



No. 80 – September – October 2022

This edition of the ITMF newsletter focuses on the results of 16<sup>th</sup> ITMF Global Textile Industry Survey or GTIS, formerly called ITMF Corona-Survey.

The data shows deteriorating business situation and expectations in the global textile industry. The indicators for order intake, order backlog, and capacity utilisation rate also fell, globally.

Some pockets of optimism remain, though. The rate of deterioration of both business situation and expectations in Asia has slowed down and most indicators improved in South America for example.

Overall, the biggest challenge the industry will face in the next 6 months is weakening demand. High raw material and energy prices, as well as inflation remain major concerns.



**Dr. Olivier Zieschank**  
 director, ITMF

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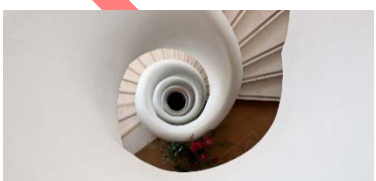
### Article 1: The business situation is still deteriorating, albeit at a slower pace



The global business situation is still following a downward trend, but this tendency has slowed down in September 2022. The situation is still more difficult in Asia, though improving. While all segments find themselves in negative situations, spinners' situation plunged.

[> read more \(members only\)](#)

### Article 2: Downward trend in business expectations came to a halt but remains in negative territory



Global business expectations have been decreasing since September 2021. In September 2022 this trend stopped, albeit in negative territory. Business expectations have improved in South Asia, North & Central America, and Africa. Spinners see some light at the end of the tunnel.

[> read more \(members only\)](#)

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**Article 3: Order intake for the first time in negative territory globally**

Order intake fell further in line with a weaker business situation. Companies in North & Central and especially in South America saw orders increase while the Asian regions continued struggling with an unsatisfactory order intake situation.

[> read more \(members only\)](#)

**Article 4: Order backlog fell globally**

Order backlog fell on average across all regions. South America is an exception; both order intake and backlog increased. Only dyers/finishers and knitters/weavers experienced a small increase in backlog. In all other segments order the indicator fell.

[> read more \(members only\)](#)

**Article 5: Global capacity utilization rate dropped markedly in September 2022**

While capacity utilization rate dropped globally in September 2022, it increased in South America's. Fibre producers registered a steady decrease in capacity utilization rate and home textile producers seems to have reversed their downward trend.

[> read more \(members only\)](#)

**Article 6: Weakening demand tops the list of concerns**

Weakening demand, high raw material prices, high energy prices, and inflation are the four major concerns of the global textile industry. The concern about transportation costs have fallen significantly. Concerns about geopolitics on the other side have increased in the past two months

[> read more \(members only\)](#)

**ITMF NEWS****ITMF welcomes two new members**

ITMF welcomed two new Corporate Members in the last few weeks. The new members illustrate the unique platform ITMF offers for companies from different regions in the world from all segments of the textile value chain.



Grasim Industries Limited, a flagship company of the Aditya Birla Group, ranks amongst the top publicly listed companies in India. Incorporated in 1947, it started as a textile manufacturer. Today, it has evolved into a leading diversified player.

[> read more](#)



ECH is the marketing arm of the biggest manufacturers of high quality, durable, and functional cotton textile goods in Egypt. The company offers a wide selection of products and owns two brands under which both home textiles and garments are sold.

[> read more](#)

# ITMF at the Tashkent Textile Summit 2022



On October 12<sup>th</sup> the **Tashkent Textile Summit 2022** took place within the framework of the **Tashkent Textile Week 2022**. During this week the Uzbekistan Textile & Apparel Industry Association, Uztextilprom, organizes not only the Tashkent Textile Summit but also the international textile and fashion exhibition "**Uztextile Expo 2022**", several fashion shows as well as various visits of Uzbek textile companies.

Mr. Ilkhom Khaydarov, Chairman of Uztextilprom, who has overseen the enormous transformation of the Uzbek textile and apparel industry in the last 15 years, had developed this format which proves to be very successful attracting more and more exhibitors and visitors.

In his speech he highlighted the importance of the fact that the Cotton Campaign has lifted the boycott of Uzbekistan in March 2022 after the International Labour Organization (ILO) has announced after 9 years of working together with the country that there is no systemic forced and child labour anymore in Uzbekistan. "The 2021 ILO Third-Party Monitoring Report of the Cotton Harvest in Uzbekistan" found that Uzbekistan had eradicated systemic forced and child labour during the 2021 cotton harvest. With other words, Uzbekistan's textile and apparel industry is now in the position to supply also brands and retailers in the West that have not considered Uzbek textile companies as suppliers.

Dr. Christian Schindler, Director General of ITMF, was invited to deliver a presentation about the state of and outlook for the global textile industry with a special look at Uzbekistan. In his presentation he shared some take-aways from the ITMF Annual Conference 2022 in Davos, especially the growing relevance of the circular economy and of textile-to-textile recycling. Furthermore, by using

data from ITMF's "*International Textile Machinery Shipment Statistics*" he illustrated how Uzbekistan has emerged in the past 10 years as a major investor in new textile machinery. He also referred to ITMF's publication "*International Production Cost Comparison 2021*", which illustrates how manufacturing costs vary currently in 14 major textile producing countries and how they have changed over time.

During the Tashkent Textile Summit 2022, Mr. Karim Shafiei and Mr. Laurent Aucouturier of Gherzi, a renowned consulting organization, presented an independent report about the Uzbek textile industry with title "***A textile giant in the making? – A look at the Textile and Apparel Sector in Uzbekistan in 2022***", which was sponsored by the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ). This report provides a comprehensive collection of relevant information about Uzbekistan's textile and apparel industry. In particular, the report provides readers with an expertise-driven though neutral perspective from within the sector.

The report

- informs about the status quo of the Uzbek cotton and textile sector,
- outlines the profound developments of the last years, and
- highlights remaining challenges as well as simultaneously addresses measures (taken or planned) to tackle these.

Hence, this report is of special interest for all foreign investors, potential partners, buyers, suppliers, etc. People interested in this unique report should get in touch with GIZ, Gherzi or ITMF.



## ITMF's ICCTM met during the International Cotton Conference Bremen 2022



ITMF's International Committee on Cotton Testing Methods (ICCTM) met in person in Bremen during the International Cotton Conference Bremen for the first time since 2018. The main function of the Committee is to critically examine and discuss existing and new cotton testing methods and instrumentation as well as provide guidelines and recommendations to ITMF in this regard. The Committee should also recommend research priorities and tasks to be undertaken, based upon the perceived needs of the international textile community. For the first time, the committee discussed the questions of how to and weather to measure properties of recycles fibres.

[> read more](#)

### PARTNER NEWS

## The 36<sup>th</sup> International Cotton Conference Bremen 2022 met in-person again



Source: Übersee-Museum, Volker Beinhorn

The bi-annual International Cotton Conference Bremen is the place where specialists from the worldwide cotton textile supply chain come together. The conference provides a forum for scientifically founded and practically useful new insights into key issues surrounding cotton production, cotton quality, cotton textile processing, innovative cotton-based products and the chain connecting all. In 2022, the Bremen Cotton Exchange is celebrating their 150th anniversary. After four long years, and together with the co-host of the conference, the Faserinstitut Bremen (FIBRE), the Bremen Cotton Exchange was very pleased to welcome conference delegates from around the world back in Bremen for an in-person event which was also offered virtually. The delegates enjoyed not only the conference and the personal meetings and interaction. The famous Cotton Night took place in the Übersee-Museum Bremen where an special exhibition about the history of cotton was opened with the title "100% Cotton".

The conference theme was "Cotton Decoded" and offered a variety of interesting sessions like "Carbon Sequestration", "Cotton Breeding, Production, Ginning", "Sustainability", "Cotton Quality and Testing", or "Responsibility", to name a few. Dr. Christian Schindler, Director General of the ITMF, had the pleasure and honour to moderate the session on "Sustainability". Three excellent panellists, namely Dr. Gary Adams, President and CEO, National Cotton Council, 2) Roger Gilmartin, Special Advisor, Cotton Council International, and 3) Mr. Andreas Streubig, Director Global Sustainability, Hugo Boss AG shared their expertise and insights about how to further strengthen the sustainable cotton textile value chain that is benefiting all stakeholders from farmers to consumers. [> read more](#)

## Destination Africa 2022: The frontier of sourcing



Destination Africa will be held on **November 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> 2022** in Cairo, Egypt. It is an annual international pan-African B2B sourcing event for the textile industries in Egypt. It brings together the African Textile, Apparel and Home Textiles manufactures in one place with the international buyers to strengthen the business opportunities and trade activities on a global level. The event consists of a regional exhibition with African countries pavilions. Destination Africa has witnessed an outstanding success with a growth of 74% visitors since 2016, resulting in an increase in the exhibitors' number, the exhibiting space, and the number of local, regional and international visitors.

[> read more](#)

## Sustainability Talks Istanbul: Raising awareness



Sustainability Talks Istanbul will take place on **November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**. The event brings together industry leaders to raise awareness of sustainability in the textile industry and take solution-oriented steps. It is organized in collaboration with Orbit Consulting and Kipaş Textiles.

The one-day event aims to develop sustainable solutions to all challenges facing the industry, from climate emergency to traceability, responsible sourcing of raw materials and minimal use of resources, with a focus on innovation and transparency.

[> read more](#)

## Textile Seminar on quality requirements at the 36<sup>th</sup> International Cotton Conference Bremen



The seminar on quality requirements along the textile value chain was organized alongside the 36<sup>th</sup> Bremen Cotton Conference in September 2022. About 50 people attended the event with a wide range of knowhow: from “fibre classification and testing” to “yarn and fabric finishing” or from “fibre research institutes” to “textile and textile machinery manufacturers”.

As the value added of textile goods increases at each step of the value chain, it is crucial to find quality issues as early as possible in the process to avoid financial loss. The topic of discussions throughout the value chain are typically the following:

Current quality requirements and specificities along the value chain | Quality measurement along the value chain | Complaints about fibre in spinning mills, yarn in knitting/weaving factories, fabrics in finishing plants | Impact of quality issues on garment makers and clothing manufacturers | Propagation of defaults through the value chain | Economic impact | Risk mitigation

The following topics were tackled by three keynote speakers:

- Quality claims in yarn trading by Bimeco
- Quality requirements to a yarn, when being used in the weaving process by Uster Technologies
- How to determine quality parameters in the spinning industry from fibre to yarn by Textechno.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November - December

#### [Sustainability Talks Istanbul](#)

November 2, 2022  
Istanbul, Turkey

#### [ABIT Congresso International 2022](#)

November 3-4, 2022  
Belo Horizonte, Brazil

#### [IAF 37<sup>th</sup> Convention](#)

November 13-17, 2022  
Dhaka, Bangladesh

#### [Destination Africa 2022](#)

November 19-20, 2022  
Cairo, Egypt

#### [80<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the ICAC](#)

November 29-December 1, 2022  
Virtual

#### [Aachen-Dresden-Denkendorf International Textile Conference 2022](#)

December 1-2, 2022 Aachen, Germany

#### [Intex South Asia India](#)

December 8-10, 2022  
New Delhi, India

#### [India ITME 2022](#)

December 8-13, 2022  
Greater Noida, India