Fibers & Applications Committee

November 19, 2016

08:30 – 09:15
Ruby Hall
Marriott Hotel
Jaipur / India

Minutes

1. Opening Remarks
   The Chairman, Mr. Loek de Vries (Netherlands), welcomed the attendees to the meeting and thanked Mr. Aamir Akhtar, CEO of Arvind OG Non-wovens and Arvind Composites (India), for his willingness to share his experience about entering the markets of technical textiles in India.

2. Presentation
   Mr. Aamir Akhtar, CEO of Arvind OG Non-wovens and Arvind Composites (India) gave a talk on what it takes to enter the technical textile market as a producer in Asia “from start-up to scale up”.

   In his talk Mr. Akhtar pointed out that before entering a market it is very important to have a very good understanding of the objectives and the circumstances in which a company acts. Like in other industries, a company entering the technical textile market needs to know who the future customers are, which raw material they use, which suppliers of raw material are available, etc. A key question certainly is whether a business is scalable. In addition, one has to be aware of the fact that most technical textile markets are capital intensive (high costs for interests and depreciations). Furthermore, he highlighted that capacities in technical textiles can be exposed to volatile markets and/or regulations. In addition, starting a business in technical textiles requires well-educated people in a variety of different areas like textiles, chemistry, material science, etc. Only if all the expertise is available and working together can a start-up be successful in the market of technical textiles.

3. Activities in 2017
   In the interest of time a discussion on future activities until the ITMF Annual Conference 2017 was postponed.

   Nevertheless, all ITMF members were invited to come up with suggestions and ideas regarding activities in 2017 like company visits, seminars on specific topics, etc.
4. **Elections & Future Structure**

Mr. Loek de Vries, Supervisory Board Member of Royal Ten Cate (Netherlands), and Mr. Abemanyu Thackersey, CEO, Hindostaan (India), were standing for re-election as Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively. In addition, Mr. Li Lingshen, Vice President of CNTAC and Chairman of China Nonwovens and Industrial Textiles Association (CNITC), was nominated as Vice Chairman of the F&A-Committee. All three persons were (re-)elected.

Chairman: Mr. Loek de Vries (Netherlands)

Vice Chairman: Mr. Abemanyu Thackersey (India)

Vice Chairman: Mr. Li Lingshen (China)

**December 2016**