

Prospects for the textile and clothing industry in South Korea, 2020

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Abstracts

The textile and clothing industry in South Korea played a major role in the country's initial industrialisation but it has subsequently been eclipsed by other industries, notably automotive and electronics. Nevertheless, the textile and clothing industry remains important, and it covers a wide range of vertically integrated activities. Furthermore, it is a substantial exporter—especially in textiles—stemming from the fact that it has an extensive synthetic fibre industry. Looking to the future, the industry has embarked on a strategy of concentrating on the development of new textile materials with the aim of increasing the added value of its exports. In particular, the focus will be on smart fibres, nanofibres, fibres for healthy lifestyles and sustainability, and high-tech “super fibres”. To help the industry to achieve its export target, South Korea has signed free trade agreements (FTAs) with numerous major countries in the world. This report looks at the development of the textile and clothing industry in South Korea, its size and structure, and its production and consumption of fibres, textiles and clothing. The report also features: a geographical, political and economic profile; a detailed look at South Korea's imports and exports of textiles and clothing; a review of the policies and investment incentives provided by the South Korean government; an analysis of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the textile and clothing industry; an appraisal of South Korea's infrastructure and human resources, and an analysis of how these affect the textile and clothing industry; and an examination of the industry's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT).

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SUMMARY

ANTIMICROBIAL TEXTILES AND HOME TEXTILE PRODUCTS

Magniflex has developed antiviral mattresses and bedding products
Trident Group has launched a new range of antimicrobial home textile products
Two of Sanitized's treatments have been verified as being effective against viruses when applied to polyester textiles

BEDDING PRODUCTS

Advansa's filling products are being used in the development of "back friendly" duvets

BEDS

Sleep Number has launched the Climate360 Smart Bed which incorporates temperature regulating technology

BIODEGRADABLE FIBRES

Cocona is using a new additive in the manufacture of its 37.5 Technology fibres to help accelerate biodegradation

CARPET

DSM Niaga has developed a carpet made from recycled materials

COLLECTIONS

Himatsingka has launched a new brand of home textile products called Him?ya and created a collection under the brand called Vitamin D
JCPenney has launched a bedding collection under its new Linden Street brand
West Elm has collaborated with REI Co-op in the development of a "co-curated" outdoor products collection

COLOUR MANAGEMENT

Pantone has introduced 351 new colours to its Fashion, Home + Interiors (FHI) colour system

COTTON

The Fairtrade Foundation and Pratibha Syntex are working to develop a breed of nongenetically modified (non-GM) cotton seeds

FABRICS

Designtex and Hologenix LLC have collaborated in the development of Designtex Celliant upholstery fabrics

Seam Seal International has developed a hypoallergenic fabric for home textile applications which can be used as an environmentally sustainable alternative to PVC fabric

Tessutica has developed a range of fabrics called Greencare which incorporate yarns made from recycled waste

Sanderson has collaborated with the National Trust in the development of a decorative upholstery fabric collection

FIBREFILL

Advansa has developed a new fibrefill product which is derived from recycled waste materials

FIBRES

Lenzing has launched a new version of its Tencel Modal fibre called Tencel Modal fibre with Eco Pure technology

FINISHING TREATMENTS

BigSky Technologies has developed a fluorine-free textile finishing treatment called GreenShield ZERO

Devan Chemicals has developed two new bio-based finishes for home textile products

HeiQ has developed a new bio-based thermoregulation treatment for home textile products

MATTRESSES

airweave has developed a new mattress which has a modular design

RECYCLING PROCESSES

CH-Bioforce is working with AB InBev to convert brewing waste into textile materials

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