

ITMF & IAF Convention scheduled in Uzbekistan from 8th-10th September

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, JULY 04—

As frequent visitors of the ITMF and IAF annual conferences have come to expect, industry experts will share the cutting edge of the developments that currently define the textile-apparel industrial complex. The unique collaboration of the textile industry federation ITMF and the apparel industry federation IAF allows the organizers to give a full supply chain picture. At a time when collaboration across the entire chain is indispensable to meet the many challenges, this is a great asset.

Collaboration is also a central theme of a session featuring Inditex, Epic Group and International Finance Corporation (IFC, part of the World Bank Group). The speakers will focus on decarbonization and show how a collaborative approach across the supply chain can achieve the real progress that our industry needs.

The apparel and textile industries are rapidly becoming more regulated, heightening the pressure to create real and significant environmental and social improvements. In a unique, global regulation session, representatives of the American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA), the China National Textile & Apparel Council (CNTAC), the European Textile & Apparel Industry Federation (EURATEX), and the Japan Textile Federation (JTF), will explain the shape that regulation will take in their countries and regions in the coming years.

These topics and several more about fibers, digitalization, AI, etc. will be discussed in the ancient city of Samarkand, Uzbekistan, a country with a rapidly growing textile and apparel industry, attracting interests from across the world. This convention will be a unique industrial gathering of leaders from across the entire textile and apparel supply chain, from all parts of the world.

Raysil collaborates with NIFT to elevate fashion, education and sustainability in India

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, JULY 04—

Raysil, Viscose Filament Yarn from Grasim Industries Limited under the Aditya Birla Group is a premium textile ingredient for high end fashion and has been a preferred choice for designers for decades. Known for its sustainable practices, Grasim manufactures Viscose Filament Yarn (VFY) at facilities based at Indian Rayon Veraval Gujrat and Century Rayon Kalyan, Maharashtra.. Raysil VFY is well recognized for its eco-friendly attributes and sustainability credentials, which is now a crucial factor for brands and fashion designers.

In a strategic initiative aimed at fostering robust collaboration between industry and academia, Raysil has associated with the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) centres at Delhi, Bengaluru, Gandhinagar, Jodhpur and Chennai. This

alliance aims to bridge the gap between theoretical education and practical industry demands, leveraging NIFT's reputation as India's premier institution for fashion education with a widespread national presence.

Central to this partnership is the esteemed Raysil Design Couture Award, a platform where final semester students at NIFT campuses showcase their creativity using Raysil VFY. Beyond providing practical experience, the award offers winners significant recognition, cash prizes, and opportunities to showcase their collections at prominent industry events.

In addition to nurturing talent through competitive platforms, Raysil conducts specialized workshops and educational sessions at NIFT centres. These initiatives educate students and faculty on the diverse applications and unique characteristics of VFY fabrics,

equipping them with practical insights for professional endeavours in the dynamic fashion landscape.

Raysil further supports NIFT's educational mission by contributing yarn, fabric samples, and collections to enhance the institution's academic resources and facilitate cutting-edge research initiatives. The collaboration extends to sponsoring key NIFT events and organizing visits for students and faculty to Raysil's manufacturing facilities, providing invaluable exposure to industry-leading practices and technologies.

While interacting with Mr Omprakash Chitlange, CEO, Grasim VFY business, commented that collaboration with NIFT's is a strategic move to enhance awareness for sustainable products in fashion fraternity. In emerging sustainability conscious fashion world, NIFT students & alumni

are the ambassadors to promote sustainable fashion

Looking ahead, Raysil remains committed to expanding its collaboration with NIFT, aiming to deepen its impact on future generations of fashion professionals.

This initiative not only fosters innovation and sustainability within the textile sector but also underscores Raysil's steadfast commitment to advancing education and fostering seamless integration between academia and industry.

The association between Raysil and NIFT signifies a significant stride towards cultivating talent, promoting sustainable practices, and steering the course of India's fashion industry towards excellence. This collaboration epitomizes a shared dedication to progressive leadership and visionary stewardship in the global fashion arena.

Kolkata B2B garment meet entails Rs 1000 crore biz: Industry body

KOLKATA, JULY 04-(PTI)

A body of garment manufacturers and dealers in West Bengal on Thursday said a three-day B2B expo entailed Rs 1,000 crore business through wholesale transactions.

The 56th Garment Buyers & Sellers Meet and Business-to-Business Expo, which concluded on July 3, saw participation of over 950 national and international brands and

registration of more than 2,500 visitors, West Bengal Garment Manufacturers and Dealers Association president Hari Kishan Rathi said. "This industry currently employs over 55 lakh people directly or indirectly, making it one of the largest in the world. An estimated Rs 1,000 crore in commercial deals were made with 950 domestic and international brands taking part," Rathi said.

ICA signs MoU with Supima

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, JULY 04—

The International Cotton Association (ICA) signed and exchanged a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Supima recently at the ACSA Convention in Arizona, US to formally acknowledge the alliance and cooperation between organisations.

This MoU will help to foster greater cooperation between the ICA and Supima and

enable them to work more closely on a number of shared goals, which include promoting sanctity of contract; training and visit programmes; information exchange and dissemination; diplomatic initiatives; testing and quality issues.

ICA President, Ms. Kim Hanna, explains; "I am really pleased that we can add Supima to the ICA's growing list of alliances. Along with our

existing MoUs, this latest addition will strengthen the relationships between organisations through increased communication and collaboration, which will ultimately help make trading safer."

The ICA also has existing MoUs with:
 * Better Cotton
 * China Cotton Association (CCA)

* China National Cotton Exchange (CNCE)
 * Cotton Association of India (CAI)
 * Aid by Trade Foundation with its initiative Cotton Made in Africa (CmiA)
 * International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF)
 * TextileGenesis
 * U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol.
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Aid for Trade Review: Global support for West African Cotton Textiles at WTO Forum

By Navdeep Singh Sodhi*

Gherzi Textil Organisation, Switzerland facilitated the international dialogue for realization of Sustainable Development Goals of the cotton-producing LDCs at the 2024 Global Review of Aid For Trade held at the WTO's headquarters in Geneva on 26th June. Playing the role of a catalyst, Gherzi made a robust pitch to the international development partners to support the development of the cotton-textiles and apparel manufacturing sector in West and Africa by fortifying their capacity to attract investment and integrate into the global trade system.

According to the WTO, over the past 18 years, the international community has helped unlock USD 648 billion to support trade development and raise living standards in developing economies, including least-developed countries, via Aid for Trade. The global development initiative brings together trade and development practitioners, including ministers, heads of international organizations and experts, to share their insights, to take stock of lessons learnt and to explore what more can be done to support the greater integration of developing economies into global trade. The discussions focused on three main themes – food security, digital connectivity and mainstreaming trade.

The highlight of the event was the session on "Cotton-to-Clothing: Charting Pathways to create sustainable jobs for women and youth in West and Central Africa" to showcase the impact on socio economic development of C4+ countries from transformation

of the cotton-textiles and apparel sector. A joint declaration signed by a group of international organisations viz the ITC, UNIDO and WTO and regional financial institutions, Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) and International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), affirmed their cooperation to investing in and support the WTO's cotton value chain development projects in Africa.

The five major cotton (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Côte d'Ivoire) producing countries recognized as the C4+ produce about a million tons of cotton representing 50 percent of Africa's output. The group is the third largest exporter of cotton in the world after USA and Brazil. Sustainability is the hallmark of the regional cotton. The rainfed cotton is cultivated over 2.5 million hectares by smallholder farmers with negligible exposure to chemicals, and handpicked. Cotton sector is pivotal to the region's economy as it is the No. 1 cash crop and source of livelihood to about 10 million people living in some of the poorest regions of the world vulnerable to climate change.

Leveraging its deep expertise in Africa, Gherzi carried out



the Baseline Study on the cotton-textile and apparel sector for UNIDO-ITC to assess its competitiveness and identify opportunities and challenges facing the sector. The Study was sponsored by FIFA and Afriexim Bank and conducted under the aegis of the WTO. The field work was accomplished with the help of five national experts in the C4+ countries over six months. The Study showcased the potential for transformation of the agro-allied sector for job creation, value addition and realization of SDGs. Shifting patterns of world trade, near shoring and sustainability provide opportunities for the region to integrate into the global value chain.

The strategy to establish a modern textiles and garment manufacturing hub in C4+ countries will lay a strong foundation for the agro-allied value chain and realization of SDGs. It will have a multiplier effect by providing formal jobs especially to women and youth. The creation of backward and forward linkages will benefit the SMEs through availability of intermediates products such as yarn and fabrics locally. The two-tiered approach gives an impetus to attracting FDI in cut and sew factories for assembly of third country fabrics into readymade garments as well as investment in the fabric mills.

* Gherzi Partners Navdeep Sodhi and Laurent Aucouturier attended the 9th Global Review of Aid for Trade at WTO Geneva (The opinions and observations expressed in the Article are those of author and not of Tecoya Trend.)