

# Stretch Fibres and Fabrics: Reaching New Levels of Comfort

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## Abstracts

This report examines the field of stretch fibres and fabrics, which have been credited with radically changing the way people look and feel in the clothes they wear. Developments in stretch fibres and fabrics have made it possible to produce new types of functional clothing—including compression garments which help to improve an athlete's performance, and workwear which offers greater comfort and freedom of movement. This report provides a wealth of information on various types of stretch fabrics; ways of imparting stretch properties to fabrics; elastane fibres; testing of stretch fabrics; and applications of stretch fabrics. It also provides an overview on the key producers of stretch fibres and yarns, stretch fabrics, and the products and innovations in both sectors.

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Elastomeric fibres

Elastane versus rubber

Fibres and yarns with inherent stretch

Elastolefin fibres

Stretch polyester fibres

Yarn crimping

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Incorporating elastane fibre into a bicomponent or combination yarn

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Supply of elastane fibres  
Demand for elastane fibres

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Elongation at load  
Force for elongation  
Recovery after load

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Activewear  
Compression garments  
Cosmetotextiles  
Fashion wear  
Outdoor apparel  
Ready-to-wear garments  
Seamless garments  
Shapewear  
Workwear  
Other applications

## **KEY PRODUCERS OF STRETCH FIBRES AND YARNS AND THEIR PRODUCTS**

Invista: Lycra  
Lycra T400  
Easy Set Lycra  
Lycra Fusion  
Xtra Life Lycra  
Xfit Lycra  
Black Lycra  
Lycra Sport  
Lycra Xtra Fine  
Lycra freshFX  
DuPont: Sorona  
Asahi Kasei: Dorlastan  
RadiciSpandex: RadElast  
Hyosung: Creora  
Unifi: Reflexx

## **KEY PRODUCERS OF STRETCH FABRICS AND THEIR PRODUCTS**

Brugnoli: stretch fabrics

Carvico: warp knitted fabrics

Darlington Fabrics: warp knitted fabrics

Elastic Textile Europe: elastic fabrics and laces

Eurojersey: Sensitive

Jersey Lomellina: elasticised circular knitted fabrics

Malden Mills: Polartec Power Stretch

Piave Maitex: Toptex

Schoeller Group: schoeller-dynamic, schoeller-prestige and schoeller-WB-formula

schoeller-dynamic

schoeller-prestige

schoeller-WB-formula

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