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Morning song

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Fibres & fabrics

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This edition's Fibres & Fabrics is mostly about the integration of 'sustainability' and 'design', which has emerged almost everywhere as a 'hot topic', with too many independent, NGO and governmental initiatives and programs to actually enumerate and discuss.

It was also the theme of the Textile Institute World Conference 2018, which sought to identify interdisciplinary engagement with sustainability right the way through the supply chain from textile manufacturing to the retail industry. But, importantly, going further than just implementing sustainability, the principle idea behind the Conference evolved out of a recognition that when design and sustainable technologies are effectively integrated, they will produce commercial solutions with much better aesthetics and functional properties.

'INTEGRATING DESIGN WITH SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY'

The 91st Textile Institute World Conference took place in July 2018 on its UK home ground, hosted by the University of Leeds and School of Design, an appropriate setting with its rich history in the textile industry and integrated textile vision of collaboration between technology and design.

Held every two years, the conference takes place in different locations around the world, but always somewhere that is relevant to the textile industry – so it could be in China one year, and Poland the next.

This year's conference theme, *'Integrating Design with Sustainable Technology'* was highly relevant in today's world, setting out the intention behind the conference to identify and establish interdisciplinary working practices that encompass design, sustainable technologies, responsible and efficient processes right the way through from textile manufacturing to the retail industry. But, in a fast fashion and textile world, it is not easy to go green. Industries are extremely diverse, and all aspects throughout the value chain need ongoing investment and innovation – and integration. The conference looked at all uses of textiles in all aspects of daily life – from clothing, interiors, industrial and medical applications.

SO WHAT DID WE FIND OUT

The opening day saw the Textile Institute's World President **Katie Greenyer**, Creative talent and network director of **Pentland Brands**, deliver a galvanizing keynote speech – *'Future Proofing of our Textile Institute.'* Her main message was that sharing knowledge can only be positive. And that's what the 200 or more presentations over the next three days did, proffering and sharing some extraordinary, innovative ideas as well as a mine of useful and illuminating information.

We learnt that developments and innovations in textiles are happening all the time, spurred by the needs of eco-sustainability to combat climate change. In fact, environmental change is a big driver for new products. New

applications are improving processes with inventiveness and resourcefulness resulting in often surprising solutions, which are helping not only the textile but also other industries.

Parallel sessions continued in different sectors - Innovations for Natural Fibres; Functional, Medical and Technical Textiles; Design, Fashion and Retail; and Education

RETAIL AND THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Nick Chiarelli, of the **Foresight Factory**, in his keynote speech *'Integrating Design with Sustainable Technology'* pointed out



Textile Institute World Conference 2018

the need to identify consumer trends and needs, not just what CAN be done. Consumers are affected by many factors – currently facing political and economic uncertainties, feeling vulnerable, waiting for what else can happen – all major factors affecting working patterns resulting in pressures and worries about jobs. These also include:

- The GIG economy – short term and precarious, so no planning for the future;



Textile Institute World Conference 2018



Textile Institute World Conference 2018

responsible, acting parties of the textile value chain, committed to applying the bluesign system to improve their environmental performance and always being focused on a sustainable future. A milestone for Tintex is the launch of *Naturally Clean* – a smart finishing process that enhances the natural beauty of cotton, optimizing clean surfaces with a cost effective approach without aggressive chemical treatments by using *Novozymes* technology.

LENZING & HYOSUNG LAUNCH NEW SUSTAINABLE FABRIC COLLECTION

Two global fibre producers have collaborated to produce a new, sustainable fabric collection, which will be presented at ISPO in February, which brings together the sustainable benefits of two leading fibre brands – *Tencel modal* from Lenzing and *creora elastane* from Hyosung. The sports and leisure collection brings new levels of performance and innovation, combining natural softness, comfort and performance from Tencel and the power, fit and recovery of *creora* elastane. "This Lenzing & Hyosung collaboration



Chairman Hyun Jun Cho, Hyosung

fits perfectly under the slogan *Better Together*," says Andreas Guerbier, Head of Active & Outdoor Global Business Development for Lenzing.



Hyosung Plant

The collection offers:

- **Lenzing Ecovero** with *creora* eco-soft for a softer touch, whiter whites & low heat settable for reduced energy consumption.
- **Tencel Modal & creora PowerFit** for smooth, natural feel with superior shaping and compression.
- **Tencel Modal & creora Black** for breathable, softer touch and deeper black with no grin through.

SUSTAINABILITY IN LUXURY AREAS S/S 2020 YARN COLLECTIONS

Botto Giuseppe focuses on sustainable fashion with its S/S 2020 collection, aiming to establish a harmonious relationship with the environment and people in an absolutely transparent manner. *Naturalis Fibra* is a new collection of yarns and fabrics obtained from a selection of natural materials using a production process that employs totally renewable energy with careful attention given to treatments and dyes that are eco-friendly. *Slow silk* fibre is the star with its new tag christening it as "the most ethical silk". It's cruelty free and comes in a wide range of solid and melange colours. The cashmere/silk blend quality *Dream* offered in various gauges or *Slow wool* – "better finer natural" (nm 2/60) – remain important, evergreen fibers in this category. Linens are raw and finely combined with cashmere and silk.

Lanificio dell'Olivo also presents a S/S 2020 collection that focuses on sustainability, distinguished by lightweight fancy yarns that are simple to use even when knitted. The theme is rediscovery and balance: rethinking historical pieces with a contemporary look. Its sustainable yarns are created from processes that take full advantage of the company's know-how. The family of organic cottons is enriched with a floral-like pattern effect. Linens are simplified and more elegant, proposed in warm or even dark colors: cassis, orange, terracotta. Rejuvenated and sophisticated, stretch viscose glows brilliantly; metallic yarns often used for luxury creations are also presented in a 'dailywear' version for day as well as evening or special occasion.

ETRO VISITS BOTTOLI

Kean Etro from the fashion house **Etro**, famous as much for its unique sense of design as for its defence of sustainability, recently went to visit **Lanificio Bottoli**, wool fabric suppliers to the most



Kean Etro at Bottoli

prestigious brands in menswear and located in a small historic town in the North of Italy in the heart of Prosecco Land.

During the visit, Mr. Etro went through the company's fabric archives dating back to 1861 and his attention fell on Bottoli's *Ecologic* line which has enriched the collection for many years. These ecological fabrics use superior merino wool, strictly selected in the natural colours of the fleece – white, tobacco, brown. No dyes or pigments are involved, only the mastery of those who have worked with fabrics there over four generations. Nowadays, sustainability and ecology are on everybody's lips – especially in the fashion world; but Bottoli and Etro actually turn words into products.

PENN TEXTILE SOLUTIONS & PENN ITALIA AND ROICA INTRODUCE ECOINNOVATION SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT RANGE.

Penn Textile Solutions & Penn Italia, in the production of both warp and weft knit textiles, have picked **Roica** premium stretch fibre by **Asahi Kasei**, to create '*Ecoinnovation*', a new fully sustainable range of advanced textiles, which were presented at *Mare di Moda* in Cannes, the show for fabrics and accessories for the sea, underwear and athleisure sectors. **Roica** elastane, by **Asahi Kasei**, is the premium stretch ingredient used to provide comfort and enhance quality. The **Roica Eco-Smart** family is cradle to cradle certified Gold level for Material Health, for breaking down without releasing harmful substances, thus creating stretch performance which generates new values for contemporary consumers.

'*Ecoinnovation*' presents seven articles developed by **Penn Textile Solutions & Penn Italia**'s family *dreamshape*, which is characterized by reinforced edges that includes the following recycled items;