

Global Technical Textiles Business Update, May 2018

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Abstracts

This report provides a round-up of recent corporate developments in the global technical textile sector, including: acquisitions, divestments and mergers; business news; investments; and joint ventures. The report contains news from the following innovative companies, other organisations and research centres: 4M Carbon Fiber, Ahlsell, Ahlstrom-Munksjö, Aquafil, Bekken & Strøm AS, Coats, Conbility, Daio Paper, Dual, DUCI, EDANA (the international association serving the nonwovens and related industries—formerly the European Disposables and Nonwovens Association), ELG Carbon Fibre, the European Industrial Hemp Association (EIHA), Fibertex Nonwovens, Fraunhofer-Einrichtung für Giesserei-, Composite- und Verarbeitungstechnik (IGCV—Fraunhofer Research Institution for Casting, Composite and Processing Technology), Fraunhofer-Institut für Produktionstechnologie (IPT—Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology), Genomatica, Global Safety Textiles (GST), Gloves, HanesBrands, Hexcel, J.E. Herndon Company, Jinan Qing Na Material Technology, Karl Mayer Group, Lectra, Leigh Delaware Holdings, Oerlikon Barmag, Oxford Performance Materials (OPM), Patrick Yarn Mill, Safe Workwear Sweden AB, SGL Group, Shandong Institute of Industrial Technology Fund, Sulzer Chemtech, Suominen, Teijin Limited, TenCate Advanced Composites (TCAC), Toray Industries, Versarien and Xeros Technology Group.

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SUMMARY

ACQUISITIONS, DIVESTMENTS AND MERGERS

Fibertex has acquired the nonwovens manufacturer DUCI in order to target South American markets

Fibres and polymers supplier Leigh Delaware Holdings has acquired the fibre and by-products reprocessing specialist J.E. Herndon Company

High performance structural materials producer Hexcel has acquired the Aerospace & Defense business of Oxford Performance Materials

Polymer-based technology provider Xeros Technology Group has acquired Gloves, a provider of cleaning, inspection and repair services for firefighter personal protection equipment (PPE)

Thread manufacturer Coats has acquired the high performance yarn producer Patrick Yarn Mill

Toray is to acquire TenCate Advanced Composites

Workwear and personal protective equipment (PPE) supplier Ahlsell has acquired Safe Workwear and Bekken & Strøm

BUSINESS NEWS

Conbility is to commercialise Fraunhofer's placement and winding systems for consolidating composite tapes

Consumer awareness is key to solving the flushability problem, according to a report exploring the impact of wipes and personal care items on UK sewer systems

Lectra has become the sole supplier of cutting equipment to Dual's automotive seating and interiors business and the sole supplier of laser cutting equipment to Dual's airbag cushion business

Vector system

FocusQuantum system

Oerlikon has secured yarn spinning technology contracts valued at Euro460 mn

Teijin is to launch a range of high performance polyphenylene sulphide (PPS) compounds targeted at the Asian market and will build a new PPS polymer plant in Thailand

The European Industrial Hemp Association (EIHA) has called for an easing of restrictions on the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in industrial hemp production in the EU

Woodland Holdings has been renamed 4M Carbon Fiber to help it to target the manufacture of cheap high quality carbon fibre

INVESTMENTS

Airbag fabric maker Global Safety Textiles has improved its efficiency by using the latest laser cutting technology

Daio Paper is to produce cellulose nanofibres (CNFs)

ELG Carbon Fibre is to increase its capacity for recycling carbon fibre

Fibre-based materials producer Ahlstrom-Munksjö plans to acquire land next to its plant in Louveira, Brazil

HanesBrands has invested in Baldwin spray finishing systems

Suominen is to invest Euro6 mn in its plant in Green Bay, Wisconsin, USA

Textile machinery builder Karl Mayer has set up a new company to focus on digitalisation

Toray is to expand its business in India

JOINT VENTURES

Genomatica and Aquafil are to work on the development of sustainable caprolactam for use in the manufacture of polyamide

SGL Group and Fraunhofer IGCV have opened a centre for the development of fibre placement technologies for use in the manufacture of composite parts

Sulzer Chemtech and SGL Group have expanded their cooperation in the field of filtration and separation column internal components

Versarien has formed a partnership with a global textile and apparel manufacturer to incorporate graphene into fabrics

Versarien is to establish a graphene manufacturing centre in China in a joint venture with Shandong Institute of Industrial Technology Fund and Jinan Qing Na Material Technology

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