

Global Apparel Markets: Product Developments and Innovations, 3rd Quarter 2010

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Abstracts

Following the success of its hemp-based fibres, Naturally Advanced Technologies (NAT) has developed a fibre made from flax using its patented Crailar production process. The fibre offers a cost-effective alternative to cotton.

Scientists based in the UK have developed Fabrican, a liquid mixture which can be sprayed directly on to a body to create a customised seamless garment. Huntsman Textile Effects has developed a new water repellent finishing treatment called High IQ Clean and Dry Comfort, and Reliance Industries has developed a new anti-odour fabric finishing treatment.

F-One has introduced a new suit made from a water repellent synthetic rubber fabric. The suit dries quickly without losing its shape.

In the denim sector, Edwin has introduced a new range of jeans in China and Japan which are softer and smoother than conventional jeans. Levi Strauss & Co has developed a new range of women's jeans which have been designed using "a revolutionary fit system". Clariant International, meanwhile, has developed an eco-friendly dyeing process for denim fabrics.

In other eco-friendly news, DyeCoo Textile Systems has developed a dyeing process for fabrics which does not require the use of water or chemicals. Optimer Brands has introduced Dri-release E.C.O (Environmentally Correct Origins) fabric which incorporates Unifi's 100% recycled Repreve polyester fibres. Naturana has developed a new collection of swimwear made from Biophyl, a fabric which contains yarns derived from a renewable source.



In the sports apparel sector, Heidi Klum has introduced a new range of New Balance branded activewear which is being sold exclusively by the online retailer Amazon. Meanwhile, Icebreaker has introduced its first range of garments made from Realfleece, as well as its first apparel collections for running and cycling.



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