

ITMF Start-up Award 2026 Names Five Global Winners

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The **International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF)** has announced the five winners of the **ITMF Start-up Award 2026**.

The awards recognise start-ups with new ideas for the textile industry. The winners will present their business models at the **ITMF & IAF Conference 2026**.

The conference will take place on **14–15 October 2026** in **Fortaleza, Brazil**. The **Brazilian Textile & Apparel Industry Association (ABIT)** will co-host the event.

ITMF Start-up Award 2026

The ITMF Start-up Awards give young companies a platform to showcase their ideas.

The programme also helps start-ups meet established companies. These companies come from across the global textile value chain.

The five winners were selected from different areas of textile innovation. They are listed below in alphabetical order.

Matereal, Switzerland

Matereal is working on biobased polymers and AI for textile manufacturing. Its business concept is “**Charting the New Frontier – Biobased Polymers and AI for Textile Manufacturing.**”

no.wasTee, Brazil

no.wasTee Soluções em Confeccções Sustentáveis focuses on zero-waste design. Its business concept targets a low-CO₂ textile industry.

Tellura Technologies, Brazil

Tellura Technologies develops natural yarn. Its business concept covers applications from fashion to aerospace biocomposites.

Unspun, USA

Unspun focuses on apparel supply chains. Its business concept uses **3D weaving** to automate apparel production.

Yuantian Biotechnology, China

Yuantian Biotechnology (Tianjin) works on PET waste recycling. Its business concept uses enzymes to

recycle waste PET plastic.

Winners to Present at ITMF Conference

The five start-ups cover several areas of textile innovation.

These include new materials, recycling and textile manufacturing. They also cover apparel design and supply chain technology.

The winners will present their business models during the **ITMF & IAF Conference 2026** in Fortaleza. The event will bring together companies and industry professionals from across the textile value chain.