



The general sentiment in the global textile industry is that the current slummy business situation must come to an end. It is unclear if business leaders think that the situation cannot get much worse or anticipate a well-founded normalization of business activities (see Article 1 and 2).

In any case, companies across the board are expecting a slow way back to a more normal (stable) business environment. Current order intake is mostly low because of weak demand (see Article 3 and 6) but is expected to improve in 6 months-time due to relatively few order cancellations (see Article 7) and lower inventory levels (see Article 8).



Mr. Olivier Zieschank
director, ITMF

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BRIEF STATE OF THE ECONOMY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

Business situation further deteriorates



The global business situation in the textile industry has been negative since June 2022 and is still deteriorating. At the same time, companies around the world and across all segments are faced with a "perfect storm"-scenario with high production costs and relatively low demand.

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

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Business expectations consolidate in positive territory



Textile manufacturers' expectation for a much better business situation in 6 month-time is sustained. The persistent optimism about the mid-term future signals that many companies expect business to improve in the second half of 2023. Whether they think that the situation cannot get much worse or anticipate a well-founded normalisation remains to be seen.

² [> read more \(members only\)](#)

Order intake is still negative but flattened



The balance for order intake has steadily decreased since November 2021 but the rate of decline has now slowed down. The situation is mostly due to weak demand. Improvement is expected in the second half of 2023 due to relatively few order cancellations and stabilizing inventory levels.

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

Order backlog further decreased



On average across all regions, order backlog in the textile industry fell to the lowest recorded level in March 2023, mostly due to falling order intake. In reaction, it can be assumed that companies have already reduced or are reducing existing capacities in some segments.

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

Capacity utilization rate stagnated



The average capacity utilisation rate has stagnated at 74% since the beginning of the year 2023. This indicator is still lower than anticipated six months ago. The main factor in keeping the rate from decreasing is the improved situation in China, where domestic consumption is picking up pace slowly.

³ [> read more \(members only\)](#)

Weakening demand by far the biggest concern



"Weakening demand" is still the major concern in the global textile value chain since July 2022 and its importance has grown again. Inflation is n°2 worldwide. Concerns about high energy and raw material prices in Europe and the Americas are slowly replaced by "Geopolitics" and "Rising interest rates".

⁴ [> read more \(members only\)](#)

Order cancellations increased



53% of the respondents recorded no order cancellations during the last 4 months, down from 58% in January. The phenomenon is stronger in South America. It touches spinners and weavers relatively more. Cancellation for home textile producers is close to average.

⁵ [> read more \(members only\)](#)

Most companies report average inventory levels



58% of respondents to the 19th GTIS consider inventory levels as average. The number of companies reporting high inventory levels is greater in Asia and Europe. Among segments, it is the highest for home textile producers.

⁶ [> read more \(members only\)](#)

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⁵This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

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ITMF NEWS

ITMF's newest members

ITMF has welcome 2 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.



Banswara Syntex Ltd. has grown to become a vertically integrated textile company, specializing in the production of yarns, fabrics, and readymade garments. Today, the company is one of the largest single-mill set ups for fibre-dyed yarns in Asia. Banswara Syntex' products are sold in over 50 countries including the U.S., U.K., Canada, Spain, Germany, Japan, France, UAE, or Turkey.

[> read more](#)



Asia Pacific Rayon (APR) is the first fully integrated viscose rayon producer in Asia from plantation to viscose fibre. Their 300,000-tonne capacity mill is co-located in Pangkalan Kerinci with Asia Pacific Resources International Limited. As a member of the RGE Group, which was founded by Sukanto Tanoto in 1973, APR produces natural and biodegradable viscose rayon used in textile products.

[> read more](#)

ITMF Webinar Series: "Circular Textile Economy" Part 2: Political background



ITMF held the 2nd webinar in its series "Circular Textile Economy" on March 28th. More than 100 persons from the entire textile value chain had registered for this webinar. Three very informative and interesting presentations on the political background and conditions to transition to circularity were delivered.

Mr. Mauro Scalia from **Euratex** informed the audience about the newest development of the EU's Green Deal & Textile Strategy. Ms. Yan Yan from **CNTC** presented China's circularity strategy and Mr. Lutz Walter from the **European Technology Platform (ETP)** for the Future of Textiles and Clothing closed the session listing current innovation challenges & opportunities for textile manufacturers.

[> see video and presentations](#)

ITMF Webinar Series: "Circular Textile Economy" Part 3: From used textiles to new products



ITMF will hold the 3rd webinar in the series "Circular Textile Industry" on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, from 11:00-12:15 CET.

Mr. Gill from **Indorama** will focus on materials, Mr. Dandapure from **Lululemon** on textile structures and applications, and Mr. Bösch from **Texaid** on collecting and sorting. Finally, Ms. Khanna from **Fashion for Good** will present a case study from India with the title "Wealth in Waste".

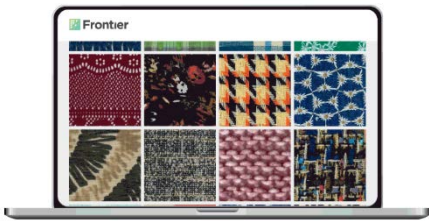
[> see our virtual forum \(select Webinar Series + Circular Textile Economy\)](#)

Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, from 11:00-12:15 CET | Register [HERE](#)

⁷ This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

⁸ Source : <https://www.ecotextile.com/2019061824417/fashion-retail-news/crystal-gives-fabric-waste-a-second-life.html>

ITMF Webinar Series: “Digital Workflow” Part 2: Frontier.cool



ITMF held the 2nd webinar in its series “Digital Workflow” on March 15th, featuring the company Frontier.cool. Ms. Amal Jomaa and Wayne Y. Fan shared their views on “*How to digitize the textile business to become more efficient*”.

Frontier.cool offers companies software solutions that allow to digitize their materials and create 3D-ready fabrics with physical properties, sustainability impact, and other metadata transforming the way they design, produce, and collaborate. Achieving faster time to market, accelerating innovation, reducing the need for physical samples, and shortening the time to make design decisions are the key benefits.

The company from Chinese Taipei presented compelling information about macro trends driving digitalization and innovation in the textile and fashion industry, thoughts on **leveraging and capitalizing on digital technologies**, and a better understanding of opportunities for sustainability management and workflow efficiency.

[> watch the webinar here](#) [> see presentation here](#)

TAKE
TEXTILE
ONLINE. Frontier

PARTNER NEWS

DNFI Innovation in Natural Fibres Award 2023



For the seventh time since 2017, the Discover National Fibre Initiative is inviting entries for the ‘DNFI Innovation in Natural Fibres Award’. The purpose of the DNFI Award is to raise awareness of exciting work involving natural fibres, and to help raise the profiles of leading researchers, product developer, technicians etc. so as to enhance opportunities for commercial application of such work.

Closing date for applications is September 8th, 2023.

[> find out more here](#)

RAP Series: H&M Group's roadmap to fund decarbonization - the CFO perspective



The Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action (FICCA) contains the vision to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 in the fashion industry. The FICCA support team organises a series of webinars on important related topics called the RAP series.

In this context the next webinar in this series has the title “*H&M Group's roadmap to fund decarbonization - the CFO perspective*”

H&M Group's decisive focus on climate action and its funding did not appear overnight. During this webinar, you can listen to how this process took place over time from a brand's CFO perspective.

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023, from 15:00-16:00 CET | Register
[JOIN](#) the meeting on your computer, mobile app or room device

RAP Series: Sourcing renewable heat for your operations 'as-a-service'



United Nations
Climate Change

The Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action (FICCA) contains the vision to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 in the fashion industry. The FICCA support team organises a series of webinars on important related topics called the RAP series. The latest webinar to date was given by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and presented an innovative business model and financing mechanism for companies to **introduce sustainable heat solutions into their operations** without having to secure the upfront investment costs.

[> view all videos and presentations in the RAP series here](#)

Texcoms publishes the 2nd edition of its Technical Handbook at ITMA 2023



Texcoms Textile Solutions is publishing the 2nd edition of the Technical Handbook for the Textile Industry. This document is a comprehensive and easy access guide to all technical information for the personnel involved in the textile sector. It covers important topics like electrical engineering & utility, blend analysis, and more. The subject is presented in a lucid manner for easy access to the readers.

[> More information here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

2023

[ITMF – ITA “Circular Textile Economy” - the value chain](#)
April 18, 2023 (11:00 CET)
Online webinar

[Keqiao Textile Expo \(spring\) 2023](#)
April 26-28, 2023
Shaoxing, China

[Hometex 2023](#)
May 16-20, 2023
Istanbul, Turkey

[UzTextileExpo Spring 2023](#)
May 29-31, 2023
Tashkent, Uzbekistan

[Tashkent Textile Week 2023](#)
May 29- June 2, 2023
Tashkent, Uzbekistan

[Intertex Portugal](#)
May 31- June 2, 2023
Guimaraes, Portugal

[ITMA 2023](#)
June 8-14, 2023
Milan, Italy

[11th Intex South Asia – Bangladesh](#)
June 22-24, 2023
ICCB, Dhaka, Bangladesh

[ReadyToShow](#)
July 11-13, 2023
Milan, Italy

[12th Intex South Asia – Sri Lanka](#)
August 9-11, 2023
BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka

[New York Home Fashions Market Week](#)
September 11-14, 2023
New York, USA

[Dornbirn Global Fiber Congress 2023](#)
September 13-15, 2023
Dornbirn, Austria

[ICA Trade Event 2023](#)
October 11-12, 2023
Singapore

[Intertex Tunisia 2023](#)
October 19-21, 2023
Sousse, Tunisia

[IAF World Fashion Convention](#)
October 22-25, 2023
Philadelphia, USA

[ITMF Annual Conference 2023](#)
November 4-6, 2023
Keqiao, Shaoxing, China

[ITMA Asia + CITME 2023](#)
November 19-23, 2023
Shanghai, China

[ITME Africa](#)
November 30- Dec 2, 2023
Nairobi, Kenya

[13th Intex South Asia – India](#)
December 7, 2023
IECC, New Delhi, India