

Sustainability Soars

Preview What's Hot:

Fall/Winter 17/18
Spring/Summer 18



RECYCLE

Recycled fibers - both natural and synthetic with a performance aspect.

LIGHTWEIGHT

Fabrics continue to go lighter in weight without neglecting strong functional levels.

PRINT

A strong sense of creativity, ranging from multi-functional appeal to new structures and print applications.

SUSTAINABLE

Sustainable solutions continue to develop as a reduction in water, emissions and energy are key for the future.

COLOR

Color is an important aspect as more vibrant tones push through in plain through to double sided contrasting fabrics and bi and multi-colored prints.

COOLING

Cooling technology is increasing in interest, the latest performance to enhance existing functions including quick dry and moisture management.



100 percent polyester
waterproof/breathable
double faced knit from
Sunshine Knitting

From reduced water through dyeing processes, recycled fibers and new natural fiber developments, the textile industry's commitment to creating cleaner processes and environmental protection was a highlight at Performance Days trade fair held recently in Munich, Germany. Key to note, however, is the fact that contemporary sustainability efforts don't diminish the functional aspects of products Performance Days buyers are keen to source.

Carvico and Jersey Lomellina are a case in point. Both mills are collaborating with Econyl and Healthy Seas, in creating a cleaner environment not just on the land but from the oceans, too, by collecting and recycling ghost fishing nets to produce a recycled nylon yarn. According to data there are approximately 640,000 tons of fishing nets in the oceans. Carvico and Jersey Lomellina are producing functional swimwear fabrics with Econyl.

The company Thread features environmental and social responsibility. With plastic bottles collected in Haiti and Honduras, the

waste is washed and shredded in local factories before being made into chips that are brought to North America for processing into fabrics. Thread's efforts not only advance recycling but additionally help provide employment in poor areas. Burlington is a Thread partner.

Sympatex Technologies highlighted its sustainable products during Performance Days, presenting new outer and lining material. Certified according to Global Recycle Standard, the material basis of these laminates is a yarn produced by using recycled PET bottles.

Brugnoli has launched a new range named Br4, consisting of plain and jacquard performance fabrics incorporating Fulgar's EVO fiber, a bio based polyamide made from castor oil. Brugnoli confirmed that 30 percent less water is used in production. The Br4 collection also features a high level of performance.

Water is an essential element in the textile and dyeing process, but an element many companies are looking to reduce. Pepwing is doing just this with its solution dye

master batch Dye Free methods. The concept is to melt polyester with the master batch that involves no water, but results in a colored chip that is then extruded into a yarn. As the dyestuff is melted with the polyester chips there is no color bleeding or migration in the final fabrics. The advantage of this new development is that water consumption can be reduced by 50 percent during the process and fabrics incorporating Pepwing's Dye Free process, creates superior color fastness combined with the fact that the final product will also be recyclable.

Trending: Natural Fibers, Cooling Performance

At Tessile Fiorentina the recycling ethos continues with recycled wool. The recycled wool is obtained from reclaimed wool garments that are collected in Italy and stripped and reprocessed. Grouped into colors, the resulting yarns do not have to be dyed, so not only is this product recycled it is also conserving water. The performance wool collection from Tessile Fiorentina is a blend of recycled wool with polyester and nylon, and fits nicely with the

market's increased demand for high performance wool.

A new fiber making waves is Flocus, derived from kapok seeds. Since its launch last season, Flocus has developed innovative new products from multi blend denim with cotton/kapok/spandex/lyocell through to double knits of cotton/kapok/spandex/nylon. The advantage of kapok over cotton production is that no water, chemicals or pesticide is used as the fibrous content is obtained from the seeds of the kapok tree. Kapok mimics the feel of cotton, and is also being suggested for natural insulation for garments.

Looking ahead to Spring/Summer 2018, the development in cooling fabrics continues. Burlington highlighted its new cooling fabric, MCS.A.C—the latest development in the core MCS base fabrics. It offers moisture management and quick dry. The AC aspect is a finish applied at the fiber level in the form of microcapsules with a life span of 30 plus washes. The microcapsules, consisting of sugar, water and alcohol, burst and release the contents upon friction

and when you sweat, to give a cooling feel against the skin.

Polartec launched DELTA at the show, a collection of fabrics destined for the yoga and active markets. Constructed of polyester, Tencel and spandex, the performance fabrics have a natural but cool touch. In addition, the cooling aspect is inherent to the polyester used, making the performance a permanent aspect.

Dynamic cooling also features at HeiQ with its Adaptive finish. Applied at the padding process of the textile manufacturing, Adaptive gives a cool touch to fabrics and is becoming a popular add-on in giving fabrics a performance aspect through layering technology. For active brands, Adaptive is a cost effective way of adding a higher level of performance compared to cooling yarns.

In addition to eco and performance features, brands also look to aesthetics to add an element of uniqueness. A key trend at Performance Days was textile mills pushing print applications on incredibly lightweight material. Another emerging trend was

53 percent polyamide, 26 percent polyester, 16 percent spandex double sided knit from Schoeller 150 g/sm.



pushing prints to have an added performance aspect as seen at Nan Ya Plastics, with a reflective print applied onto a printed base. Shinkong also pushed the print direction with hyper realistic relief on multi functional ripstop bases weighing only 62 g/sm.

Gunold found another way to achieve uniqueness via its sewing thread collection for stitching and embroidery. New innovations included POLYMET (polyester)

and FILAMET (acrylic) where brands can select from a vast color range and twist in metallic threads to create a unique final product. Another range, SULKY, involves the use of variegated shades in viscose threads, which when stitched in an exposed flatlock detail or embroidered detail create a unique look. This type of customization is appealing to brands, as they are able to create the final thread that is unique to their collections. ●

Stretching Beyond

Color+

creora® Color+ dyeable spandex for excellent color fastness in blends with nylon.

eco-soft

creora® eco-soft low heat settable spandex for softer hand and exceptional whiteness.

Black

creora® Black spandex for blacker black colors without grin-through.

PowerFit

creora® Power Fit spandex is engineered for higher levels of power and compression.


creora®
it's in our every fiber

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