technology and strong partnerships across the industry. Savio looks forward to welcome visitors at Savio booth in Hall 8 booth C38 for discovering more about our winding, twisting and air jet spinning innovations.



Proxima Smartconer® presented at ITMA 23  
© 2024 TexData International

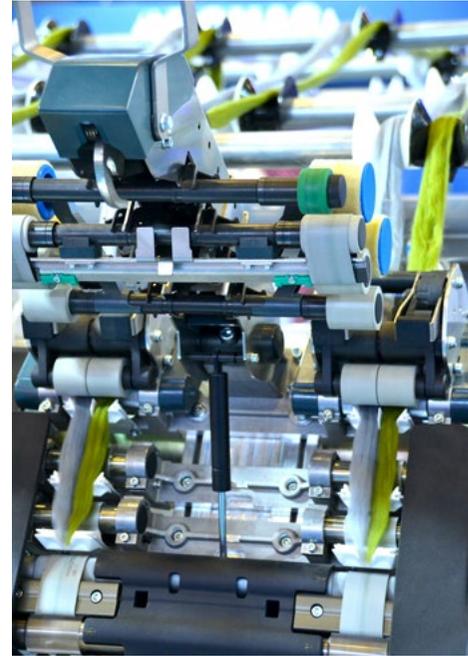
## **NEXT DESTINATION: PROXIMA SMARTCONER®**

The new winding machine Proxima Smartconer® is setting the benchmark in Savio automatic winding.

Savio has combined the name Proxima with Smartconer®: it stands for a high-tech winding machine, capable of perfectly adapting to demands of Connectivity, Industry 4.0 and Industrial Internet of Things.

Thanks to the innovations, spinners will get a machine featuring high-tech capabilities, thanks to a design with a strong focus on the main benefits for customer's competitive advantage: high productivity, low energy consumption, premium yarn quality, automation, and data connectivity.

Proxima Smartconer® has been designed with the foremost attention to the customer's needs in the optimal utilization of a winding machine. Investing in equipment that enables to work faster and reduces manual and repetitive tasks, can increase both efficiencies and overall productivity. The same applies to a new equipment that does more of what is needed, faster, safer, with better quality but with less waste, less maintenance, and less resource usage.



Lybra Smartspinner® in action at ITM 2024 exhibition  
© 2024 TexData International



A standout feature of the LYBRA Smartspinner® is the MultiBlend System, which allows for the blending of two separate slivers directly in the spinning unit.  
© 2024 TexData International

## **SAVIO'S NEW AIR-JET SPINNING MACHINE: LYBRA SMARTSPINNER®**

With Lybra Smartspinner®, Savio says they spin different with a versatile and smart machine. Savio's air-jet spinning machine has been developed with an original spinning technology to serve the customers in specific applications of textile production: knitting, home textiles, sunshades. Air-jet spun yarn has a soft and smooth character, perfectly adapting to creating functional & fashionable fabrics.

With LYBRA Smartspinner®, they want to offer their customer a versatile, flexible, cost saving and easy-to-use machine. Air-jet spinning offers to yarn manufacturers the opportunity to produce yarn at high production rates and low processing costs. The air-jet spinning technology use the same preparation of the conventional ring spinning. This processing works directly with slivers instead of roving, integrating three textile processes: roving, spinning & winding.

Space needs for air-jet spinning is 25-30% less than for ring-spinning equipment producing the same capacity, thereby reducing building costs. Also, a smaller area requires less climate control and reduced operating personnel. This results in further substantial savings, maximizing the return on investment.

[www.saviospa.com](http://www.saviospa.com)

# STÄUBLI SHOWS LATEST INNOVATIONS FOR BOOSTING WEAVING EFFICIENCY

Stäubli is constantly offering new and improved high-performance systems and solutions for processing woven fabrics for various sectors including fashion, home textiles, automotive, protection, medical and carpeting as well as highly complex technical textiles for aeronautics and future applications. At the fair, the company is again presenting novelties. From automation in the weaving mill to the intricate process of perfect shed formation – even for the most complex Jacquard fabrics – Stäubli Textile is presenting an overview of solutions designed for performance, durability, and thus profitability of the weaving mill. Visitors to the booth will see a wide range of machines and systems for efficient weaving preparation, frame and Jacquard weaving, as well as carpet and technical weaving.

## WEAVING PREPARATION- NEW SAFIR PRO S47

A world premiere is being unveiled: the SAFIR PRO S47 drawing-in machine, which is perfectly adapted to the needs of the Chinese market. It features innovative AWC 2.0 (see below) and Layer and Offset Management for efficient automatic drawing in of double-warp-beam applications for staple fibers and especially fancy denim applications.



The SAFIR PRO S67 automatic drawing-in machine for high speed processing of quality warps has been unveiled at ITM 2024. Now the SAFIR PRO S47 will be introduced © 2024 Stäubli

## STYLE CHANGES – AUTOMATION – ACTIVE WARP CONTROL 2.0

Yarn detection faster than the eye can see. The SAFIR PRO S47 is equipped with state-of-the-art AWC 2.0 technology. Using image processing, data analytics, advanced algorithms & software, and high-performance processors, AWC 2.0 instantly interprets measured data and controls every thread. This gives mills expanded capabilities to produce innovative, outstanding, and unique designs.

## WEAVING PREPARATION - MAGMA

Weaving preparation is fast and efficient with the MAGMA warp tying machine, which is easy to use and ensures perfectly tied warps.

## ENERGY-EFFICIENT JACQUARD MACHINES

Lower your energy consumption. The LX PRO and N4L PRO Jacquard machines being demonstrated feature the innovative MX PRO module, controlled by NO-EMI electronics architecture and the TC8 controller. These energy-efficient Jacquard machines promise weavers outstanding reliability and ease of use.

## LATEST BINDING TECHNIQUES

Also on display will be new carpet weaving innovations that can ideally meet Chinese market requirements. Designed for rapid style changes and sophisticated weave structures, the ALPHA 580 UNIVERSAL carpet weaving machine can produce a variety of carpet qualities at up to 5.3 m weaving width.



Stäubli carpet weaving system ALPHA 580 UNIVERSAL © 2024 Stäubli

With convenient yarn handling, high operational reliability, and long service life, this machine is an exceptional solution for carpet weaving mills. A broad selection of impressive carpet samples will be on display at the Stäubli booth.

## DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR OPTIMIZED PROCESSES IN WEAVING MILLS

The MyStäubli customer portal includes an equipment center to support efficient maintenance in your weaving mill and help you get the most out of Stäubli machinery and solutions. This makes it easy for mills to take proper care of their machinery, optimally train their teams, expand their knowledge, and take advantage of the redesigned e-shop for simple management of spare parts. MyStäubli is a multifaceted solution designed to suit every weaving mill's technical and personal needs, recognizing that each weaving mill is one of a kind. Stäubli respects that, which is why a broad spectrum of interaction options has been integrated into MyStäubli.

Weaving mills can now register with MyStäubli to discover Stäubli's comprehensive support platform. Stäubli looks forward to welcoming visitors to the Stäubli booth D09 in Hall 3.

[www.staubli.com](http://www.staubli.com)

# PIONEERING THE FUTURE OF WEAVING TECHNOLOGY

Itema, the leading global provider of weaving solutions, is set to showcase its latest innovations. Attendees at the prestigious event will experience cutting-edge technology from Itema, including the GalileoRX rapier weaving machine and the high-performance P7300HP V8 projectile weaving machine. Visitors can find Itema's exhibit in Hall 3, Booth C11.

## REVOLUTIONARY WEAVING MACHINES: GALILEO-RX AND P7300HP V8

Itema's GalileoRX rapier weaving machine, launched in 2022 and designed specifically for the Chinese and Asian markets, will be one of the major highlights at the event. Building on the success of the R9000 series, the GalileoRX boasts advanced technological features, offering unmatched performance, textile mastery, and eco-efficiency. The machine is recognized for its ability to weave a wide range of fabrics with superior quality

and precision. At ITMA Asia, a 2300 mm wide GalileoRX will demonstrate apparel weaving and feature two key innovations: the New Generation Machine Console with a 15.6-inch touch screen, and the iS-AVER@fancy, which reduces raw material waste by eliminating waste selvage and handling up to six weft colors, making it a key contributor to sustainable weaving.

Another show-stopping machine on display is the legendary P7300HP V8 projectile weaving machine, marking its grand return to the global stage in its 70th anniversary year. Renowned for its reliability and productivity, the P7300HP V8 excels in weaving heavy-duty textiles like denim and technical fabrics. With a 3900 mm weaving width, this machine is perfect for producing high-quality, wide fabrics, continuing to push the boundaries of projectile weaving technology.

## 70 YEARS OF PROJECTILE WEAVING TECHNOLOGY

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Itema's groundbreaking projectile weaving technology, introduced with the TW11 machine in 1954. The TW11 revolutionized the industry by enabling the efficient production of wide and heavy fabrics, laying the foundation for generations of projectile weaving machines, including today's P7300HP V8.

## EXPANDED PRESENCE AT THE FAIR

Itema's presence at the event extends beyond its own booth. Visitors will also have the opportunity to see eight additional Itema rapier weaving machines showcased at our partner booths, including Huzhou Hyundai (Julibao) at Hall 3 – C08, Lilai (Hall 3 – Booth A38), Tongxiang (Hall 3 – Booth E07), Changfang (Hall 3 – B35), Huling and Song&Song (Hall 3 – A67).

## COMPREHENSIVE WEAVING SOLUTIONS

Itema will also showcase its complete range of weaving solutions. HelloItema, Itema's user-friendly customer portal, offers a range of digital functionalities, enabling users to order spare parts, track orders in real-time, open service tickets, and access machine documentation from any device. The platform is accessible through a browser, app, or directly via the console on new Itema machines.



P7300HP-V8 denim © 2024 ItemaGroup

Visitors will be able to learn more about the full range of OEM spare parts and the latest solutions for upgrading existing Itema looms, as well as previous brands such as Sulzer, Somet, and Vamatex. As part of Itema Group, Lamiflex will showcase advanced weaving accessories, including high-performance rapier tapes and sprocket wheels. Lamiflex, part of the Itema Group, will showcase advanced weaving accessories, including rapier tapes and sprocket wheels.

## ITEMA'S COMMITMENT TO INNOVATION

As the textile industry evolves, Itema remains at the forefront, offering high-performance, sustainable weaving technologies. Visitors will witness firsthand how Itema continues to push the limits of innovation, ensuring that its solutions meet the growing demands of global textile markets.

[www.itemagroup.com](http://www.itemagroup.com)



Galileo RX © 2024 ItemaGroup

# GROZ-BECKERT WILL SHOW INNOVATIONS FOR SMARTER, MORE EFFICIENT TEXTILE PRODUCTION PROCESSES

Groz-Beckert is set to unveil a range of cutting-edge innovations in textile machinery components. From October 14-18, 2024, visitors can expect a showcase of the company's latest developments in knitting, weaving, nonwovens, tufting, sewing, and spinning at Hall 4, Booth C04. With a focus on precision and performance, Groz-Beckert's offerings align with the growing demand for enhanced efficiency and sustainability in textile production.

## KNITTING INNOVATIONS ON DISPLAY

In knitting, Groz-Beckert will present two new circular knitting systems developed in collaboration with machine manufacturers. These systems are designed to improve energy efficiency, extend cleaning intervals, and enhance process reliability. Additionally, the SAN™ SF needle and SNK SF sinker will be featured, promising reduced contamination when knitting with staple fiber yarns. Flat knitting specialists will see innovations like the SAN™ TT, ideal for technical textiles, and the SAN™ FY, designed for complex effect yarns.

## WEAVING TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENTS

For the weaving sector, Groz-Beckert introduces the KnotMaster tying machine, renowned for its user-friendly operation,

quick warp changes, and reduced production downtime. Visitors will also discover their comprehensive range of weaving healds and frames, designed to enhance fabric quality and maximize performance on high-speed machines.

## NONWOVENS AND SPINNING HIGHLIGHTS

The nonwovens sector will see two groundbreaking felting needles aimed at processing abrasive fibers, alongside the HyTec™ P jet strip, which boasts improved hardness and performance. In spinning, Groz-Beckert will showcase their new maintenance-free cylinder card clothing, promising extended service life and lower operating costs, along with newly developed flats for fine yarn processing.



Warp Knitting needle module © 2024 Groz-Beckert



Felting needle module © 2024 Groz-Beckert

## SEWING AND TUFTING SOLUTIONS

Groz-Beckert's sewing innovations will be highlighted by the SAN™ needles, designed for demanding applications, alongside the Ideal Needle Handling (INH) system, which streamlines needle management and documentation. The tufting segment will feature the proven Gauge Part System, designed to produce high-quality tufted products such as carpets and artificial turf, ensuring precision and durability in every stitch.

With a strong focus on precision, performance, and sustainability, Groz-Beckert's participation at ITMA Asia 2024 is set to captivate industry professionals. The company's innovations align with the growing industry demand for smarter, more efficient textile production processes, making this a must-visit booth for those looking to stay ahead in a rapidly evolving market.

## PRESENTATIONS AT THE EXHIBITION BOOTH

Presentations on various topics will be held several times a day at the Groz-Beckert booth. Interested people can visit the Groz-Beckert stand at the appropriate times. The presentations last between 10 and 20 minutes.

	Oct 14 Mon	Oct 15 Tue	Oct 16 Wed	Oct 17 Thu
10:00		N		LW
11:00		LW	WK	FK
14:00	WK	FK	W	N
15:00	W	SC	SC	SC

Presentations 🕒 10 - 20 min

- FK** Flat Knitting: Groz-Beckert SAN™ TT
- WK** Warp Knitting: Introduction of warp knitting module designation
- LW** Legwear: Sock needle dur™ technology
- W** Weaving: Latest developments of weaving products
- N** Nonwovens: Digital Ecosystem, CB-Barb – Tear drop – EcoStar™
- SC** Spinning: New long lifetime maintenance free wire CMF

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

# SEIZING ON THE OPPORTUNITIES OF CHANGE LIGHTHOUSE SOLUTIONS FOR THE CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME

Under the motto "Master the Change", the KARL MAYER GROUP (Hall 4 / Stand C27) presents innovations from its strong brands KARL MAYER, STOLL and KM.ON.

In a volatile market, the Chinese textile industry continues to report growth rates, particularly through exports. Despite its successes, the entire sector must overcome many challenges. Chinese manufacturers also need to proactively adapt to market dynamics, tap into new growth opportunities and achieve profitability despite increasing cost pressure. In addition, the issue of sustainability is becoming increasingly important and the shortage of skilled workers is making itself increasingly felt.

Visitors can expect an exhibition of forward-looking solutions from the fields of mechanical engineering, digitalization, textile products, applications and customer support. A wide range of warp knitting and flat knitting machines from the Group's product portfolio and textile trends will also be on display at an accompanying in-house show at KARL MAYER (CHINA). The event in Changzhou starts the day before the trade fair opens. One highlight will be the opening of the new showroom of the KARL MAYER subsidiary in China with solutions from all areas of technology.

## PATHS TO NEW MARKET POTENTIAL FOR WARP KNITTING

There will above all be suggestions for more sales and new business. One highlight is an HKS 2-S in the new gauge E 44, which opens new doors in the outdoor fashion sector with its fine, lightweight yet dense textile products and high efficiency. The supple articles score points above all for their unsurpassed protective effect against UVA rays - as a result of their extremely close-meshed structure - and high breathability. This makes them extremely interesting for use in sun protection clothing.

Also on show will be functional, fashionable products for sportswear items for the growing yoga trend and apparel fabrics with the look and feel of typical cotton fabrics. The warp-knitted alternatives are pleasant to wear thanks to the comfortable stretch, easy to care for and can be produced sustainably and highly productively due to the technology used. Another new and promising highlight is the use of an E-40 warp knitted fabric as a top layer for thick down jackets. Shoe textiles are more popular than ever before. Breathable and stylish warp knits from a HKS 3-M ON PLUS and spacer fabrics from double raschel machines will be presented. The functional spacer textiles are also interesting as sustainable mono-material solutions for upholstery in car seats and mattresses and with jacquard for the fashion industry.



Technical Textiles: TM WEFT 2nd generation  
© 2024 KARL MAYER

Visitors can also look forward to a presentation of the latest Care Solutions offerings. The focus will be on the customer portal myKM.ON, which gives users access to the digital world of the KARL MAYER GROUP, and the brand new Energy Efficiency Solution (EES), which supports warp knitting companies on their way to lower electricity consumption and greater sustainability.

The accompanying in-house show at KARL MAYER (CHINA) will focus on the performance demonstration of selected machines, including the latest representatives of the three-bar HKS and TM series, a TM 2-SE in E 36, a MT 84/1/40 S and a RE 4-1 in E 36. In addition a new mid-range machine for the double raschel sector will be launched and the new Care Solutions products will also be presented.

## FLEXIBILITY, SPEED AND PRICE AWARENESS FOR THE SUCCESS OF FLAT KNITTING MILLS IN THE COMMODITY MARKET

STOLL will be presenting machine innovations for success in the volume market with a focus on a good responsiveness to changing demand trends.

On show will be a CMS 703 ki knit and wear, which combines the unrivaled high flexibility of all STOLL "knit and wear" models with maximum efficiency and an extremely attractive price. The production repertoire includes finished articles as well as fully-fashion products. With a working width of 72"/183 cm, the usual size range of consumers can be ideally covered, especially in Asia.



Warp Knitting: Shoe upper from RDPJ 6 2 EL  
© 2024 KARL MAYER



Warp Knitting: Sun Protection fabric  
© 2024 KARL MAYER

Another exhibit with an excellent price-performance ratio and maximum flexibility is the CMS 503 ki L. A working width of 50" makes an unlimited variety of patterns possible for a wide range of full-fashion applications. Articles can also be produced in larger sizes, which are increasingly in demand in America, but also in Asia and Europe.

The ADF 530-32 ki FLEX is the leader in terms of production diversity among STOLL's exhibits. The productive all-rounder can produce a unique range of different knitted items. Trousers, a dress, a top, a sweater and a fabric for upholstery applications - all these articles will be produced on the ADF 530-32 ki FLEX during the trade fair. This flexibility is made possible by the innovative, automatically adjustable comb gap control. Among other things, the innovative solution extends the gauge range of the classic STOLL multi-gauge spectrum and opens up new scope for incorporating different strength ranges into garments, for example to realise cuffs.



STOLL CMS 703 ki © 2024 KARL MAYER

The exhibition for the flat knitting industry will be complemented by examples from the production repertoire of STOLL machines. The highlight of the textile innovation show is the presentation of the new STOLL Trend Collection NOCTURNO.

Further machine innovations will be on display at the in-house show at KARL MAYER (CHINA). Some of the models are part of the repertoire of the new showroom, are mainly manufactured at the Changzhou site and are also part of the STOLL range for the volume market, including various representatives of the CMS series, which cover a wide range of gauges from E3.5.2 to E20.

### MORE EFFICIENT PROCESSES THROUGH DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

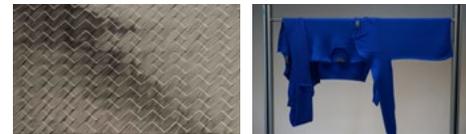
KM.ON will be presenting innovative digital solutions for warp knitting and flat knitting companies. The Digital Production Management (DPM) – a game-changing solution for the shop floor organization of warp knitting companies that offers seamless monitoring and control of production processes in real time, creating the basis for optimizing operational processes – and the Quality Monitoring System (QMS), a revolutionary AI-based innovation for quality management on warp knitting machines, will be part of the trade fair lineup.

STOLL PPS powered by KM.ON enables greater efficiency in flat knitting. With the production planning tool for controlling, planning and optimizing production, reaction and throughput times can be shortened and delivery reliability improved –



STOLL PPS powered by KM.ON enables greater efficiency in flat knitting © 2024 KARL MAYER

essential performance features in today's highly dynamic markets. For a faster workflow from idea to market launch, the innovative products of the CREATE family will be presented.



Non-crimp carbon fabric © 2024 KARL MAYER

CMS 703 ki knit and wear product © 2024 KARL MAYER

### LOWER COSTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DURING WARP PREPARATION

Customers from the warp preparation sector can look forward to solutions for greater efficiency and sustainability. The highlights include a latest-generation direct warper, which impresses with a very good price-performance ratio. The beams produced are of the highest quality and enable maximum efficiency in their processing in the weaving mill. With the new CASCADE system, customers can reduce steam consumption and thus costs and environmental impact during the sizing process. The basis for this is efficient energy recycling within the cylinder dryer, which is explained using illustrative material.

With the Smart Size Box, a technology has also been developed that monitors the condition of wear components and therefore makes a valuable contribution to predictive maintenance. As will be demonstrated at the trade fair. To ensure high machine availability, a combined Care X-Tend and Connectivity Package will also be presented.

### NEW PILLARS AND MORE BUSINESS THROUGH TECHNICAL TEXTILES

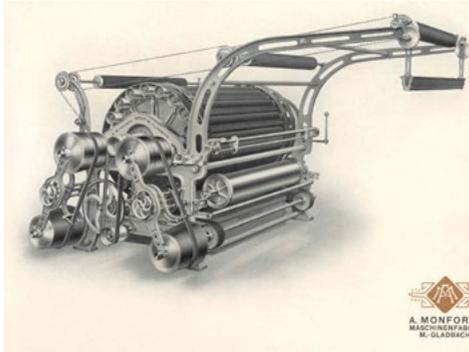
KARL MAYER's Technical Textiles business unit will be presenting promising sales potential in the composites market with non-crimp fabrics made of glass and carbon fibers. The customized reinforcement textiles can be produced extremely efficiently and with the highest quality on KARL MAYER's multiaxial warp knitting machines and used in a wide range of lightweight construction applications, as a digital media presentation will show. Conventional textile manufacturers who want to enter this new field of technology can also benefit from KARL MAYER's experience and expertise.

The in-house show in Changzhou will also feature innovative weft insertion machines with an excellent price-performance ratio in the volume market. On display will be a 2nd generation TM WEFT for the production of lightweight warp knitted fabrics for outerwear and interlinings, as well as a newly developed machine that focuses on the production of lightweight glass fabrics for use in the construction industry, for example as plaster grids or crack tape, thanks to its special performance.

[www.karlmayer.com](http://www.karlmayer.com)

# 140 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

## MONFORTS WILL PRESENT FUTURE-READY SOLUTIONS



The first Monforts machines were mechanical napping units for raising the surfaces of cotton fabrics  
© 2024 Monforts

Monforts, a renowned name in the textile machinery industry, is set to mark its 140th anniversary with an impressive display at the Shanghai exhibition. The event will highlight Monforts' long-standing commitment to technological innovation, particularly in the areas of fabric finishing and coating solutions.

### A LEGACY OF INNOVATION

Founded in 1884, Monforts has evolved from manufacturing mechanical napping machines for cotton fabrics to becoming a global leader in advanced textile finishing technologies. Throughout its history, the company has consistently pioneered new methods in fabric treatment, from electronic drives to modular machine

construction. Monforts' Managing Director, Gunnar Meyer, emphasizes that the company remains dedicated to digitalizing its technologies, ensuring complete quality control and energy efficiency in textile production processes.

### INTERNATIONAL REACH AND TECHNOLOGICAL MILESTONES

Monforts established its international reputation as early as the late 19th century, with its innovative machines being showcased at global events such as the World Fair in Chicago. The company's technological advancements continued into the 20th century, including the introduction of the single-spindle lathe in the 1930s, a major export success due to its precision.

Over the years, Monforts has built on its legacy by significantly expanding its range of textile machines, gaining a dominant position in fabric finishing technologies. Since joining the CHTC Fong's Group in 2013, Monforts has further solidified its status as a key player in the global textile machinery industry.

### INDUSTRY-LEADING FABRIC FINISHING SOLUTIONS

Monforts Montex stenters, known for their versatility and energy efficiency, have become the industry standard for

fabric finishing. These machines are used in processes such as drying, stretching, heat-setting, and coating, and are particularly prominent in denim, home textiles, and technical textiles. The Montex stenter range, alongside other technologies like the DynAir relaxation dryers and Thermex continuous dyeing ranges, has revolutionized textile finishing by enhancing production throughput and reducing energy consumption.

Other notable innovations include Monfortex compressive shrinking ranges and the Montex@Coat and coaTTex coating units, which offer customers premium quality and versatility in various fabric applications.

### ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTRE (ATC)

Monforts' Advanced Technology Centre (ATC) in Mönchengladbach, Germany, has been a vital resource for customers since its opening in 2013. The €2.5 million facility allows manufacturers to test their textiles on Monforts' finishing machines under real production conditions. This 1,200 square-meter center houses two full finishing lines and a Thermex range for continuous dyeing, as well as smaller-scale systems for batch trials.



Today, Monforts Montex stenters and coating units are the industry standard for the fabric finishing industry  
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Through this resource, Monforts is able to provide its customers with valuable recommendations to optimize fabric finishing processes, ensuring high-quality results. The ATC has proven instrumental in driving the company's commitment to innovation and customer service.

### MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE IN AUSTRIA

Monforts' finishing machines have been manufactured at the Montex Maschinfabrik plant in St. Stefan, Austria, for over 40 years. This facility specializes in high-precision machine production, from laser cutting to pre-assembly and quality management. Montex works closely with the Monforts research and development team to prototype and test new ideas, ensuring that each machine is ready for series production.



The company's range of textile machines has been significantly expanded based on decades of accumulated know-how and a dominant position in fabric finishing technologies has been established © 2024 Monforts

While Monforts produces standardized machines, the company is increasingly involved in the construction of bespoke machines tailored to the specific needs of customers, particularly in technical and special textiles. This focus on customization demonstrates Monforts' versatility and commitment to addressing unique industry challenges.

## OUTLOOK FOR ITMA ASIA 2024

At the exhibition, Monforts will not only celebrate its 140 years of innovation but also look toward the future, with a continued emphasis on digitalization, energy efficiency, and customer-focused solutions. Attendees can expect to see the latest in fabric finishing technology, with a focus on sustainability and precision engineering.

With its rich history and forward-looking approach, Monforts remains a key innovator in the textile machinery industry, shaping the future of fabric finishing technologies for decades to come."

"Our machines are built to last and known for their robustness and long service life," concludes Gunnar Meyer. "Textile companies making major capital investments in new manufacturing lines rely on durability from our production ranges, and it's for this reason that there are currently an estimated 2,000 Monforts machines in operation worldwide – some of which were first installed over 30 years ago."

"It would not have been possible for Monforts to have thrived for 140 years without successfully and rapidly responding to industry changes and this continues today. I would like to thank all of our dedicated staff in Germany and Austria and our many colleagues and partners around the world for their continuous contributions to ensuring our further longevity."

[www.monforts.com](http://www.monforts.com)

## SETEX STREAMLINES COMPLEX PROCESSES FOR FASTER & SMARTER TEXTILE PRODUCTION

As the textile industry evolves towards sustainability, efficiency, and smart manufacturing, SETEX addresses these issues with advanced solutions designed to simplify complex processes and boost efficiency. SETEX will showcase technologies that are transforming production floors into sustainable and digitally connected environments.

### SETEX E390 SERIES

The SETEX E390 series controllers provide superior process control for both batch and continuous operations. These controllers optimize energy use, reduce resource consumption, and integrate seamlessly with third-party systems via OPC-UA, offering sustainable, high-performance operations for textile manufacturers.



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### ORGATEX X2

OrgaTEX X2 delivers real-time monitoring of machine performance with Smart Recipe, enabling precise process adjustments to reduce waste and maximize resource efficiency. The system's BI dashboards provide comprehensive insights into all aspects of production, from machine logs to dispensing system accuracy, alarms, and malfunctions, empowering manufacturers to make informed decisions, boost productivity, and minimize downtime.

In collaboration with SETEX partner DataTex at the Textile Solutions Group, SETEX ensures seamless integration between production floor automation and ERP software, enabling complete digital transformation and optimized resource management.

[www.setex-germany.com](http://www.setex-germany.com)

## **TECNORAMA WILL SHOW AUTOMATED DYEING INNOVATION FOR JUST-IN-TIME DELIVERIES**

TECNORAMA will present its advanced DOS&DYE® system, designed to revolutionize small-batch production dyeing. Combining the DOSORAMA WSL dispensing machine with DYRAMA dyeing modules for yarn bobbins of varying sizes, this system offers continuous, automated operation 24/7, even without the need for constant supervision. The DOS&DYE® 6000 excels in efficiency, enabling dyeing processes to run seamlessly without interruption until all materials in the queue are processed. With a remarkable "Right First Time" accuracy rate of 96%-98%, this system minimizes the need for color sampling, ensuring fast, high-quality production to meet tight delivery schedules. This automation is a game-changer for reducing production costs and ensuring just-in-time deliveries with excellent technical quality.

[www.tecnorama.it/en](http://www.tecnorama.it/en)



DOS&DYE® 6000 © 2024 Tecnorama

## **BALDWIN WILL REVOLUTIONIZE SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE FINISHING**

BW Converting's Baldwin Technology will highlight its TexCoat™ G4 precision spray system, offering cutting-edge, sustainable textile finishing solutions. TexCoat G4 revolutionizes traditional pad-dry-cure methods by precisely applying chemicals, such as softeners, antimicrobials, and water repellents, only where needed on the fabric surface. This non-contact spray technology reduces water, chemical, and energy consumption by up to 50%, enhancing both sustainability and cost efficiency.

Baldwin's partnership with Monforts and Archroma merges expertise in finishing equipment and advanced chemistries to provide manufacturers with next-generation, eco-friendly solutions. This collaboration empowers textile mills to optimize resource utilization, improve product quality, and meet sustainability goals.

[www.bwconverting.com](http://www.bwconverting.com)



Baldwin Technology TexCoat™ G4 © 2024 Baldwin

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## AUTEFA SOLUTIONS IS PUTTING THE SPOTLIGHT ON OCTIR WOOL CARDING SETS

AUTEFA Solutions will present its latest innovations in nonwoven technology at ITMA Asia/ CITME, which takes place in Shanghai from October. The focus will be on solutions to improve product quality, various lifecycle management offerings and energy efficiency. As a leading supplier of turnkey nonwoven systems and machinery, AUTEFA Solutions will present its needling lines, aerodynamic nonwoven forming systems, spunlace and thermobonding lines.

As the world market leader in fully automatic bale packing systems for staple fibre and tow, AUTEFA Solutions offers the complete range from fibre transport to the baler as well as bale transport and storage of pressed, wrapped and strapped bales in bale warehouses.



Autefa Solutions WORSTED CARD for tops  
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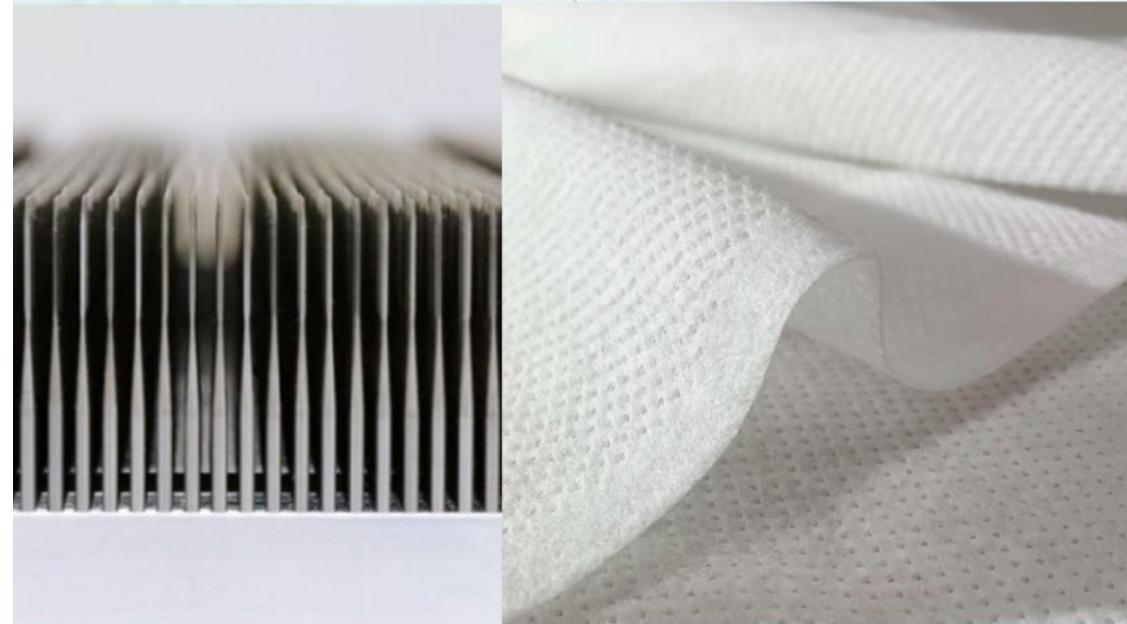
AUTEFA Solutions' "Uni-Fork System" eliminates the bottleneck in fibre production logistics.

With its flexible baling concept, AUTEFA Solutions sets the benchmark for fast growing fibre line capacities.

AUTEFA Solutions manufactures OCTIR wool carding sets for processing fine and extra fine wool, cashmere and silk for high quality weaving and knitting yarns. The product range includes carding sets for processing standard wool and synthetic fibres for carpet and blanket yarns, as well as worsted cards for processing wool, mohair, angora, cashmere, synthetic fibres and silk for high quality weaving and knitting yarns. AUTEFA Solutions wool carding sets provide excellent fibre control, resulting in a yarn with greater evenness and better CV and Uster values. These cards offer easier opening of the card cover and increased throughput and blending.

Visit AUTEFA Solutions at ITMA Asia/ CITME 2024 in Hall H8 booth E10, to learn more about the innovative technologies.

[www.autefa.com](http://www.autefa.com)



**MicroPunch**

**Green Needling Technology**

**for Lightweight Nonwovens**

**Energy reduction up to ca. 75%**





# ITM2024

## REVITALIZING THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY THROUGH INNOVATION AND GLOBAL COLLABORATION

The ITM 2024 International Textile Machinery Exhibition and HIGHTEX 2024, held from June 4-8 at the Tüyap Fair and Congress Center in Istanbul, stood as one of the most significant gatherings for the textile machinery industry in 2024. Coming off the heels of ITMA 2023, ITM 2024 offered an important follow-up event where the latest innovations in textile machinery and technologies could be explored by industry professionals. This year's event, organized in partnership with Tüyap Tüm Fuarçılık Yapım Inc., Teknik Fairs Inc., and in cooperation with TEMSAD (Textile Machinery and Accessories Industrialists Association), was a major highlight on the global textile calendar, showcasing technologies that promise to shape the industry in the years ahead.

Held across 13 halls and covering an impressive 120,000 square meters, the exhibition attracted 1,385 companies and company representatives from 71 countries. Over 66,200 professional visitors from 99 countries attended, underscoring the fair's international appeal and its importance as a strategic platform for the textile industry. The trade fair featured a unique balance of cutting-edge technology presentations, valuable networking opportunities, and in-depth discussions on the industry's current challenges and future prospects. What stood out this year was the enthusiasm around the latest technology developments, which dominated the conversations, as well as the high-quality interactions between exhibitors and visitors.

### ITM 2024: A MAJOR EVENT FOLLOWING ITMA 2023

After the ITM 2022 event, which was the first major gathering for the industry following the pandemic, ITM 2024 arrived at a crucial time. As one of the first large-scale events after ITMA 2023, ITM 2024 allowed visitors, especially those who were unable to attend ITMA due to visa restrictions, to see the newest technological advancements firsthand. Many visitors from emerging markets, particularly in Africa and Asia, had the opportunity to experience cutting-edge machines unveiled in 2023 for the first time.

The atmosphere at ITM 2024 reflected the broader industry sentiment: one of anticipation and excitement for what lies ahead. Exhibitors and visitors alike were

eager to engage, discuss, and explore the newest innovations. Despite the low demand for textile machinery globally, which has been weighing on the industry, the mood among exhibitors remained optimistic. Many exhibitors saw the event as a key opportunity to reconnect with clients, establish new relationships, and showcase their latest developments.

### EXHIBITORS AT ITM 2024: PRESENTING CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

With 1,385 exhibitors from 71 countries, ITM 2024 showcased a comprehensive array of products covering every aspect of textile production—from fiber processing and spinning to weaving, knitting, dyeing, finishing, and digital printing. Major industry players, as well as new entrants, filled the halls with innovative products that address some of the industry's most pressing needs, particularly around automation, sustainability, and digitalization.



ITM 2024 © 2024 TexData International

Despite global economic challenges and soft demand for textile machinery, exhibitors at ITM 2024 emphasized the value of technological advancements and innovative machinery over immediate sales figures. While discussions around business deals were somewhat muted, many exhibitors focused on the long-term potential of new technologies to transform the industry, noting that the primary goal of their presence at the fair was to build contacts and gain visibility in key markets. Several exhibitors took the opportunity to introduce world premieres of their machines, reflecting a strong push towards the future. Key sectors, such as spinning, weaving, knitting, and digital printing, were particularly active in presenting innovations that promise to streamline production processes, reduce environmental impact, and increase flexibility.

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON AUTOMATION: EFFICIENCY AND PRECISION IN TEXTILE MANUFACTURING**

One of the most significant trends at ITM 2024 was the growing importance of automation in textile manufacturing. As manufacturers continue to seek ways to improve production efficiency and precision, automation solutions were a focal point of the exhibition. Exhibitors from the spinning machinery sector showcased advanced airjet spinning technology, which is known for its high productivity and ability to deliver consistent quality at scale. These machines, capable of processing various fiber types—including recycled materials—were a particular highlight.

Weaving machine manufacturers, too, demonstrated how automated warp preparation systems can significantly reduce setup times and downtime between production runs, offering a more efficient way to handle complex fabric patterns and large production volumes. The focus on automation reflected a broader trend in the industry: the need to reduce reliance on manual labor, improve consistency, and adapt to changing market demands.

Visitors were particularly impressed with AI-powered textile machinery, which integrates smart sensors and data analytics to optimize production processes in real time. This technology is especially valuable for manufacturers looking to reduce waste, improve product quality, and increase production speeds while minimizing human intervention.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY: A CORE FOCUS IN TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

As sustainability becomes a critical priority for the global textile industry, ITM 2024 highlighted the industry's efforts to reduce its environmental footprint. Textile production is known for its resource-intensive processes, but exhibitors at the trade fair presented a range of solutions designed to make manufacturing more environmentally friendly.

Dyeing and finishing machinery manufacturers showcased energy-efficient technologies that drastically reduce water consumption and the use of harmful chemicals. In particular, advancements in

low-water dyeing technologies and reduced-energy textile finishing processes were well-received by visitors, many of whom are grappling with the challenge of aligning production with increasingly stringent environmental regulations.

One of the standout innovations in this area was the rise of recycling technologies, which allow manufacturers to process and repurpose textile waste. Exhibitors demonstrated machinery capable of handling recycled fibers and bio-based materials, helping to close the loop on textile production and reduce the industry's dependence on virgin raw materials. These developments are crucial as the industry works towards a more circular economy, addressing the demand for sustainable textiles from both consumers and brands alike.

#### **DIGITALIZATION: SMARTER MANUFACTURING THROUGH CONNECTIVITY**

Digitalization was another major theme of ITM 2024, reflecting the industry's increasing reliance on smart technologies to enhance production efficiency and quality. Digital solutions, such as smart looms, digital knitting machines, and intelligent fabric inspection systems, were widely displayed, demonstrating how data-driven insights can optimize manufacturing processes.

Exhibitors emphasized the role of Industry 4.0 technologies in enabling greater connectivity between machines and production systems. For example, cloud-

based platforms that allow manufacturers to monitor production data remotely are becoming increasingly popular, particularly for companies with multiple production sites. These platforms enable manufacturers to coordinate operations more effectively, ensuring that product quality remains consistent across different locations.

AI-driven solutions also featured prominently at ITM 2024. Smart systems capable of automatically adjusting machine settings based on fabric type, production conditions, and other variables were hailed as game-changers for textile manufacturers. These systems offer the potential to significantly reduce waste, lower energy consumption, and improve product quality—critical factors as the industry strives to meet growing demand while maintaining competitive margins.

#### **VISITOR PROFILE: A DIVERSE AND ENGAGED AUDIENCE**

The visitor turnout at ITM 2024 exceeded expectations, with 66,200 professional visitors from 99 countries attending the event. This represented a notable increase compared to previous editions of the trade fair, underlining ITM's growing importance on the global stage. One of the key factors contributing to this increase was the visa liberalization policies implemented by Turkey, which made it easier for visitors from regions such as Africa, Asia, and Latin America to attend.

In terms of visitor demographics, the fair attracted a diverse group of professionals from across the textile value chain. The visitor breakdown revealed that 45% of attendees held management positions, while 24% were involved in production, and 7% in research and development. This high level of seniority meant that exhibitors were engaging with decision-makers who had the authority to make purchasing and investment decisions.

The sectors represented at the trade fair were equally diverse. Key areas such as fiber & spinning, weaving, dyeing & finishing, and digital printing accounted for a significant portion of the visitors, reflecting the broad appeal of the exhibition. Non-wovens, home textiles, and denim sectors also saw considerable interest, highlighting the growing demand for specialized machinery and technologies in these areas.

A remarkable change in the visitor structure was once again the proportion of international visitors, which had already increased significantly two years ago at ITM 2022. While 55% of the visitors came from Turkey, 45% were foreign visitors, which impressively confirmed the development of ITM into one of the most important international trade fairs.

#### **INTERNATIONAL VISITORS: A STRONG EUROPEAN PRESENCE AND EMERGING MARKETS**

ITM 2024 welcomed 29,790 foreign visitors, which accounted for 45% of the total attendees. This is a steady increase from previous years, continuing the upward

trend observed since 2022. In 2013, only 6,359 international visitors attended ITM, and by 2022, this number had grown significantly to 28,380. This growth continued in 2024, reinforcing ITM's position as a truly global event for the textile machinery industry.

The breakdown of international visitors by continent shows a dominant European presence, with 63.3% of foreign visitors coming from European countries. Given Europe's importance as a hub for textile technology and innovation, this is not surprising. European nations like Germany, Italy, and Switzerland continue to lead in terms of machinery manufacturing, while countries like Italy, Spain, and Portugal maintain strong positions in textile production. The high percentage of European visitors reflects the proximity of Turkey to Europe and the strategic importance of ITM for European manufacturers.

Asian visitors made up 28.7% of the foreign audience, which is reflective of Asia's importance as a textile-producing region. In particular, ITM 2024 is the decisive trade fair, especially for the Asian countries in Turkey's immediate vicinity, to be able to take a quick look at the latest technologies with short distances. This applies in particular to the Arab states and to the countries bordering the Caspian Sea. And of course ITM 2024 is also a good opportunity for entrepreneurs from the textile-producing countries of Vietnam, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India to meet many of their suppliers in one place.

African visitors accounted for 5.9% of the international audience, which is noteworthy. While this percentage may seem small compared to Europe and Asia, it signals the rising importance of Africa as a textile-producing region. In recent years, countries like Ethiopia, Egypt, and Morocco have emerged as key players in the textile industry, driven by their competitive labor costs and strategic location for exporting to both European and North American markets. The participation of African visitors at ITM 2024 suggests a growing interest in adopting advanced textile machinery and technologies to support the continent's ambitions to become a major global textile hub. This could indicate the potential for significant future growth in African textile production as companies seek to modernize their operations and expand their capacity.

The growth of international visitors from emerging markets also reflects Turkey's unique position as a bridge between continents.

#### **DOMESTIC VISITORS: STRONG REPRESENTATION FROM KEY TURKISH TEXTILE HUBS**

Domestic visitors from Turkey made up the majority, with 36,410 attendees (55% of the total). Over the years, domestic attendance has remained relatively steady, with 32,897 visitors in 2013, rising to 40,884 in 2016, peaking at 44,694 in 2018, and stabilizing around 36,120 in 2022. The slight increase to 36,410 in 2024 reflects the continued importance of ITM for Turkish textile manufacturers, even amid global economic challenges.

The regional distribution of domestic visitors provides insight into the geography of Turkey's textile industry. The Marmara region, which includes Istanbul and major textile cities such as Bursa, Yalova, and Tekirdağ, accounted for 46.16% of domestic visitors, which is consistent with its status as the heart of Turkey's textile and apparel production. Istanbul's proximity to the fair, combined with its position as a leading textile hub, made it easy for companies in this region to attend.

The Aegean region, including cities such as İzmir and Denizli, contributed 19.39% of domestic visitors. This region is home to some of Turkey's most significant textile exporters, particularly in the home textiles and towel sectors. The representation from this region reflects the continuing strength of these industries and their reliance on the latest machinery to remain competitive in the global market.

Visitors from the Mediterranean region, comprising Adana, Kahramanmaraş, and Antalya, made up 11% of attendees, while Central Anatolia contributed 4.07%. Eastern Anatolia and Southeastern Anatolia, regions known for their expanding textile industries, accounted for 5.31% and 13.07%, respectively. Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa in Southeastern Anatolia are particularly important centers for textile and carpet production.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF ITM 2024: KEY INNOVATIONS AND SPECIAL EXHIBITION ZONES**

ITM 2024 featured several special exhibi-

tion zones, each highlighting key areas of growth within the textile industry. One of the most popular sections was the Denim Technologies Special Section, which returned for the second time due to high demand. Located in Hall 11A, this zone showcased the latest technologies in denim production, including machines for washing, dyeing, finishing, and cutting. Visitors from both large-scale manufacturers and boutique producers flocked to see how automation and digitalization are transforming denim production, with a strong focus on sustainability and efficiency.

### HIGHTEX 2024: A LEADING PLATFORM FOR TECHNICAL TEXTILES AND NONWOVENS

Running alongside the ITM 2024, HIGHTEX 2024, the International Technical Textiles and Nonwovens Exhibition, reaffirmed its status as the most significant event of its kind in Turkey and the surrounding regions. HIGHTEX brought together the industry's leading manufacturers, innovative technology companies, and global buyers to showcase the latest advancements in nonwoven products, raw materials, and technical textiles technologies.

As the only exhibition of its kind in Turkey and one of the most important in the broader Middle East and Eastern Europe regions, HIGHTEX 2024 attracted considerable attention and participation from key industry players.

The event took place at a pivotal time when technical textiles are playing an increasingly crucial role in numerous industries, from automotive and healthcare to construction and protective wear. With technical textiles becoming more integrated into everyday life, the importance of HIGHTEX has grown exponentially. Exhibitors at HIGHTEX 2024 not only displayed their latest products but also engaged in valuable cooperation and networking opportunities. Many attendees were eager to explore new applications for technical textiles, particularly in areas such as sustainability and smart textiles, where innovative solutions are driving growth.

HIGHTEX 2024 reached a record occupancy rate, a testament to the rising demand from leading manufacturers and new entrepreneurs. Both exhibitors and visitors praised the event for its comprehensive showcase of cutting-edge technologies and the breadth of business opportunities it presented. Companies specializing in nonwoven materials, smart textiles, and high-performance fabrics exhibited a wide array of solutions that cater to the growing needs of industries ranging from medical textiles to industrial fabrics.

Since its inception in 2005, HIGHTEX has evolved into a crucial meeting point for the technical textiles and nonwovens sectors in the Middle East and Eastern Europe. The exhibition is widely regarded as a go-to event for companies seeking to expand their presence in these rapidly growing markets. As a simultaneous event to ITM, it leverages the scale and significance of its sister fair, creating an even broader platform for innovation, business development, and international trade.

Looking forward, the increasing demand for technical textiles and nonwovens in sectors such as healthcare, filtration, automotive, and construction will continue to drive the importance of HIGHTEX. With sustainability and advanced material

technologies becoming essential components of modern production, the exhibition is set to maintain its critical role in shaping the future of technical textiles across the region and beyond.

### OUTLOOK: A POSITIVE FUTURE

Looking ahead, the mood at ITM 2024 was cautiously optimistic. While the demand for textile machinery is expected to remain soft in the short term, exhibitors and visitors alike expressed confidence in the long-term potential of new technologies to transform the industry. Many exhibitors emphasized that their goal at the fair was to meet customers and discuss their needs as well as to introduce their latest products to key markets, laying the groundwork for future business opportunities.

As ITM 2024 came to a close, many companies had already reserved their places for ITM 2026, reflecting the importance of this event for the global textile machinery industry. With the industry's focus on automation, sustainability, and digitalization, the coming years will see continued innovation, and ITM will remain a crucial platform for showcasing these advancements.



Over the years, ITM has developed into one of the four most important textile machinery trade fairs in the world. At ITM 2024, a few exhibitors such as Stäubli, the ItemaGroup, KarlMayer-Stoll, Epson and Mesdan have presented world premieres, which was previously reserved for ITMA © 2024 TexData International

## EXHIBITOR HIGHLIGHTS AND STATEMENTS

Finally, let's take a look at a few exhibitors' stands and machines and their statements about ITM 2024

### TRÜTZSCHLER

Trützschler Spinning highlighted innovations in carding, combing, and digital technologies. The TC 30i card stood out with its 35% increase in active flats and 14% longer carding length, offering high performance and sustainable raw material use through its waste separation system. The TCO 21XL comber, the world's first 12-head comber, boosts productivity by 50% while saving 25% of space, maintaining high-quality sliver.



Trützschler booth highlighting the truecycled process  
© 2024 TexData International

Trützschler also introduced its TRUECYCLED brand, offering a complete textile recycling solution, turning waste into high-quality fibers. This holistic system ensures top-quality sliver production and avoids unnecessary fiber shortening, reflecting Trützschler's commitment to sustainability and efficiency. "The location of ITM 2024 is so strategic that all our international customers can come from many

important markets. We all hope that ITM will bode well for the industry, enabling us to have inspiring exchanges, so I believe it will be a driving force for the industry." Dr. Bettina Temath Trützschler Global Marketing Manager

### SAURER

Saurer showcased energy-efficient and flexible solutions for pre-spinning, spinning, and twisting, including all five end spinning applications: air, rotor, ring, compact, and worsted ring spinning. The Autoairo 11 was a highlight, producing durable Belairo yarns with high pilling resistance at competitive costs. The focus on recycling featured the BD 8 and Auto-coro 11 machines, designed for efficient processing of recycled fibers. Additionally, the Zinser 51 ring-spinning machine demonstrated energy savings and improved yarn quality, while the CarpetCabler/CarpetTwister 1.12 exhibited sophisticated yarn twisting for high-end carpets. Saurer also emphasized automation, offering customizable solutions to improve process control, quality, and productivity across spinning mills.



High interest in the new Saurer Autoairo 11  
© 2024 TexData International

"ITM Exhibition is very important for Turkey as well as for the whole region. It offers a great opportunity to meet new customers. We had many visitors from outside Turkey, which shows the importance of ITM in the region. ITM 2024 went well for our company", said Pia Terasa, Vice President Marketing and Communications at Saurer.

### OERLIKON

Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions and BB Engineering highlighted their cutting-edge technologies in Hall 7. The focus was on complete solutions from melt to yarn, fibers, and nonwovens, with particular interest in their sustainable machinery. Key innovations included recycling technologies for PET waste, biopolymers, and circular economy solutions, along with their renowned e-save initiative, celebrating 20 years of promoting sustainability. Oerlikon Neumag showcased the EvoSteam process for more efficient staple fiber production and introduced new bicomponent yarn (BCF) for the carpet market. Additionally, atmos.io was revealed as the next evolution of their Plant Operation Center, offering enhanced data processing and control for textile mills.

"Aware of the economic challenges, Oerlikon is prioritizing the Turkish market, which it considers important for future project negotiations. We see ITM 2024 as a springboard for market development. We are targeting new contracts for Vario-Fil and compact spinning solutions", said



Oerlikon with large-scale visualisations of their extensive innovations © 2024 TexData International

Andre Wissenberg, VicePresident Marketing, Corporate Communications and Public Relations at Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions.

### USTER

Uster showcased two key systems designed to enhance profitability and sustainability for spinners: FiberQ and RSO 3D. FiberQ optimizes raw material usage, saving 0.5% to 2% of waste in mill operations, which can translate to substantial cost savings. It combines powerful data analysis with textile expertise, ensuring consistent yarn quality and minimizing defects like barré faults.



Uster dedicated to quality  
© 2024 TexData International

Meanwhile, the RSO 3D system integrates the Uster Sentinel and Quantum 4.0 for intelligent ring spinning optimization, improving process efficiency and traceability. It enables precise spindle monitoring, reducing waste and maximizing profitability. Both systems offer spinners a significant return on investment, helping mills improve quality control and streamline operations for long-term sustainability. "We had many more visitors and customers from Turkey and neighboring countries. We had very good meetings and sales projects during the exhibition. There was a specific project that we were not expecting, it came up during the exhibition and we were able to finalize it. We are optimistic about the overall experience at ITM", said Uster Technologies CEO Davide Maccabruni.

## SAVIO

Savio showcased its latest innovations, including the Proxima Smartconer®, a cutting-edge automatic winder designed for high productivity, energy efficiency, and connectivity in line with Industry 4.0 standards. Also featured was the LYBRA



LYBRA Smartspinner® enables the blending of two separate slivers directly in the spinning unit © 2024 TexData International

Smartspinner®, an air-jet spinning machine that delivers versatile, cost-effective yarn production with high output and lower space requirements. A standout feature of the LYBRA Smartspinner® is the MultiBlend System, which allows for the blending of two separate slivers directly in the spinning unit. This system enables flexible and efficient yarn production, allowing manufacturers to adjust material blends or colors from the machine, reducing costs and optimizing processes, especially for knitting and home textile applications. "ITM 2024 is a valuable platform to meet customers from Turkey, Central Asia and other regions. Despite the economic challenges, ITM 2024 remains important for the industry, providing opportunities for flexibility, customer engagement and future-oriented discussions amid global uncertainty", said Savio CEO Mauro Moro.

## HEBERLEIN

Heberlein showcased its cutting-edge technology for producing advanced technical textiles. The PolyJet-TG-3 air interlacing jet was a standout, delivering unmatched yarn evenness and strong, reliable knots for high-performance yarns. This latest generation of jets enhances tensile strength, elongation, and elasticity, improving yarn quality and unwinding behavior. TexJet-ATY offered versatile options for air-jet textured yarn production, optimizing output for a wide range of materials including polypropylene. Additionally, the AirSplicer-3 Flex splicer



Samuel Gerber, Head of Textile Technology at Heberlein, was very comfortable with the fair © 2024 TexData International

was highlighted for its ability to produce tear-resistant, knot-free splices for technical fibers like aramid, carbon, and glass. Heberlein's innovative components are driving yarn innovation across industries, offering visitors advanced solutions for high-performance textiles.

## MARZOLI

Marzoli, a Camozzi Group company, presented cutting-edge solutions aimed at enhancing spinning efficiency and performance. A key highlight was the Roving Frame FTM320, the longest machine in its class, which boosts efficiency by up to 5% with its central headstock and independent double-side modules.



Ing. Christian Locatelli featuring the nonwoven solutions © 2024 TexData International

Marzoli also showcased its innovative A.I.-enabled platform, designed to enhance production by up to 5.5% and reduce maintenance costs by 30%. The booth also featured nonwoven solutions for wipes, medical, and filtration applications, emphasizing Marzoli's commitment to mechanical fiber regeneration. Marzoli's expertise in "Textile Engineering" positions the company as a global leader in shaping the future of the textile industry through innovation and digitalization. "It was very important for us to take part in ITM 2024 to face current and future challenges and exchange ideas with each other. ITM 2024 is now the right address to work with both the Eastern and Western world. Our new roving frame FTM 320 attracted great interest at the show" said Marzoli General Manager Christian Locatelli.

## RIETER

Rieter showcased its cutting-edge solutions aimed at enhancing customer competitiveness through automation, digitization, and recycling innovations. The ROBOspin system, automating yarn piecing, boosts profitability by saving thousands of labor hours weekly. Rieter's SSM DP5-T machine, ideal for air textured filament yarns, offers unique creative options, while the C 81 card ensures superior sliver quality through intelligent sensors. The G 38 ring spinning machine boasts top spindle speeds, reduced downtime, and efficient yarn transport. Rieter's Autoconer X6 excels in splicing quality and flexibility. Additionally, their Recycling Toolbox



Rieter's Piecing Robot © 2024 TexData International

helps mills achieve high-quality yarn from recycled cotton, while key components from Accotex, Bräcker, Graf, and others ensure maximum machine performance and efficiency. "Turkey's leading role in the textile industry makes ITM the international center of innovation. In search of high productivity, our Turkish customers flock to the exhibition to discover the latest technology. We are delighted to have customers from so many different countries visiting us", said Thomas Oetterli, Chairman and CEO of Rieter.

### MESDAN

Mesdan, part of the Vandewiele group, highlighted its advanced textile testing solutions, with the Laboratory Shredding Machine as a standout innovation. This compact, user-friendly machine allows manufacturers, institutes, and R&D teams to transform small samples of textile waste into fibers for recycling. It enables the evaluation of mechanical recycling on a lab scale, supporting the transition to large-scale textile-to-textile recycling. The machine's customizable settings ensure

optimized fiber length and opening, making it a valuable tool for sustainable production. Additionally, Mesdan showcased its NATI Advanced equipment for analyzing neps and trash in cotton and synthetics, and the AutoDyn 3, an advanced yarn strength tester ideal for smaller spinning mills and testing labs. "The products we exhibited at the exhibition, such as the automatic tensile strength tester and cotton analyzer, will make the testing processes of companies more efficient. ITM 2024 was a very impressive organization in every respect. Companies participated with excellent stands and products and we are very satisfied with the event", said Mesdan Sales Manager Claudio Bertolotti.



Claudio Bertolotti presenting the new lab shredding machine © 2024 TexData International

### ITEMA

Itama showcased its latest weaving innovations, emphasizing efficiency, sustainability, and digital solutions. Among the highlights were the R9500EVO terry, a leading terry weaving machine known for its versatility and reliability, and the



itama presented latest machines and 'hello itama' © 2024 TexData International

R9500EVO, demonstrating superior textile mastery in both wide and narrow formats. Another standout was the iSAVERfancy, which eliminates waste selvage, enhancing sustainability by reducing material waste. Itama also presented its HelloItama customer portal, providing a seamless, digital interface for ordering parts, managing services, and tracking machines.

Itama Türkiye's Managing Director, Pamir Özaltan, emphasized the significance of the Turkish market, while Itama Group Chief Sales and Service, Matteo Mutti, expressed the company's commitment to supporting weavers with innovative, competitive solutions. "Turkey is a big textile market. We are confident that this market will always be important for us. We have a good reputation in Turkey. ITM 2024 provides a great platform to connect with our customers, including those from the Middle East, and forge new collaborations", said Matteo Mutti.

### SMIT

SMIT presented the 2FAST rapier weaving machine, built for ultimate speed, precision, and sustainability. Designed with Flexible Advanced Shuttleless Technology (FAST), 2FAST delivers top-tier performance with 100% beat-up efficiency and rapid acceleration. This compact machine excels in weaving a wide range of fabrics - from apparel and denim to home textiles and technical fabrics - thanks to its modular design and the leno-force system that adapts to various fabric types. 2SAVE is a standout feature, reducing fabric waste by controlling weft thread tension and cutting false selvages. In line with Industry 4.0 standards, the 2FAST offers high energy efficiency with its brushless motor, earning the ACIMIT Green Label for sustainable machine design. "After the pandemic and two wars, the textile industry and the global economy suffered significant blows. ITM 2024 has provided momentum to the sector in such a period. Our 2Fast high-speed weaving machine, which we exhibited with the 2Save feature, attracted great interest from our visitors" said Managing Director Frank Brambilla.



Much interest in the SMIT 2FAST machine © 2024 TexData International



The WarpMaster on the booth in the typical Groz-Beckert design © 2024 TexData International

### GROZ-BECKERT

Groz-Beckert showcased a range of precision tools and services across knitting, weaving, felting, and carding under the motto "Precision is in our nature." Highlights included the LCmax™ circular knitting needles, reducing energy consumption, and the SAN™ SF needle, which minimizes contamination in large circular knitting machines. In weaving, the KnotMaster tying machine and WarpMasterPlus automatic drawing-in machine boosted efficiency. In felting, the CB-Barb needle introduced a new barb design for longer-lasting performance, while carding innovations like the SiroLock™ plus improved uptime and uniformity. Groz-Beckert's bilingual presentations further emphasized the technical advancements, making their booth a must-visit for professionals seeking cutting-edge textile solutions.

### KARL MAYER GROUP

KARL MAYER GROUP showcased its latest innovations under the motto "Master the Change," emphasizing efficiency, sustainability, and digital advancements for the textile industry. The company, recognizing Türkiye as a key market, introduced the HKS 3-M ON PLUS, a versatile tricot machine, alongside other textile solutions like the Seersucker article and RASCHELTRONIC® items for sportswear and home textiles.

STOLL featured four high-performance flat knitting machines, including the ADF 530-32 ki FLEX, offering nearly unlimited production possibilities. Innovations for warp preparation focused on cost-effectiveness, such as the CASCADE system, which reduces steam consumption, and the BLUEDYE unit for indigo dyeing, designed specifically for the denim industry. The KM.ON digital solutions, including Digital Product Management (DPM) and Quality Monitoring System (QMS), brought forward smart technologies for improving production efficiency and quality.



Karl Mayer excelled in all areas with new technology, outstanding applications and a great deal of creativity © 2024 TexData International



STOLL emphasised their innovative strength with new possibilities in flat knitting © 2024 TexData International

"We attended ITM 2024 to listen and support our customers in the Turkish market. Through ITM we had the opportunity to present ourselves honestly to our old and new customers in these difficult times. We had many in-depth discussions about the economic situation", said Toros Greenhalgh, Karl Mayer Group Turkey General Manager.

### STÄUBLI

Stäubli presented several cutting-edge solutions for the textile industry. A stand-out was the SAFIR PRO S67 drawing-in machine, offering unparalleled speed and precision in handling colored warps for shirting and similar applications, featuring Active Warp Control for error-free production. The TIEPRO warp-tying machine showcased its efficiency with an auto-reverse feature for handling double ends. Additionally, the SX PRO Jacquard machine impressed with energy-saving innovations and up to 2,688 hooks, ideal for terry cloth and upholstery fabrics.

Stäubli also highlighted the S3280 electronic rotary dobby, designed for ultra-high-speed operations and eco-friendly performance, along with the ALPHA 580 UNIVERSAL carpet weaving machine, providing versatility and productivity in carpet manufacturing. "We are obviously very proud to be in Turkey for the launch of our new technology SAFIR PRO S67. Our new automation technology, drawing frames and dobbies attracted a lot of attention at ITM 2024. We had a lot of visitor traffic during the exhibition with good and fruitful discussions", said Fritz Legler Stäubli Textile Global Head of Marketing, Sales and Service.



The brandnew SAFIR PRO S67 drawing-in machine © 2024 TexData International

### JAKOB MÜLLER

Jakob Müller Group showcased the latest in label production technology with the NFMJ MC Jacquard weaving machine. Designed for producing multicolored labels, trimmings, and name tapes, this machine stands out for its innovation and versatility. Key features include electronically controlled drives for weft, binder threads, and



The NFMJ MC Jacquard weaving machine  
© 2024 TexData International

color selection, as well as a fully integrated thermofixation option. The system offers quick pattern design via MÜCAD software and seamless operation with MÜDATA® M control. The NFMJ MC supports sustainable production by processing 100% natural fiber yarns without the need for slitting. Its efficient design ensures easy access and fast parameter adjustments, making it a top choice for creative and high-quality label production.

## BRÜCKNER

Brückner showcased its innovative solutions for textile finishing, emphasizing sustainability and digitalization.



Brückner likes to explain the numerous advantages of its stenter frames on models © 2024 TexData International

Celebrating its 75th anniversary, the company highlighted models of the POWER-FRAME SFP-4, featuring new electric or hydrogen-powered heating systems, advanced insulation, and heat recovery technologies. Brückner's commitment to CO<sub>2</sub>-free heating systems allows customers to switch between gas and electric energy seamlessly. The new Exper-Tex simulation tool demonstrated the ability to digitally simulate textile drying and curing processes, optimizing energy use and production efficiency. The ECO-COAT and OPTI-COAT 2in1 systems offered precise chemical application solutions. Brückner also emphasized its capabilities in finishing lines for carpets and textile floor coverings, showcasing a wide range of options for efficient production.

"It is a very good decision to organize ITM 2024 in Istanbul. Because of its geographical location, we had visitors from all over the world. I saw that our customers are interested in sustainability, reducing energy costs, saving chemicals and recycling." Regina Brückner, Brückner Owner and CEO.

## SEDO

Sedo Treepoint highlighted its latest innovations in machine automation and production workflow integration. With over 40 years of expertise, Sedo Treepoint showcased the Sedomat 6010 controller, part of the successful 6000/8000 series, offering a cost-effective, modular



Sedomat 6010 controller © 2024 TexData International

solution ideal for Industry 4.0 and smart factory implementations. Visitors experienced how Sedo Treepoint's solutions, including SedoMaster, ColorMaster, and TMS, integrate dyeing and finishing processes with dispensing systems and ERP for full automation. Additionally, web and cloud-based systems, TEXconnect and ColorMasterConnect, were featured for their advancements in quality control, color communication, and data acquisition. Sedo Treepoint's focus on enhancing operational efficiency positions it as a key player in the industry.

## MONFORTS

Monforts celebrated its 140th anniversary by showcasing the Montex stenter chamber with an integrated overhead heat recovery unit, designed to improve energy efficiency for both new and existing installations. Featured at the Neotek stand, the unit exemplifies Monforts' commitment to sustainable textile production.

The company also highlighted successful Turkish installations, including the Montex stenter at Ilay Textile and the Thermex Econtrol dyeing line at Istanbul Boyahanesi, which have significantly improved energy savings and production versatility. Additionally, Monforts introduced the coaTTex coating unit, dedicated to air knife and knife-over-roller coating for a variety of applications, including waterproofing and foam lamination. Monforts emphasized Türkiye's importance as a key market and praised its local partner, Neotek, for exceptional service and support. "ITM 2024 Exhibition is very important not only for the Turkish market but also for the world markets. We had visitors from Turkey, Poland, Australia, the UK, Uzbekistan and Pakistan. This means a worldwide visitor mass. ITM 2024 was very good and we are looking forward to ITM 2026", said Monforts Regional Sales Manager Thomas Päßgen.



A smiling Thomas Päßgen presents the Montex © 2024 TexData International



Federico Businaro underlined the eco attitude of the SantexRimar Group © 2024 TexData International

### SANTEXRIMAR GROUP

SANTEX RIMAR Group focused on sustainability, presenting the latest innovations from its brands Sperotto Rimar, Santex, Cavitec, Isotex, and Solwa. Emphasizing eco-friendly processes, many of the machines discussed, such as the Cavimelt Pro, carry the ACIMIT Green Label, highlighting their low carbon footprints. The Cavimelt Pro, a versatile two-in-one coating solution, enables seamless transitions between rotogravure and full-surface coating, offering superior bonding performance.

The Caviscreen was introduced as an advanced solution for breathable laminates used in sportswear and protective clothing. The Santex Energy Saving Chamber (ESC) was featured for its energy-saving capabilities, while the Compas compacting machine showcased revolutionary technology for finishing knitted and woven fabrics with enhanced precision and performance.

“The textile sector, which is experiencing a worldwide crisis, is in a serious effort to return to the good old days. Turkey is an alternative market for Asian and Middle Eastern textile manufacturers who cannot go to Europe due to visa problems. ITM 2024 Exhibition is a gateway to Eastern and Asian countries”, said Federico Businaro, Vice President of Santex Rimar Group.

### BALDWIN

Baldwin Technology showcased its revolutionary TexCoat G4 sustainable finishing system, designed to help textile finishers manage rising energy and chemical costs. The TexCoat G4 uses non-contact precision-spray technology, allowing for consistent, high-quality finishing without chemistry waste and with reduced water and energy consumption. The system provides precise application of chemicals, only where needed, and offers full control over the finishing process. Features such as automated speed tracking, real-time monitoring, and easy recipe management enhance efficiency.



Baldwin booth with its high recognition value © 2024 TexData International

The TexCoat G4 processes a wide range of water-based chemicals, making it a versatile and eco-friendly solution for textile finishers, addressing sustainability challenges while reducing costs.

### JEANOLOGIA

Jeanologia showcased its cutting-edge Twin Super laser, a groundbreaking technology for garment finishing with unmatched production capacity, handling up to 3,000 garments per day. As a global leader in sustainable textile technologies, Jeanologia's innovations prioritize eco-efficiency and digitization. The Twin Super laser, equipped with two laser tubes and exclusive digital power control, enables simultaneous processing of both jean legs, making it the fastest and most productive laser in the market. Designed for large-scale production, it offers unparalleled versatility and compatibility with various garment sizes. The Twin Super also integrates easily with automated systems, providing the best cost-per-garment solution for high-volume textile manufacturers. “ITM 2024 offers an important opportunity for European brands looking to expand into Asia and the Middle East. Our industry is going through a difficult period. ITM 2024 Exhibition gave hope to all textile producer countries, especially Turkey. We are pleased with the activity at the organization and the agreements we signed”, said Jeanologia Sustainable Textile Consultant and Marketing Manager Amor Cardona.



Jeanologia booth with the laser in the background © 2024 TexData International

### DILO

DiloGroup presented its advanced non-woven manufacturing technologies, focusing on innovation and sustainability. Highlights included the MicroPunch S needling line for lightweight nonwovens used in hygiene, medical, and technical applications, and the Hypertex line, designed to produce reinforced nonwoven layers for filtration, roofing, and garment sectors.



Dilo highlighted the new "MicroPunch" Line © 2024 TexData International

## AUTEFA SOLUTIONS

AUTEFA Solutions presented cutting-edge nonwovens technology with a strong emphasis on sustainability. The company's innovations focus on energy efficiency, sustainable fiber selection, and emission reduction. AUTEFA offers turnkey solutions, including needle punching, aerodynamic web forming, and thermobonding lines. Key highlights include advancements in airlay lines for automotive parts, geotextiles, and insulation, and energy-optimized oven and dryer technology. The Airlay K 12 random card improves fiber versatility and web structure, enabling high-quality production. Additionally, AUTEFA's fiber baling solutions streamline the entire production process with automated systems for bale handling, labeling, and storage. These innovations align with the principles of the circular economy by promoting fiber recycling and resource efficiency.

## EPSON

Epson showcased the revolutionary Monna Lisa ML-32000 digital textile printer, highlighting its ability to print intricate patterns on jacquard fabrics, enabling unique and creative designs. The ML-32000 combines versatility, speed, and exceptional print quality, making it a standout in the market. It supports Epson Genesta water-based inks in multiple formulations, allowing printing on a wide range of materials. With printing speeds of up to 697m<sup>2</sup>/h, the machine offers both productivity and flexibility, including dual



Epson highlight: Only the jacquard pattern of the fabric was printed © 2024 TexData International

ink set configurations. User-friendly features such as automatic cleaning, nozzle calibration, and cloud connectivity further enhance workflow efficiency. "We were really pleased with the customers who visited us and Turkey continues to be one of the biggest markets for us. With the very positive feedback we received from our visitors, we will continue to expand our presence in Turkey in the future", said Epson EMEA Sales Manager Francesco Nozza.

## CONCLUSION & OUTLOOK

The focus in spinning was on automation and recycling, with innovations enabling mills to process both virgin and recycled fibers efficiently. The push towards using advanced sensors, real-time data, and AI in managing spinning lines has led to improved yarn quality and minimized waste. Solutions like automatic piecing systems and recycling-oriented spinning equipment showcased how the industry is embracing a more sustainable and efficient future.

Weaving technologies presented at ITM continued to advance in terms of speed, flexibility, and eco-friendliness. Machines are now designed to handle diverse applications, from apparel to technical textiles, with a strong focus on reducing waste and energy consumption. Sustainability was served by solutions like false selvage reduction systems and advanced energy-efficient drives, which promise both higher productivity and lower resource consumption.

In knitting, versatility and automation were the dominant trends. The latest machines cater to the need for flexible production, capable of handling a wide range of fabrics from fine knits to technical textiles. Digital controls and integrated software solutions have made the setup and customization of knitting patterns easier and more precise, allowing manufacturers to respond faster to fashion trends and functional requirements. Seamless knitting for both fashion and technical applications is becoming increasingly important, driven by consumer demand for comfort and performance.

Sustainability was at the forefront of finishing technology, with advanced systems focusing on reducing water and energy usage. Non-contact finishing processes, like precision spraying, have drastically reduced chemical waste and emissions, allowing for more environmentally responsible fabric treatments. Technologies such as thermal energy recovery systems

and advanced drying solutions have also become essential for lowering operational costs and supporting greener production.

In digital printing, the trend continues towards versatility and sustainability, with printers offering faster speeds, higher precision, and more eco-friendly inks. The push for digitalization in textile printing is transforming the way designs are created and applied, giving designers unlimited creativity while maintaining production efficiency. Innovations like advanced ink-jet printers that cater to both large-scale production and niche markets highlight the future of textile printing—digital, flexible, and sustainable.

Overall, ITM 2024 demonstrated that the future of textile production lies in the seamless integration of sustainability and efficiency. As automation and digital tools become more ingrained in each segment, we expect to see further enhancements in productivity, waste reduction, and cost management. The next wave of innovations will likely focus on refining these technologies, expanding their applications, and pushing even closer to fully circular textile production. What we saw serves the current trends well, but there's excitement for what comes next: smarter machines, greener processes, and more versatile production capabilities across all textile sectors.

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TOP THEME: CIRCULAR ECONOMY

**RECYCLING**

- + MACHINES FOR RECYCLING
- + PROCESSES
- + SPINNING RECYCLED FIBRES & FLAKES
- + RECYCLING IN THE NONWOVENS SECTOR

**REVIEWS**

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**#INTERVIEWS**

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