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This special edition of the ITMF newsletter presents the results of the last ITMF Corona-Survey from January 2022.

It shows that the current business situation in the global textile industry remains positive, albeit to a lesser extent than in November 2021. Expectations about the future development in the industry have slightly weakened, but respondents are still rather optimistic except in Africa and East Asia.

The trends amongst segments are constant with upstream manufacturers doing well and downstream segments expecting to catch up. Inflation is nevertheless expected to remain high beyond 2022 and high raw material prices and logistical costs are textile manufacturer's biggest concerns. On the upside, demand doesn't seem to have weakened.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

[Article 1: The business situation in the global textile value chain remained very positive in January 2022](#)



The global textile industry benefitted from the continued global economic recovery. All segments recorded a positive business situation in January 2022.

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

[Article 2: Companies along the global textile value chain expect better business going forward](#)



Companies across most regions and segments are looking optimistically into the future. The economic recovery in the global textile value chain is expected to remain strong.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

Article 3: Order intake fell slightly from a high level, though companies remain optimistic

Positive business situation and expectations are also reflected by strong order intake. Companies are expecting order intake to remain high in the near future.

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

Article 4: Global Order backlog remains on a relatively high level since November 2021.

Order backlog in the global textile value chain did not change much since the last survey and is not expected to change in coming six months. Companies in Europe and North America have the longest backlogs.

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

Article 5: Capacity utilization rates remains stable on a high level

Except Africa, most regions recorded capacity utilization rates above 80%. Also, most segments had rates of 80% and more. The outlook remains positive both regional- and segment-wise.

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

Article 6: Inflation expected to remain high beyond 2022

Two thirds of companies along the entire global textile value chain and across all regions anticipate inflation to remain high beyond 2022.

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

Article 7: Higher raw material, transportation, and energy costs are major concerns

The top 3 concerns among companies along the entire textile value chain are higher costs for raw material, transportation, and energy. But higher costs and higher inflation rates do not seem to weaken demand.

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

ITMF NEWS

Save the Dates – ITMF Annual Conference 2022 in Davos, Switzerland (Sep 18-20, 2022)



The ITMF membership will meet again physically in September 2022 for the ITMF Annual Conference 2022 in Davos, Switzerland, three years after the last in-person conference in Porto, Portugal, in October 2019.

The last ITMF Annual Conference was held in 2020 and was a very special one. It was the first time that ITMF organised a hybrid event. The co-host of the conference, the Korea Federation of Textile Industries (KOFOTI) met with the maximum number of people possible (70) allowed in Korea during the Corona-pandemic in a conference facility in Seoul, Korea. At the same time, members of the China National Textile & Apparel Council (CNTAC) met in a conference facility in Beijing, China. The ITMF Secretariat moderated the two days conference from a film

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studio in Cologne, Germany, whereas all other delegates and speakers from around the world participated virtually. This hybrid conference was a novelty and a big success despite the challenges of different time zones or the unusual virtual participation.

During the conference, also a new ITMF Board was elected virtually. The ITMF Presidency was handed from Mr. Kihak Sung, President of KOFOTI, to Mr. Ruizhe Sun, President of CNTAC. In 2021 the conference could not take place in September 2021 as an in-person event in Davos, Switzerland, due to all sorts of restrictions including travel restrictions and quarantine requirements as a result of the ongoing Corona-pandemic. Therefore, the conference was postponed for the first time to April 2022. Since many travel and meeting restrictions were still in place in January 2022, the Board decided to postpone the event for a second time to September 2022. With other words, members of ITMF could neither attend an in-person conference

nor meet at in-person meetings or workshops since October 2019. Not meeting each other physically for such a long period of time feels strange to say the least.

Therefore, it is with great anticipation that we are awaiting the [ITMF Annual Conference 2022](#) which will be held in **Davos, Switzerland, on September 18-20, 2022**. The conference will be jointly co-hosted by [Swiss Textiles](#) and [Swiss Textile Machinery](#).

The general theme of the conference will be "*Climate Change and a Sustainable Global Textile Value Chain*". The preliminary conference programme will be published at the end of February and will comprise almost 40 industry experts from around the world among which will be speakers from ABRAPA, Adidas, Archroma, CNTAC, Decathlon, EURATEX, H&M, IKEA, Infinited Fiber, Rieter, Supima, Tendam, Unifi, or Wood Mackenzie, only to name a few.

For more information about the co-hosts, the sponsors, and the conference programme visit [ITMF 2022 Davos](#) and also watch the respective video.

PARTNER NEWS

Save the Dates –Meeting with Update by SLCP (March 24th, 2022)



In the last ITMF Newsletter (No. 72, January 2022) we reported about the progress made by the [Social Labor Convergence Program \(SLCP\)](#) to reduce audit fatigue since its launch in 2015. At the upcoming virtual meeting, members of ITMF and their members will have the opportunity to learn in more detail about the plans for 2022. Furthermore, the meeting will provide an opportunity to learn in a more interactive way how textile companies benefit from the SLCP and how they can start the process. Speakers from H&M, Arvind (tbc) and SLCP will share with us what has been achieved for the industry, how companies benefit, and what is necessary to become a part of SLCP.

Therefore, if you are interested to learn more about SLCP and how the number of audits can be reduced, please save the date (**March 24th, 2022, at 10 am (CET) and 5 pm (CET)**). We will provide you with a more detailed agenda and the respective registration link in the coming weeks.

² Source: [Social Labor Convergence Program \(SLCP\)](#)

Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action – Dow & Ralph Lauren on how to dye cotton more sustainably



Ralph Lauren and Dow have partnered to develop a process that makes cotton dyeing more sustainable and more effective. They will present an open-source manual about this innovative process.

The Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action ([FICCA](#)) inviting its signatories and supporting organisations and their members to attend a webinar on February 22nd, 2022 at 02:00 pm (Budapest time) organised by [Ralph Lauren](#) and [Dow](#). During the webinar they will present an **open-source manual** about how to dye cotton more sustainably and more effectively. FICCA writes: *"Every year, trillions of liters of water are used for fabric dyeing alone, generating wastewater and pollution."* Therefore, all efforts are welcome to improve dyeing processes that significantly reduce the amount of water, chemicals and energy

required for cotton dyeing. In this context they mention that these processes can be used also with existing dyeing equipment. Ralph Lauren is the first brand to use Dow's products in order to optimize and implement the technology in its cotton dyeing operations. People interested to learn more about this innovative technology and its benefits can register for the webinar and deep dive into the manual. The speakers will be:

- **Jason Berns**, Head of Product & Manufacturing Innovation, **Ralph Lauren Corporation**
- **Christian Allemang**, Lead Technical Service and Development Specialist, **Dow**

Date/Time: February 22nd, 2022, at 02:00 pm (Budapest time)

Zoom-Meeting-Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89923520160>

Meeting ID: 899 2352 0160