

# KNITTING TRADE JOURNAL

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## Making a splash

Colour and lightness dominate new yarn trends



### Sporting greatness

Knits set the pace  
in sportswear sector

### Best feet forward

New developments  
in the hosiery sector

### Bonding exercise

Knitted garment  
assembly technology

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# Versatility, lightness and function

Angela Cavalca visits Pitti Filati to discover the latest knitting yarn collections for Spring Summer 2018.

**T**he knitting world met in Florence at the 80th edition of Pitti Filati where 110 brands, 15 of which from abroad, presented the new Spring Summer 2018 collections.

Despite the international uncertain market situation, the organisers were encouraged by the final results. "Pitti Filati has sent a message that is definitely positive for the international yarn industry," said Raffaello Napoleone, CEO of Pitti Immagine. "At a time that is very complex for an industry that is dealing with the problems and uncertainties of

the international scenario, the trade fair in Florence enjoyed three days of intense activity. We saw that the number of buyers – both foreign and Italian – increased, and we are happy to say that this growth trend has been ongoing for three consecutive editions."

The final figures showed that 4,350 buyers visited the fair, with a 2.5% increase over last year. Italian attendance rose by 3.5% and foreign buyer turnout also increased by 1%. The best performing markets were Germany (+6%), France (+8.5%), Japan (+23%)



Sofit - Goodwille

and Russia returning to excellent levels with a 70% increase in the number of buyers. The figures for buyers from the United Kingdom, the United States, China, Hong Kong and Turkey were more or less stable, while turnout from Spain and Holland decreased. ▶



## Trends

This edition's theme 'The Passenger' was a tribute to travel and to all travelers, a review of the different attitudes and reasons that make someone start a journey. As art director Angelo Figus explained: "It is a new desire to get around and discover new places, people and things. Travel is a dimension of great freedom and each journey is a way of seeing life, places and primary needs. There is a trip for every personality and for all means".

In the Spazio Ricerca different atmospheres illustrating moods, colour hues and knitted samples coordinated by knitwear specialist Nicola Miller, there was a rich proposal of stripes, jacquards and intarsia suggesting the different application possibilities from sportswear to elegant garments. There is a big trend to yarn dimensions increasingly closer to filaments, their consistency matching that of soft, close-woven fabrics but yielding to the body's movements like a second skin.

3D, compact and soft knits, prints and geometric patterns, graphic graffiti-style, mix of different structures, crisp handles, devorés and embossed effects, spongy yarns for soft knitwear as grass surface are enhanced by materials' quality and performing peculiarities.

The versatility and function of the yarns allow adapting different climates and changes as well.

The importance of colours was confirmed by all the spinning mills. A range of green and blues, yellow shades, desert neutrals, red and orange

tone of colours, metallic traces, gold and rose-gold, bronze and platinum stand out among the Spring/Summer 2018 collections.

In the area Fashion at Work Shima Seiki Italia presented its 10 years' collection with iconic souvenir jackets and bombers, decorative coats and sporty dresses, representing the Italian style joining the Japanese technology.

In the Knit Club area, selected high quality knitting mills exhibited their capabilities and the special project Moda Futuribile hosted a capsule collection designed by Alberto Zambelli, whose eponymous brand was launched in 2014 and is already well known in the fashion world. The knitwear has been created in collaboration with Dyloan using the techniques of thermowelding, thermoshaping, laser and foiling.

## Yarns

The majority of mills at Pitti Filati offer high quality yarns and there are basic and refined or complex structures realized with natural yarns. Linen, silk, cotton also blended with cashmere and new natural materials have been developed for demanding customers and fashion designers.

Lineapiù introduced Paper Knit, the first ever paper yarn, which is derived from the centuries-old Japanese craft making of washi paper, blended with nylon. Carta is a twisted paper yarn for origami effects in knits and Mars, a nylon paper yarn with pigment coatings that create watercolours

effects. Another special issue is Minerale, a linen/viscose/polyamide quality that has been dyed with non-toxic mineral natural colours. Precious and light yarns from Cariaggi include the new printed Linum Stampato, made with linen and cashmere in two different counts, and the new Gritty, made with the smallest paillettes on the market and a lurex yarn for shiny and elegant knitwear.

At Filati BE.MI.VA. linen was presented in gauzy lacy effects and blended with silk for a crisp handle or for multicolour aspects. High lightening fancy yarns HF by Südwolle introduced raw hand feels with cotton raffias or jute/cotton blends in colours that evoke savage, unexplored lands.

Cotton specialist lafil has developed four yarn families for the stock service with 120 solid and 48 mélange colours and for the precious cottons' Magnificent line blended with other natural or manmade yarns.

Manifattura Sesia offers a variety of cotton qualities with crispy or soft handle to be used for structured knitwear, blends of linen and polyamide as Linoso 2/900 to be knitted on 3 gg or cotton/linen with paillettes for very luminous aspects that can be personalized. New exclusive viscose developments have been presented by Filpucci as Talco 34000 83% Viscose 17% Elité that continues the success of naturally stretch yarns, and the extra fine Lattice 32000 83% Nano Polyamide 18% Elité, which gives a smooth silky touch and has antibacterial

Butta Giacopo



Cariaggi



Todd & Duncan

