



The business situation has deteriorated in November 2022 as shown by the 17th ITMF Global Textile Industry Survey. China's Zero-Covid-policy is weighing heavily on the region's performance and exports are weakening due to high inflation rates caused by high energy and raw material prices. Disposable incomes in major export markets are shrinking due to high inflation, especially in Europe. Central banks in many countries have raised interest rates, making mortgages and investments more expensive for consumers and companies. A weaker demand from retailers/brands is felt throughout the supply chain while inventories in most segments are relatively full. Uncertainty about the future of the world economy calls for caution.

Business expectations for the first semester of 2023 are also gloomy. The extent to which central banks will be able to prevent a hard landing of the global economy in the next year remains to be seen. Some pockets of optimism have nevertheless been observed in the current global industry with South, North & Central America describing a positive business situation and spinners indicating improved results.

Read more about all indicators measured in ITMF's GTIS in this special report on the 17th edition.



Dr. Olivier Zieschank
director, ITMF

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

On the Mexican textile industry



ITMF's director general, Christian Schindler, presented an analysis of the Mexican textile industry at the CANAINTEX Convention in Mexico in October 2022. He showed that both the economic situation of and outlook for the North & Central America's textile value chain are relatively good. Furthermore, textile production costs in Mexico are in line with Brazil, China, and Central America, but investment in textile machinery is relatively low.

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

Business situation hits the lowest score recorded in this survey



The business situation continues expanding in negative territory. It has reached its lowest level worldwide. The situation is deteriorating in Asia and Europe. It is positive in the Americas and improved for spinners. It is positive for textile machinery manufacturers only.

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

Business expectations are pessimistic but not worst



Global expectations have been stagnating since July 2022, although negative. The indicator improved in East-Asia, South Asia, Europe, and South America. It is negative in all segments but slightly better in the upstream industry.

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

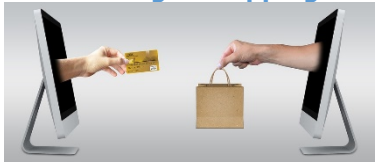
Order intake plunged in November compared to September



Order intake is negative for the second time in a row and the rate of decline has accelerated. The situation is still relatively better in North and Central America. All segments, including textile machinery producers, recorded a negative balance.

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

Order backlog is dropping steadily



Order backlog has decreased since March 2022 due to the constant order intake reduction. The indicator is deteriorating in all regions and segments except for garment producers.

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

Capacity utilization dropping in all regions except in the Americas



Capacity utilisation rate has strongly decreased since September 2022. It has plunged in East Asia, South Asia, and Africa. The indicator is stable and slightly increasing for textile machinery producer and decreasing otherwise.

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

Weakening demand is increasingly worrisome in the global textile industry



Weakening demand is the major concern in the global textile industry, followed by high raw material, energy prices and inflation with major differences amongst regions. Geopolitics was chosen by 3% of respondents in January 2021, it now concerns 23% of them.

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

52% of respondents had orders cancelled in the past 4 months



More than half the respondents had orders cancelled in the past 4 months. 16% reported more than 10% cancellation. The phenomenon is stronger in South America, South-East Asia, and South Asia. It hits spinners the most, but the higher cancellation rates are recorded amongst knitters/weavers.

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

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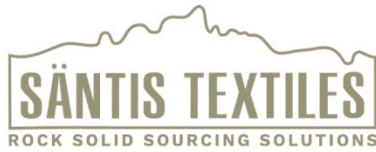
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ITMF NEWS

ITMF's newest members

ITMF has welcomed 7 new Corporate Members in the last few weeks. This illustrates how important our unique platform is for companies from different regions in the world from all segments of the textile value chain.



Ms. Annabelle Hutter, Managing Director of Sântis Textiles AG (Switzerland), said that "the textile trade has transformed immensely in the past 20-30 years. [...] What has not changed is the **need to be connected** personally with colleagues from the industry around the world."

[> read more](#)



Mr. Abhishek Gupta, Chief Strategic Marketing said that "[...] having the opportunity to **attend the exclusive** ITMF Annual Conferences is another important aspect. In today's world meeting industry colleagues on a personal level in an atmosphere of trust and respect is invaluable."

[> read more](#)



ColorDigital GmbH – the company behind DMix® is considered a pioneer in accurate, standardized digital color and surface exchange for designers, product developers and manufacturers. Led by two digital natives, Olaf Kölling and Gerd Willschütz, the key DMix software as a service solution has established itself as a new dimension of interaction between brands and manufacturers in the fashion and lifestyle industry.

[> read more](#)



Dimpora is a chemical company which develops sustainable and non-harmful functional membranes, mostly aimed at the production of outdoor gear. The company strives to put science at the service of nature, to make use of the latest knowledge available to ensure that those appreciating nature have the possibility to act accordingly. They founders are convinced that concrete action must be taken to preserve our environment.

[> read more](#)



Paramount Textile has produced and exported close to one billion yards of fabrics all over the world. Capacity has grown rapidly ever since and Paramount Textile has emerged as one of the leading manufacturers in Bangladesh with the help of latest machinery and equipments, efficient workforce and 39 years of extensive experience.

[> read more](#)



The Brazilian company was founded in 2019 as an innovation start-up which proposes a traceability solution by applying a digital code on the textile yarn that carries all product and process information from production to the landfill. The company proposes a sort of barcode imprinted on the yarn that can be read with the R-Inove app on one's own cell phone along the value-chain.

[> read more](#)



Mr. Than Duc Viet, CEO of Garment 10 Corporation said that "[...] it is important to follow and to be part of the discussions about trends and initiatives in our industry. The **publications, reports and surveys** that ITMF produces are helping us to better understand the underlying dynamics in our industry."

[> read more](#)

ITMF Start-up Awards



At the **ITMF Annual Conference 2022** held in Davos, Switzerland, co-hosted by [Swiss Textiles](#) and [Swiss Textile Machinery](#), ITMF presented the **ITMF Start-up Awards** for the first time. These awards celebrate merits and achievements in the textile field in two categories: "Sustainability & Innovation" and "International Collaboration".

> [read press release here](#) or click on the below companies' logos to discover more about each of them



ITMF at the Sustainability Talks 2022 in Istanbul



Picture 1: Mr. Stefan Hutter, founder of Sântis Textiles

The 3rd edition of the Sustainability Talks in Istanbul was held on November 2nd, 2022, in the enormous Turkcell theater of the Zorlu Center in Istanbul which can hold more than 2'000 persons. The choice of such a large venue was necessary since around 1'700 persons had registered for the event in addition to a few hundred virtual participants. This large participation signaled the enormous interest in the Turkish textile industry in the topic of sustainability. More than 40 speakers from Türkiye and around the world from along the entire textile value chain – from cotton farmers in Brazil to brand

representatives from H&M or PVH – were invited to raise awareness about sustainability in the textile industry and to discuss and share solution-oriented steps to improve the industry's performance in terms of Green-House-Gas emissions, recycling, traceability, responsible sourcing of raw material, minimal use of resources, or circularity.

Among the speakers were also members of ITMF like for example Mr. Stefan Hutter, founder of [Sântis Textiles](#), who talked in the panel "*Innovative manufacturing solutions & carbon neutrality*" about the new mechanical recycling solutions his company offers (see Photo).

Also, Mr. Halti Gümüser, Board Member of Kipas Holding, a member of ITMF, opened the event as one of the co-hosts of the event. Another member of ITMF, [Lenzing](#), was represented by Ms. Caroline Ledl, who spoke in the panel about circularity and post-consumer recycling.

Ms. Franziska Häfeli of [Rieter](#), another member of ITMF, shared her insights in the panel about "*Track & trace: future solutions for transparency*". ITMF's Director General, Mr. Christian Schindler was invited to participate in the panel that discussed the topic "*Generation Now: Long-term Thinking for People and The Planet*". The event was co-organized by [Kipaş Textiles](#) and [Orbit Consulting](#) in collaboration with Istanbul Textile and Raw Materials Exporters Association (ITHIB).

> [read more](#)

World Café at ITMF Annual Conference 2022



ITMF organized a World Café during the 2022 Annual Conference in Davos, Switzerland. Participants formed groups at random and discussed "Sustainability and Circularity: Business Models of the Future". The results show that sustainability is the greatest challenge for the future of the textile industry, innovation tends to happen in a collaborative effort between suppliers and customers, and the research on new materials is the higher source of competitiveness.

[> read more](#)

ITMF Director General visits the Renewcell-plant

On the 9th of November the Director General of ITMF, Dr. Christian Schindler, had the opportunity to attend together with representatives of investors, brands, and media the formal inauguration of Renewcell’s first commercial-scale textile-to-textile pulp mill in Sundsvall, Sweden, the first of its kind in the world (see Photo 1).

At this facility, Renewcell will initially recycle 60'000 tonnes, and then double to 120'000 tons of textile waste per year into new pulp. With other words, pulp and hence viscose (and other man-made cellulosic fiber) production can now shift from a linear to a circular model.



Photo 1: F.l.t.r.: Henrik Norlin, Board Member, Grinindus and former Chairman of Board at Renewcell; Patrik Lundstrom, CE, Renewcell, Mikael Lindstrom, Dean KTH Royal Institute of Technology



Photo 2: Cotton-rich textile waste as feedstock for new viscose fibres



Photo 3: Textile waste on its way to the shredders.



Photo 4: Final product "Circulose"; a sheet of pulp cellulose used for cellulosic fibers



Photo 5: Dried sheets of "Circulose" packaged and ready for shipment

Instead of using trees as feedstock, Renewcell uses textile waste – mainly worn-out jeans that cannot be resold and production scrap with a minimum cotton content of 90% (see Photo 2). After the buttons, zippers, and other trims are removed, the remaining fabrics are shredded (see

Photo 3). Through a patented chemical process dyes and other contaminants like polyester or elastane are removed. The remaining clean slurry is then dried into sheets of pure cellulose dissolving pulp, called Circulose® (see Photo 4). These sheets of Circulose

are then packaged into bales and then shipped to fiber producers around the world that will produce new viscose fibers or filaments (see Photo 5). Any product made of Circulose® can be recycled several times in the same way, thus making a full and repetitive circular process a reality.

Renewcell has been producing Circulose® in smaller scale at its Kristinehamn Demo Plant since 2018 and is already a proven material with garments made with Circulose® already available in retail from major brands

like H&M, Levi's, Zara, Tommy Hilfiger and more. According to [Canopy](#), approx. 200 million trees are required annually to produce the approx. 6.5 million tons of viscose. With the opening of Renewcell's pulp mill of 120'000 tons of pulp could prevent the logging of approx. 3.6 million trees.

For more information see <https://www.renewcell.com/en/> or contact Ms. Tricia Carey; Chief Commercial Officer of Renewcell (tricia.carey@renewcell.com).

PARTNER NEWS

Uztextileprom: on the Uzbek textile industry



The project "Sustainability and Value Added in the Cotton Economy in Uzbekistan" is part of a global project on Uzbek agricultural supply chains. The most recent update on the project has been published in a report called "A textile giant in the making?". It includes interviews with stakeholders from the Uzbek and international industry, the public sector, and individual actors. The report informs about the **status of the Uzbek cotton and textile sector**; outlines the profound **developments of the last years**; highlights **remaining challenges** and addressing measures - taken or planned - to tackle these. The country is also developing a "Road map" to adopt the "**Better Cotton Initiative**" (BCI) standards. This program aims to ensure healthy soil on cotton farms and efficient use of land, water, and other resources for the benefit of local people and the planet by incorporating sustainable farming practices into policy programs and strategies.

[> read more about "A textile giant in the making"](#)

[> read more about the "Road map to BCI"](#)

VDMA Textile Machinery Association: new Managing Director



Frankfurt am Main, 08. October 2022 – Dr. Harald Weber will become the new managing director of the VDMA Textile Machinery Association on 1 January 2023. The 44-year-old industrial engineer succeeds Thomas Waldmann, who has held the position since 1991 and will retire at the end of the year.

[> read more](#)

Destination Africa: untapped opportunities



Destination Africa is an annual international pan-African B2B sourcing event for the textile industries. It brings African textile, apparel and home textile manufactures together with international buyers to strengthen trade. With 150 exhibitors and 2'600 visitors from 48 countries, the 2022 edition of the show was a success. It was themed "Untapped opportunities" to reflect the potential for sourcing of textiles on the continent. A seminar was also offered to present the private business development initiative form Arise in West Africa.

[> find out more about Destination Africa](#)

[> read more about Arise](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

November - December

Intex South Asia India

December 8-10, 2022
New Delhi, India

India ITME 2022

December 8-13, 2022
Greater Noida, India

Intex South Asia India

December 8-10, 2022
New Delhi, India

International Istanbul Yarn Fair

February 16-18, 2023
Istanbul, Turkey

West Africa Textile Summit 2023

February 23-24, 2023
Cotonou, Benin

Hometex 2023

May 16-20, 2023
Istanbul, Turkey

ITMA 2023

June 8-14, 2023
Milan, Italy

ITMF Annual Conference 2023

2023
Keqiao, Shaoxing, China

Obituary

Dr. Herwig Strolz (November 2nd, 1937 – May 13th, 2022)



Dr. Herwig Strolz was born on the 2nd of November 1937 in the Austrian city of Bregenz which is situated at the lake of Constance, Vorarlberg. After having finished high school, he studied law at the University of Innsbruck, Austria where he also received his Ph.D.

Initially, he had targeted a career in the diplomatic service of his home country. Very quickly he realized that diplomatic skills of all kinds are not only necessities in consulates and embassies but also in international companies and organisations. His studies had prepared him perfectly to work for the Austrian Foreign Chamber of Commerce in Vienna in 1962. After one year he started working as Assistant Trade Commissioner in Caracas, Venezuela and from 1966 onwards in Montreal, Canada. In 1968 he returned to Austria and joined the branch of the Federation of Austrian Industry in Feldkirch, Vorarlberg. In this function he was also responsible for the segment textiles and apparel in the Chamber of Commerce of the Bundesland Vorarlberg.

Without question, Dr. Strolz was a very diplomatic person who spoke German, English, French, and Spanish fluently. Having studied law, he had a solid educational foundation and the awareness of the importance of respecting

different cultures, habits, and of course the rule of law. As the Director General of the Federation, Dr. Strolz could apply and finetune all the skills which he had developed and acquired before having joined ITMF

Dr. Strolz served ITMF as the Director General from 1970 until his retirement in 2006. During his tenure the global textile industry went through major changes. The Board and the Committee of Management of the Federation adapted continuously and successfully to these new circumstances and conditions, by taking several very important strategic decisions. These decisions were developed in close cooperation with Dr. Strolz and implemented successfully by him and his qualified and devoted teams.

A major impact on the global textile industry was brought about by the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA). It governed the world trade in textiles and garments from 1974 through 1994, imposing quotas on the amount developing countries could export to developed countries. Its successor, the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC), expired on 1 January 2005.

The MFA and the ATC had enormous repercussions which the Federation had to adapt to in order to serve its members. Under the guidance of the Board and the Committee of Management, Dr. Strolz was able to significantly improve the standing of the Federation.

In response to the developments in the global textile

[continued] industry – like for example the advent of man-made fibres– the Federation also changed its name in 1978, from “International Federation of Cotton and Allied Textile Industries” (IFCATI) to “International Textile Manufacturers Federation” (ITMF).

The ITMF Board always paid great importance to statistical services provided by ITMF for its members. Against this backdrop, Dr. Strolz was continuously looking for new information and publications ITMF could produce and make available to its members. With that in mind he introduced various new statistical publications that are until today flagship publications of ITMF like the “International Textile Machinery Shipment Statistics” (ITMSS) and the “International Production Cost Comparison” (IPCC).

In 1985 the Federation also established the “ITMF Spinners Committee” to provide an additional platform within ITMF for spinners to meet and discuss pressing issues, and to give them a voice on the global stage vis-à-vis other stakeholders of the cotton value chain as well as vis-à-vis governments. Under the leadership of the Chairmen of the ITMF Spinners Committee – Mr. Sebastian Otto (1985-1995) and Mr. Andrew Macdonald (1995-2022) – Dr. Strolz formed a committee of spinning and cotton experts that was and is highly accepted around the world for its expertise.

To further broaden the membership in countries around the world, the ITMF Board promoted the concept of Corporate Membership in the late 1990s which was eventually introduced in the year 2000. It turned out that this was a very wise and strategically important decision. Today, ITMF has more than 70 Corporate Members that have become a very important part of the Federation.

On an administrative level, together with his team, Dr. Strolz initiated at an early stage in the 1990s the

digitalisation of the Federation. This transition was instrumental to inform ITMF members in a timely manner about developments in the global textile industry. At the Secretariat, especially Ms. Renate Rosing and Ms. Esther Göbel worked very closely with Dr. Strolz from 1988 until his retirement at the end of 2006. With him they made sure that the ITMF Annual Conference were planned and executed meticulously guaranteeing fruitful and memorable gatherings. As economists especially Mr. Peter Scott of the United Kingdom (1973-1983), Mr. Peer Munkholt of Denmark (1987-1994), and Mr. Greig Fleming of New Zealand (2000-2004) made sure that the high-level quality of the ITMF statistics was guaranteed.

After his retirement at the end of 2006, Dr. Strolz stayed on for two years as an advisor to the new ITMF Director General, Dr. Christian Schindler of Germany. Thereafter, he remained in touch with the ITMF Secretariat, always accessible to share his advice and opinion.

Dr. Strolz was widely respected in the global textile industry as a cosmopolitan gentlemen and a skilful and unifying diplomat. Together with the dedicated Presidents and Board Members he was instrumental in providing advice and new ideas to the members of the Committee of Management, the highest decision-making body within ITMF. This enabled ITMF to become an organisation of international repute. In his condolence letter to Dr. Strolz’ family, Prof. Walter Simeoni, former President of ITMF, captured the essence of Dr. Strolz’ dedicated professional life in the following sentence: “His life was ITMF and ITMF was Herwig Strolz.” Of course, while Dr. Strolz enjoyed working for ITMF immensely, it was clear that his family was central to him. With his wife Jeannine Denise Strolz-Labussière he had two children, Marc and Aline.

At ITMF, we are grateful for his extraordinary service and will honour his memory.