

Looking Back: Headlines 2017

The year 2017 saw several developments in the global textile, apparel, fashion and retail industry. Governments of India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Mauritius announced incentives and benefits to boost the industry, Bangladesh reduced corporate tax for RMG firms, while Sri Lanka got back EU's GSP Plus status. EU and Japan were able to conclude Economic Partnership Agreement, whereas President Trump initiated NAFTA renegotiation has put Mexico-US jeans trade at risk. Meanwhile, in a major relief to LDCs like Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti and Ethiopia, the UK Government has pledged to continue duty-free access for these countries post-Brexit.

On the corporate front, the year saw Alibaba forging global alliance to fight counterfeiting, Michael Kors acquiring Jimmy Choo, and India's Reliance Industries becoming the world's largest PX producer. **Fibre2Fashion** lists key news that made headlines in the year that was.

INDIA

GST

→ Indian government rolls out Goods and Services Tax



The Goods and Services Tax (GST) came into effect from July 1, 2017. No tax on silk and jute fibres, while cotton and natural fibres are placed under 5 per cent slab. GST on man-made fibre was initially at 18 per cent, but later brought down to 12 per cent. Readymade apparel priced below 1,000 placed under 5 per cent, while apparel above that mark taxed at 12 per cent. Textile machinery placed under 18 per cent tax slab. Job work in entire textile sector now under 5 per cent GST slab.

POLICY

→ Indian Budget 2017-18 reduces tax for MSMEs



In order to make MSME companies more viable and to encourage firms to migrate to company format, income tax for smaller companies with annual turnover up to 50 crore was reduced to 25 per cent. As per data of Assessment Year 2015-16, there are 6.94 lakh companies filing returns of which 6.67 lakh

companies fall in this category and, therefore, percentage-wise 96 per cent of companies will get this benefit of lower taxation.

- Textiles minister Smriti Irani resolves cutting of carpets issue at ports
- CBEC says the sari out of made-ups realm; no excise duty on it
- Indian government launches PowerTex India scheme for powerloom sector



The Union government announced a comprehensive scheme for powerloom sector development. It would especially benefit Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The components of PowerTex India scheme are in-situ upgradation of plain powerlooms; group workshop scheme (GWS); yarn bank scheme; common facility centre (CFC); Pradhan Mantri Credit Scheme for powerloom weavers; Solar Energy Scheme for powerlooms; Facilitation, IT, awareness, market development and publicity for powerloom schemes; Text Venture Capital Fund; and Grant-in-Aid and modernisation and upgradation of powerloom service centres (PSCs).

- Textiles ministry increases corpus fund for yarn banks
- Textiles ministry initiates #CottonsCool campaign
- India & Japan's QTEC to sign MoU for quality compliance
- Telangana allocates ₹1,200 crore to textile sector
- UP govt gives nod for private textile parks in state
- Cabinet approves India-Australia MoU on textiles & clothing cooperation
- Arunachal Pradesh government launches textile promotion scheme
- Textiles ministry starts three institutional mechanisms
- Indian start-ups can now raise 100% funds from an FVCI
- Gujarat government extends textile policy by one year
- Indian government announces new duty drawback rates for garments



The Government of India announced the new duty drawback rates to be effective from October 1, 2017 (post-transition period ending September 30, 2017). The new All Industry Rates (AIR) for cotton garments is 2 per cent as compared to the 7.7 per cent drawback available earlier. The duty drawback rate

on garments of MMF and bend containing cotton and man-made fibre (MMF) is 2.50 per cent.

- Gujarat government announces Garments & Apparel Policy 2017
 - Textiles & Power ministries join hands for SAATHI
 - Indian government raises duty by 10% on polyester fabric imports
- The Government of India increased basic customs duty on polyester fabric from 10 per cent to 20 per cent effective October 27, 2017. After implementation of



the GST, there was a significant drop in the import duty that threatened the survival of the domestic manufacturing industry due to cheaper imports from countries like China. Subsequently, the industry had represented to the government and the GST Council to increase the basic customs duty on fabrics to retain the competitiveness of the domestic manufacturing industry.

- India jumps 30 places to rank 100th in World Bank's 'ease of doing business' index
- Ligeribari declared Assam's first model textile village
- Indian government doubles MEIS incentive for garments, madeups; notifies post-GST rates under RoSL
- Sops worth ₹8000 crore in mid-term review of India's Foreign Trade Policy
- Indian government identifies 13 target nations to expand market share of textiles
- Indian government approves ₹2,600 crore special package for leather, footwear
- New scheme for capacity building in Indian textiles sector

TRADE

- India initiates anti-dumping investigation on PSF imports
- India extends anti-dumping duty on China's viscose
- India imposes duty on Chinese sewing machine needles

COTTON

- CICR gets approval for 3 varieties of Bt cotton seeds
- CICR develops shortest maturity cotton variety
- PAU develops reusable Bt cotton seeds
- CAI & CCA sign MoU to promote healthy cotton trading
- Trans-shipment service for imported cotton at Tuticorin
- Indian firm buys Monsanto Holdings' cotton seeds business

FIBRE

- Indian government increases raw jute MSP by 9.4%
- Grasim bags USDA biobased certification for fibres

SILK

- Assam govt will plant trees to grow eri & muga cocoons
- KSIC setting up second silk production unit in Mysuru

PETROCHEMICALS

- GAIL & HPCL JV to build 1.5 million tons ethylene derivatives plant
- PM Modi inaugurates OPAL petrochemical plant in Gujarat
- JBF Petrochemicals commissions PTA plant at Mangalore SEZ
- Reliance commissions world's largest ethane project
- Reliance commissions 2nd phase of PX at Jamnagar
- RIL becomes world's second largest PX producer
- Uruguayan firm Dreketi is now subsidiary of RIL

RAW MATERIAL

- H.B. Fuller expands capabilities in India

MACHINERY

- A.T.E. to sell Jingmei circular knitting machines in India
- Usha launches advanced straight stitch sewing machines
- SKF brings predictive maintenance for machinery to India

TEXTILES

- Welspun group announces ₹4,000 crore investment in textile projects
- India based home textiles major Welspun Group announced that it will invest ₹4,000 crore in three large textile projects in Gujarat. An integrated textile manufacturing zone will be developed in Kutch at a cost of ₹2,000 crore, as a



part of Indian government's Sagarmala project. The group will also invest in its technical textile business and in the advanced textile arm of Welspun. All three MoUs were signed during Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2017 in Gandhinagar.

- Aditya Birla Nuvo to be merged with Grasim
- Welspun to market Egyptian Cotton products worldwide
- Nitin Spinners commences production at expanded facility
- Sutlej Textiles completes expansion of RTM
- ABNL, Grasim amalgamation gets shareholders' nod
- Grasim divests 100% holding in Grasim Bhiwani Textiles
- Raymond plans to invest ₹1,400 crore in Amravati plant
- Bangladesh group Nitol-Niloy plans spinning mill in West Bengal
- RIL launches R|E|lan high performance fabrics brand; forays into co-branded apparel
- Arvind Limited to invest ₹400 cr in Jharkhand mill
- Promoters of Donear Group acquire OCM Woolen Mills
- IOCL to set up textile park in Odisha
- Indian firm Raymond commissions linen unit in Amravati
- RIL, Myntra partner to co-brand Mast & Harbour denim

HOME TEXTILES

- Himatsingka Seide incorporates subsidiary in Europe
- Future bags exclusive rights to Laura Ashley home textiles
- Himatsingka to disinvest 100% stake in Italian subsidiary
- Welspun bags Made in Green label by Oeko-Tex
- New 'Furnishing on Wheels' initiative by Vijay Textiles
- Sutlej Textiles adds American Silk Mills to its portfolio

INDUSTRIAL

- TEA launches insurance schemes for textile labourers
- Modernisation starts in two old spinning mills in Kashmir

APPAREL

- Gokaldas Exports to set up apparel units in Chittoor
- Salona Cotspin to enter into garment business
- Rupa & Co gets exclusive marketing rights to Fruit of the Loom
- Thriveni Apparels setting up garment unit in Jharkhand
- Mafatlat to foray into apparel; aims to regain past glory
- Jharkhand's first garments production unit inaugurated
- Arvind to set up ₹300 crore mega apparel facility in Gujarat

FASHION

- India bags best country award at London Fashion Week
- House of Anita Dongre opens 100 stores in 2016-17
- Aditya Birla & KVIC enter into strategic partnership
- Indian designers Antar-Agni, Bodice win regional IWP
- Khadi goes global; KVIC to open stores in Dubai, Paris by 2018
- ABFRL to sell American Eagle products in Indian market
- KVIC invests on new looms, charkhas to boost khadi
- Suditi Industries, Anushka Sharma in JV for womenswear
- Maharashtra's MSKVIB rebrands khadi as 'MahaKhadi'
- Bengaluru-based USPL raises ₹100 crore
- Fashion brand Uniqlo applies for retail license in India

RETAIL

- Contactless payments at Shoppers Stop
- Future Group to explore Gulf market with new partnership
- Malaysian store Kioda to take franchise route to India
- Future Retail to acquire HyperCity Retail for ₹655 crore
- Lighthouse announces investment in V2 Retail
- Adidas, Lifestyle launch shop-in-shop partnership

BRANDS

- Rupa Frontline revamps brand identity, launches new logo

INDIA DEBUT

- French luxury brand Cifonelli to launch in India
- Simon Carter launches menswear brand in India

BRAND DEBUT

- Spencer's Retail unveils own garment brand '2Bme'

- The Arvind Store launches ready-to-wear brand 'Arvind' for men
- Virat Kohli debuts athleisure brand One8 with Puma

BRAND EXTENSION

- Monisha Jaising launches #MJtoddlers
- Titan expands into premium saris; launches indutva or Indianwear store 'Taneira' in Bangalore

CATEGORY EXTENSION

- Tata Cliq to launch kidswear category

STORE OPENING

- OCM opens first EBO in Delhi
- Raghavendra Rathore opens flagship store in Hyderabad
- Jack & Jones, Vero Moda, and Only open first store in Goa
- Forever 21 opens first store in Tamil Nadu
- Vans opens new store in Pune
- PrettySecrets opens first offline store in Mumbai
- Bespoke nightwear studio in Mumbai
- Coach launches its first store in New Delhi
- Menswear brand Selected Homme comes to Mumbai
- Imara unveils first exclusive store in Mumbai
- Neeru's opens first flagship store in Delhi
- W opens stores in Shimla, Shillong, Srinagar and Gangtok
- Bhumi Grover launches first outlet in Mumbai
- Biba launches its 8th flagship store in Kolkata
- H&M opens first store in Indore
- Mango opens first India store in Delhi
- The MZ opens its first ever store in Delhi
- Biba opens exclusive store in Ghittorni, Delhi
- Adidas opens first ever 'OFDD' store in India
- Anita Dongre's Grassroot store opens in New Delhi

SUSTAINABILITY

- Birla Century bags LEED & MIG certifications
- Elgi helps ITF members in energy saving up to 43%

SOFTWARE | IT

- CMAI launches GST software 'Adhigam'
- Datatex announces strategic expansion in India

TESTING

- TUV Rheinland India to work with EPCH
- TUV Rheinland India expands with new €2.5 mn facility

ACADEMIC | TRAINING

- Indian design school, Italian fashion school collaborate
- DKTE textile institute signs MoU with Chinese university
- NIFT among top 20 world's best fashion schools 2017



The National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi has claimed a spot in the CEOWorld Magazine's list of best fashion schools in the world for 2017. The Indian fashion school has been ranked 19 and it has achieved a score of 95.6. Parsons School of Design, US has grabbed the first position and Royal Academy of Fine Arts Antwerp follows at no. 2.

- NIFT TEA Institute to get aid for incubation centre
- NIFT to train 10,000 Madhya Pradesh youth in textile sector
- NSDC with Arvind Limited to train 20,000 youth

RESEARCH

- ICMR develops battery operated Personal Cooling Garment
- KAU identifies 12 plants to produce natural dyes
- NITRA to intensify R&D for textile & clothing industry
- IGKV Raipur scientists develop linen yarn from flax plant

APPOINTMENTS

- Flipkart elevates Binny Bansal to Group CEO
- Myntra appoints Gunjan Soni as head of Jabong
- Vikas Gupta named CEO of ITC's lifestyle division
- Satyen Momaya is new CEO of Celio Future Fashion India
- Ganesh Kumar Gupta takes over as new president of FIEO
- Marks & Spencer Reliance India appoints James Munson as MD

- Walmart India appoints Devendra Chawla as EVP & COO
- Anil Kumar given additional charge of KVIC CEO
- Thulasidharan to head Indian Cotton Federation 2017-18
- Giriraj Singh takes over as MSME minister
- TT's Sanjay Jain elected new chairman of CITI
- S Hari Shankar elected new chairman of India ITME Society
- Rashesh Shah takes over as FICCI president for 2017-18

BANGLADESH

POLICY

- Bangladesh Bank inks deal for remediating RMG industry
- Bangladesh cabinet clears draft of Textile Act 2017
- Bangladesh lowers corporate tax to 15% in Budget FY18
- Bangladesh government reduces RMG corporate tax to 12%
- Bangladesh to dedicate SEZ to Japanese garment firms
- NBR announces tax cut for Bangladesh garment factories
- All Bangla RMG units now under central welfare fund
- Bangladesh's BJMC plans jute industrial villages
- Bangladesh plans 2 leather estates in Rajshahi, Chittagong
- Bangladesh agrees to EU conditions for trade benefits
- Bangladesh to revive 13 textiles mills under PPP mode

COTTON

- Bangladesh aims to grow 10% of cotton usage by 2025

FIBRE

- Bangladesh signs Tk454 crore jute deal with Australian firm

DENIM

- BJMC to produce cotton-jute blended denim fabrics

APPAREL

- HSBC Bangladesh arranges \$46 mn for Viyellatex mill
- M&J Group enters Asian garment market with new strategy

INDUSTRIAL

- Bangladesh RMG industry gets Remediation Coordination Cell
- ILO trains 239 labour inspectors in Bangladesh
- Deshbandhu to set up garment factory in Uttara EPZ
- RMG factory mapping project launched in Bangladesh
- BGMEA signs PaCT 2nd phase with IFC for green production
- Alliance claims improved factory safety in Bangladesh

TRAINING

- Germany to help train Bangladesh textile students
- M&J Group to work with Italian fashion institute ReArt

CHINA

POLICY

- China cuts import duty on 187 items, including apparel
- China unveils new standard for clothing with filling

PETROCHEMICALS

- BP sells 50% stake in SECCO to Sinopec

RAW MATERIAL

- Stahl starts construction of centre of excellence in China

FIBRE | YARN

- Kingbird launches meta-aramid fibre fireproof thread
- China approves launch of cotton yarn futures
- Chinese company develops graphene fibre
- Heilongjiang in China eyes hemp as cotton substitute
- Uruguay tries fashion route to boost wool sale in China
- Sateri to have new production site in Jiujiang
- China's cotton output increases 2.7% in 2017

SILK

- China extends support to Cuba to improve sericulture

MACHINERY

- Xianyang deploys ZinserRing 71 spinning system

TEXTILES

- Nantong to support high-end textile manufacturing

- Textile giant China Hi-Tech is now Sinomach subsidiary
- Shangdong Ruyi to acquire major stake in Bagir

APPAREL

- Browzwear & Alvanon to collaborate in Hong Kong & China
- L Catterton Asia announces JV of GXG and 2XU

INDUSTRIAL

- China's first plant to clean textile wastewater using radiation
- Chinese textile giant to open cotton yarn unit in Arkansas
- China's Wuxi Cotton to set up textile plant in Ethiopia

FASHION

- Suntchi, CFDA partner to give US designers access to China
- Denham Group partners with Trendy International Group
- Shenzhen Ellassay buys Vivienne Tam's rights in China

STORE OPENING

- Alpaca del Peru opens first store in China

RETAIL

- Kolon Sport to set up JV with Anta for Chinese market

SUSTAINABILITY

- IFC, NRDC promote sustainability in China's textile sector

RESEARCH

- Chinese scientists develop yarn based battery

TESTING

- Hebei becomes 10th ICA-Bremen certified laboratory

REST OF THE WORLD

POLICY

- Mauritius launches new scheme for textile exports
- Pakistan announces Rs 180 billion package to boost exports
- Kenya to allow textile firms in EPZs to sell in local market
- EU scraps autonomous quotas on Belarusian textile imports
- Argentina amends content declaration for textiles
- Nigerian government allocates N51 billion to garment industry
- NAFTA renegotiation puts Mexico-US jeans trade at risk
- US ITC bans import of bed linen with false labels
- Kenya encourages 'buy Kenya, build Kenya'
- Iran initiates measures to regulate garment imports
- EC takes action to make garment sector more sustainable
- EU grants GSP+ to Sri Lanka; textiles to benefit



An array of Sri Lankan products, including textiles, started to benefit as the European Union granted enhanced market access for the South Asian island nation as a reform incentive. The trade preferences granted to Sri Lanka under GSP+ consist of the full removal of duties on 66 per cent of tariff lines, including textiles and fisheries, entering the EU market. These have been granted "in exchange for the country's commitment to ratify and effectively implement 27 international conventions on human rights, labour conditions, protection of the environment, and good governance," an official statement said.

- Pakistan reimposes import duty & sales tax on cotton
- Pakistan Budget 2017-18 proposes 4 new measures
- East Africa agrees on tax waiver for textile inputs not available locally
- UK to continue duty-free access for LDCs post-Brexit



The UK Government pledged to help improve access to its markets for the world's poorest countries post-Brexit. The commitment to least developed countries (LDCs) means that around 48 countries across the globe, including Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti and Ethiopia will continue to benefit from duty-free exports into the UK on all goods other than arms and ammunition, known as 'everything but arms'.

- EU, Japan conclude Economic Partnership Agreement
- Philippines government issues guidelines for garment firms
- EU amends criteria for Ecolabel of textile products



The European Commission (EU) amended certain clauses in the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Ecolabel to textile products by amending certain clauses. Under the amended definition, textile products include textile fibres, yarn, fabric and knitted

panels; non-fibre elements that are incorporated in to textiles and clothing; and cleaning products made from textile fibres.

- Turkey imposes temporary duty on POY from seven countries
- US government initiates Section 301 investigation of China
- Togo qualifies for AGOA textile & apparel benefits
- Honduras 2020 aims \$7.4 billion textile exports to US, EU
- Fresh UNSC sanctions on North Korea include textile exports ban
- US raises annual AGOA quota for textiles
- Italy signs agreement to boost Ethiopian textile sector
- Textiles, apparel enjoy CETA preferential tariff treatment
- Egypt to launch second textile city in Badr
- Cambodia hikes minimum wage for garment workers to \$170
- Russia proposes 'green corridor' for Uzbek textiles
- NRF-EuroCommerce agreement on common approach to GDPR
- New Mexican standard for textile labels take effect
- Nigeria's RMRDC initiates revival of garment sector
- AfDB training programme for African textile entrepreneurs
- Pakistan government notifies 50% duty drawback on textile exports
- Ghana sets up task force to clamp down on textile piracy
- Pakistan slashes sales tax on finished textiles to 6%
- Uzbekistan signs textile export contracts worth over \$1 billion
- US announces CVD on fine denier PSF from China, India
- USTR releases updated NAFTA negotiating objectives
- Sri Lanka to set up 150 mini apparel units
- Chabahar port phase-I opens, to boost India-Iran trade
- EU, Japan finalise Economic Partnership Agreement



EU trade commissioner Cecilia Malmström and Japanese foreign minister Taro Kono announced the successful conclusion of the final discussions on the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

The conclusion of these negotiations is an important milestone to put in place the biggest bilateral trade agreement ever negotiated by the European Union. The EPA will open huge market opportunities for both sides, strengthen cooperation between Europe and Japan in a range of areas, reaffirm their shared commitment to sustainable development, and include for the first time a specific commitment to the Paris climate agreement.

- Israeli minister announces tax cuts on consumer goods
- Mauritius approves minimum monthly wage of \$257 from 2018
- US to collect AD duties on imports of fine denier PSF
- Kenyan small business to access US market via new deal

COTTON

- Seam, IBM partner to form cotton blockchain consortium



The Seam, a commodities trading and agribusiness software provider, announced that it is forming a blockchain consortium for the global cotton industry. Working with IBM, the company intends to lead an industry-wide collaboration initiative to create a supply chain and trading ecosystem built on IBM blockchain

technology, specifically using the Hyperledger Fabric. Combined with 'smart contracts', the blockchain technology has powerful implications for global trade with cross-border settlement and instantaneous transfer of currency or other assets when defined conditions are met.

- Uzbekistan aims to process all locally produced cotton
- IFC supports modernisation of Uzbek cotton industry
- IFC to support cotton production in Cameroon
- 13 firms pledge to use 100% sustainable cotton by 2025
- Egypt signs agreement with UNIDO for cotton production
- Cotton reintroduced in Haiti after 30 years
- Oritain launches traceability solutions for cotton
- Ethiopia plans commercialisation of Bt cotton
- Burkina Faso scales down 2017-18 cotton output estimate
- Angola to re-launch cotton cropping with Japanese support
- WTO, ITC launch cotton portal to enhance transparency
- ITC signs €100 million deal for supporting cotton in Cameroon

DYES | CHEMICALS

- Schoeller & Textilcolor unveil ecodye for polyester dyeing
- Coloreel enables instant colouring of textile thread
- Celanese acquires nylon compounding division of Nilit
- Polyone Corp acquires Rutland Holding Company

- Dow Chemical, El du Pont de Nemours merger complete
- Clariant and Huntsman abandon planned merger
- Ascend to step up production capacity for intermediates
- Smit & Zoon complete acquisition of Codyeco
- ZDHC names BLC Chem-Map as Accepted Certification Standard
- Huntsman makes non-fluorinated water repellent for textile
- Devan launches rebranded antimicrobial solution, Bi-Ome

PETROCHEMICALS

- LyondellBasel expands Texas plant ethylene capacity
- MEGlobal to build first ever US MEG plant
- Hanwha Total to invest in ethylene capacity expansion
- ExxonMobil, SABIC to set up petrochemical complex
- Braskem invests in polypropylene production facility in US
- Kuwait to invest \$8 billion in overseas petrochemical projects
- IVL completes PTA capacity expansion in Europe
- India's RIL to help PetroVietnam revive Dinh Vu plant
- Indorama Ventures to acquire Arlant PTA in Portugal
- Braskem partners Haldor Topsoe to develop biobased MEG
- Saudi Aramco, SABIC sign MoU for petrochemicals complex

FIBRE | YARN

- Unifi expands its Repreve fibre reach to Vietnam
- Eastman unveils new cellulosic yarn brand at Interfilère
- Lenzing develops new sustainable fibre generation
- A&E launches new reflective industrial sewing thread
- Unitin develops new indigo yarn for seamless denim
- Lenzing expands Tencel fibre production at Burgenland
- South Korean Samil Spinning acquires Buhler Quality Yarns
- A&E launches recycled core spun sewing thread
- BlueGem LLP acquires yarn manufacturer Sirdar
- BPPL Holdings to soon commission synthetic yarn plant
- Cordura & Sudwolle collaborate to make new performance yarns
- Indorama Ventures acquires fibre manufacturer Trevira
- Lenzing unleashes new eco-friendly fibre
- Unifi to form joint venture with Complast and TTA
- Lenzing opens Application Innovation Centre in Hong Kong
- Lenzing Group unveils Tencel Luxe lyocell filament
- Nanollose raises Au\$5 mn to develop sustainable fibre
- Angolan firm enters exports, sends cotton yarn to Portugal
- New spinning mill to come up in Turkmenistan
- Teijin unveils Solutex Thermo thermal retention fibre
- Coats acquires yarn manufacturer Patrick Yarn Mill
- Teijin Frontier to open R&D fibre facility in Thailand

MACHINERY

- Senfa offers solution to printers for foray into textiles
- Melco unveils new embroidery machine with higher efficiency
- Mimaki makes hybrid printer for flexible textile printing
- Steiger launches new Stitch Lab for knitting
- Karl Mayer launches the new Prodye-R dyeing machine
- New machine, PFAFF 3819, for perfect ladies' jeans
- Trutzschler launches Toyota-Trutzschler comber machine
- Mutoh launches new wide format dye sublimation printer
- Mimaki's new complete digital fabric printing system
- ColDesi launches latest direct to garment printer
- Ricoh unveils new direct to garment printers
- Zund Systemtechnik AG acquires Zund Plotting Systems
- Starlinger unveils FX 8.0 circular loom for fabric making
- Mimaki Europe makes joint venture with Italian firm Bompan
- Rieter acquires Schweiter's SSM textile machinery division
- Impression Technology releases GoTx series machine
- Trutzschler launches T-Blend tuft blending system
- SPGPrints expands digital ink production in Netherlands
- Zund unveils cradle feeder roll-feed system for fabrics
- Karl Mayer Rotal unveils Prodye-R indigo dyeing machine
- Kornit & Colgate to make direct-to-garment solution
- Rieter unveils new generation of RSB-D 50 draw frame

- Shima Seiki unveils new i-Plating technique for patterns
- Textile machinery firm Baldwin to acquire Ahlbrandt System
- Epson America unveils new Epson SureColor textile printer
- Karl Mayer sets up new company Karl Mayer Digital Factory GmbH
- Trutzschler takes over full charge of combing business

TEXTILES

- Two new textile & garment parks to come up in Ethiopia
- Russia to build first synthetic fibre & yarn complex
- Italy gets first textile finishing company Imprima Spa
- New synthetic yarn production plant to come up in Honduras
- Tekstil Trans opens \$9.5 million textile factory in Kyrgyzstan
- Taiwan's Lealea to buy Tarako textile plant in Indonesia
- Ruyi to invest \$410 million in former Sanyo facility
- Turkey's Ipeker Textile produces first vegan fabric
- Top Value Fabrics takes over Pacific Coast Fabrics
- Coats enters into strategic alliance with Permess
- Noble Biomaterials, Lenzing introduce new textiles
- Glen Raven to acquire Sunbury Textile Mills
- Bendigo Woollen Mills purchases Wangaratta Mills
- Nigeria's Odu'a, ABUAD to invest N12bn for textile mill revival
- Polish Polcotton to build textile complex in Uzbekistan
- Arauco to build cellulose, textile pulp plant in Chile
- SVP Group to build \$300 million spinning plant in Sohar
- New textile factory to come up in Uzbekistan by 2018 end
- Turkish group Taypa to build textile factory in Serbia
- Marimekko, Spinnova to develop wood-based textiles
- Brandix signs JV with Best Pacific of Hong Kong

HOME TEXTILES

- Sobel Westex acquires Baltic Linen company
- Mohawk purchases Bridgeport's Beaulieu fibre facility
- GHCL to use Applied DNA's CertainT supply chain platform
- Ikea to set up regional centre for ASEAN in Malaysia
- American Merchant to invest \$19.9 million to start Bristol unit

INDUSTRIAL

- ILO, Brazil's textile industry partner for decent work
- Taiwanese knitter Wu Luen opens new manufacturing facility
- USAID signs grant to create 2000 apparel jobs in Kenya
- Iran to set up apparel industrial park in Fashafouyeh
- Fiber Industries opening production unit in Darlington
- USAID, Dignity DTRT plan to create apparel jobs in Ghana
- Chinese firm to build textile industrial park in Nigeria
- Russian Bris-Bosporus footwear factory construction starts
- Sniace restarts production at viscose fibre factory
- Ukraine's Tekstil-Kontakt to start new production unit
- Chinese firm sets up textile-garment chain in Vietnam
- Ethiopia's Kombolcha Industrial Park attracts foreign firms

DENIM

- Spinali Design showcases smart vibrating jeans at CES
- Google & Christian Cowan create 'really blue' jeans
- M&S launches sustainable selvedge denim jeans
- Cone Denim, Lenzing, Unifi launch Future Black+ denim

APPAREL

- Second MAS Fabric park launched in Giriulla, Sri Lanka
- Bagir fully acquires Ethiopian apparel facility
- Ivyrevel & Google launch custom-made Data Dress
- New York's Sunset Park to become garment manufacturing hub
- AAFA inks agreement for best manufacturing in East Africa



The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) entered into a partnership agreement with the USAID East Africa Trade and Investment Hub (Hub) to ensure best-in-class manufacturing of goods destined for the US from East Africa. The agreement launched the 'East Africa Cotton, Textile and Apparel Initiative', which aims to establish sustainable

workforce development programmes and institutionalise environmental, social, labour and worker safety best practices in the region.

- ISO revises clothing size standards

- NYCEDC announces \$51mn package for NYC garment industry
- MAS Holdings to set up centre in Randolph County
- L Catterton Asia combines Maaji with Seafolly
- Japanese apparel retailer Adastria buys Californian brand
- VF Corp completes sale of LSG business to Fanatics
- Taiwanese sportswear firm to create 8,000 jobs in Haiti
- TFG invests R75 million in Prestige Clothing factory, Caledon
- Solara brings TransDRY technology for cotton socks
- Meta Wear launches colour changing active wear
- VF, Williamson-Dickie sign definitive merger agreement
- USAID boosts skilled labour in Kenyan apparel sector
- International Apparel Federation opens Pakistan office
- Danish firm Spectre opens garment factory in Vietnam
- Polygiene partners with Andar for women's activewear
- Turkish apparel brand LCW makes Iran production hub
- Jos A Bank introduces clothes with 37.5 technology
- US firm Komar opens garment innovation centre in Sri Lanka
- Helly Hansen to take over Musto
- Invista to sell apparel & advanced textiles business to Shandong Ruyi
- Myanmar's largest garment firm opens new factory
- VF Corporation to acquire Icebreaker Holdings
- Badger Sportswear acquires Alleson Athletic and Garb Athletics
- Brandix signs JV with Best Pacific of Hong Kong
- Netherlands firm buys Gardeur out of insolvency
- Inov-8, Manchester University add graphene to shoes
- Two garment factories to be set up in Jordan's Arjan, Souf
- Alphabroder acquires Prime Line

FASHION

- Cottweiler and Gabriela win 2016/17 Woolmark Prize
- Carlyle Group closes acquisition of Golden Goose Deluxe
- Bamboo Rose, CIFD partner to launch House of Fashion
- Gucci and Farfetch tie up for 90-minute delivery
- LVMH to acquire Christian Dior Couture for €6.5 billion
- Coach signs agreement to acquire Kate Spade & Company
- House of Fraser acquires fashion brand Issa
- Raf Simons wins top fashion awards at CFDA

Belgian fashion designer Raf Simons took home both Womenswear and Menswear Designer of the Year for Calvin Klein at the 2017 CFDA Fashion Awards in partnership with Swarovski in Manhattan. Simons' wins mark the second in CFDA history that a designer was honoured with this award for both Menswear and Womenswear. The first time was in 1993, when Calvin Klein himself received both honours.



- Richemont completes sale of Shanghai Tang
- Michael Kors to acquire Jimmy Choo
- Kering, Alibaba agree to protect intellectual property
- RNF acquires Mexx fashion brand
- Li & Fung in JV with South Ocean to form Cobalt Fashion
- US company Coach changes name to Tapestry
- Two Australian fashion industry bodies plan merger
- Woolmark joins hands with Fashion Tech Lab
- Michael Kors completes acquisition of Jimmy Choo
- South Africa's TFG acquires British brand Hobbs
- Pantone 18-3838 Ultra Violet is colour of the year 2018

RETAIL

- PVH acquires Tommy Hilfiger men's clothing in North America
- Walmart acquires ModCloth
- Forever 21 announces US expansion of F21 RED
- Mamiye Brothers acquires Kissy Kissy
- Regatta Great Outdoors chooses Sears to enter US
- Style Group Brands sold to Calvetron Style Holdings
- Coach completes acquisition of Kate Spade & Company
- Uniqlo launches vending machines for clothes in US
- Uniqlo Russia to turn joint firm of Fast Retailing, Mitsubishi
- Nike live-design customises shoes in less than 2 hours

- Google unveils smart denim jacket with Levi Strauss
- Retailers launch US Global Value Chain Coalition

IOT

- Body heat to electrically power IoT devices
- Tulip introduces IoT-enabled manufacturing app engine
- Stoll launches knitelligence networking solution
- Sensoria unveils world's first IoT enabled running shoe

SUSTAINABILITY

- Oeko-Tex announces new regulations for 2017
- Ralph Lauren develops policy on tracking wood based fabrics
- Kering launches next generation sustainability strategy
- VF Corp releases policy to use sustainable materials
- Global Organic Textile Standard releases new version 5.0



Version 5.0 of the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) was released. It has stricter criteria for regenerated fibres. A category 'Combined Products' has also been added. The criteria for the 'additional fibre material' are now stricter regarding the environmentally improved and certified regenerated cellulosic fibres: The use of Viscose and Modal is now restricted to 10% (25% for sportswear and socks). Lyocell may still be used up to 30% because of its more sustainable manufacturing processes.

- Fast Retailing to eliminate hazardous chemicals by 2020
- C&A begins journey towards circular fashion
- H&M, IFC partner to boost sustainability in garment sector
- Schoeller is wear2wear partner for textile sustainability
- Sinterama launches 100% recycled fibre 'Newlife'
- M&S launches new sustainability plan
- Fulgar's Q-NOVA fibre joins the Higg Index
- PVH pledges 35% greenhouse gas emissions reduction by 2030
- ZDHC unveils first ZDHC accepted certification standards
- H&M Foundation, HKRITA find way to recycle textiles
- Fashion Positive unveils e-tools for circular fashion
- Over 160 signatories collaborate for SLCF
- Blend Re:wind to now recycle both cotton and polyester
- ZDHC unveils Implementation Hub to help sustainability

LOGISTICS | SUPPLY CHAIN

- Li & Fung introduces new 3-year plan 2017; forms new supply chain partnership with PVH Corp
- Control Union launches supply chain tracing service
- Walmart acquires Parcel
- NTGM opens garment export facility in Yangon

SOFTWARE | IT

- Fujitsu Frontech develops its smallest ever UHF RFID fashion tag
- Diesel partners with Certilogo to tackle counterfeiting
- Lectra unveils supply chain programme for fashion industry
- Roland DG unveils ErgoSoft Roland Edition 2 RIP software
- NGC Software unveils Andromeda cloud platform for fashion
- Shima Seiki releases Shima KnitPLM software
- NGC Software unveils Andromeda Vendor fashion suite
- Lectra launches Lectra Fashion PLM 4.0 suite
- Acando & K3 Software unveil new IT solution for fashion
- Aptos to acquire TXT Retail Group
- Visual Next unveils Uniform Client Portal application
- Beta version of textile software timeSSD launches in Cloud
- Detego unveils new mobile solution for retailers
- Aptos completes acquisition of TXT Retail
- Simparel unveils advanced payroll module for apparel
- Zund releases Zund Cut Center version 3.0
- Alvanon unveils course to guide retailers in 3D world

TESTING

- Atlas sets up its biggest testing laboratory in Germany
- Bureau Veritas to verify Egyptian cotton
- Intertek Hong Kong opens new testing centre
- AATCC launches new tools for testing UV-protective fabrics
- AAFA's guidelines for legwear, hosiery, socks testing

- NSF to certify for organic content, wool, down
- SGS becomes first accredited textile laboratory in Madagascar

TRAINING

- GMAC opens apparel manufacturing training institute
- SPGPrints to open new training centre for textile printing
- SMART Myanmar trains garment units in chemical management
- Iteema opens new training centre in Lahore, Pakistan
- UKFT turns sector skills body for UK fashion, textile sector
- Italy-Vietnam Textile Technology Centre opens in HCM City

ACADEMIC

- SFA launches online course in sustainable apparel
- Archroma signs MoU with Pakistan's Mehran University
- UKFT with M&S rolls out manufacturing masterclasses
- World's 'first' public menswear archive at UK university
- FIT opens Design Entrepreneurs Collaborative
- Archroma Color Management service partners with FIT

RESEARCH

- Adidas, Siemens initiate joint research programme
 - Cornell team develops material for stain resistance
 - Fluorochemicals not needed in waterproof jackets: Leeds
 - Current, copper used to develop new embroidery at De Montfort University
 - Cambridge team makes strong fibres from soupy material
 - KAIST scientists develop wearable displays
 - Israeli scientists develop fluorescent cellulose fibres
 - UC San Diego scientists produce algae-based flip flops
 - Cambridge scientists incorporate circuits into fabric
 - US' scientists make fabric to keep skin comfortable
 - University of Maryland team develops cooling fibre
 - Cornell's tech allows customisation of woven fabrics
- Cornell Professor Steve Marschner and Rhode Island School of Design Professor Brooks Hagan have come up with a new technology which allows woven fabrics to be super automated and customised, altering the view that fabrics cannot be made in custom small batches. This launch is significant as it represents the first time digital simulation tools have been applied to an ancient manufacturing platform to create easy access for designers.

- ExxonMobil, ITQ find new material to separate ethylene

APPOINTMENTS

- Mark Breitbard is new global head of Banana Republic
- SPGPrints America appoints Sangeeta Sachdev as MD
- Jeff Gennette unanimously elected CEO of Macy's
- NCTO elects William McCrary as 2017 chairman
- Americhem appoints Matthew Hellstern as new CEO
- Joshua Schulman is new president & CEO of Coach brand
- Jill McDonald is new MD for clothing at Marks & Spencer
- Unifi appoints Kevin D Hall as CEO
- Gerber Technology hires Mohit Uberoi as new CEO
- Paul Surrige is Roberto Cavalli's new creative director
- Ralph Lauren appoints Patrice Louvet as president & CEO
- Rocky Brands names Jason Brooks as new president & CEO
- Jesper Brodin to succeed Peter Agnefjall as Ikea CEO
- Joelle Maher becomes president & CEO of Hanna Andersson
- Chris Waldeck joins Lee as president
- J.Crew appoints James Brett as chief executive officer
- Ralph Lauren ex-president is Tiger of Sweden's new CEO
- Alessandro Zucchi succeeds Carabelli as ACIMIT president
- Shima Seiki appoints Mitsuhiro Shima as new president
- Under Armour names Patrik Frisk as president & COO
- David Haggglund new creative director of Topshop & Topman
- Columbia Sportswear appoints new president for prAna
- Cotton Inc appoints first chief sustainability officer
- Michelle Gass to take over as Kohl's CEO next May
- VDMA appoints Regina Bruckner as new chairperson
- Tapestry appoints new creative director for Kate Spade
- Necat Altin elected as CIRFS president
- RG Barry appoints Bob Mullaney as new president & CEO

BUSINESS OF E-COMMERCE

E-COMMERCE

- Alibaba forges global alliance to fight counterfeiting
- Snapdeal receives ISO/IEC 27001:2013 certification
- Myntra partners Chemistry, AKS for Accelerator programme
- 3DLook launches body scanning online platform SAIA
- Alibaba brings Tmall World for 100 million overseas Chinese
- JD enters into strategic partnership with Farfetch
- Alibaba to invest about \$1 billion to lift stake in Lazada
- Indian government constitutes committee to examine e-commerce issues
- Flipkart & Ebay India successfully conclude merger
- Amazon India, Telangana tie up to train weavers
- Softbank Vision Fund invests in Flipkart
- New Chrome extension Fashion Box eases online shopping
- Flipkart goes global; sellers can export worldwide
- APICS, JD.com introduce omnichannel benchmark system
- Amazon plans to invest over \$5 billion in HQ2
- Amazon India opens largest fulfilment centre in Hyderabad
- Mexican SMEs to benefit from government agreement with Alibaba
- Hubert Burda Media announces investment in Zilingo
- Fynd adds 8500 brand stores on its network
- Amazon India launches Forever 21
- Amazon begins cash payment in Mexico to attract customers
- Dubai CommerCity 1st free zone for e-commerce in MENA
- Chinese e-commerce firm JD.com invests \$44 mn in Tiki.vn
- Amazon launches operations in Australia
- Bagir enters deal with body measuring app Sizer

RETAIL

- Alibaba announces retail partnership with Bailian Group
- Walmart to acquire apparel brand Bonobos
- Amazon completes acquisition of e-retailer Souq
- RYU Apparel, Global-e partner for business expansion
- American Apparel brand begins retailing again
- Gap digital storefront launches on Yahoo! Taiwan
- Spring, Ebay team up to raise brand choice for shoppers
- Zara begins e-sales in India
- H&M to begin online sales in India next year
- Lord & Taylor to unveil a flagship store on Walmart.com
- Landmark Group unveils new features in India
- H&M, Alibaba extend collaboration

FASHION

- SpiceJet's e-retail venture SpiceStyle to focus on luxury & quality
- Myntra hosts fashion show in New York
- Amazon India opens first fashion studio Blink
- Myntra wins India master distribution rights for Esprit
- Drew Barrymore launches Dear Drew on Amazon fashion
- Spreadshirt launches Showroom to empower designers
- Rheson by Rhea and Sonam Kapoor to debut on Amazon.in
- Amazon India boosts women entrepreneurs with 'Saheli'

HOME TEXTILES

- Cotton & Care enters online bedding market

BRAND DEBUT

- ShopClues launches men's shoes brand 'Baton'
- Fashion brand Monte Carlo launches new brand 'Rock.It'

TECHNOLOGY

- Rakuten Fits Me launches Fit Origin, Essential Edition
- MPI-IS develops tech to make virtual clothing try
- Walmart partners Google for voice shopping
- RLM offers drop ship connectivity with Amazon with EDI

APPOINTMENTS

- Flipkart makes Anil Goteti Ebay India in charge

TECHNICAL TEXTILES

NONWOVENS

- Drylock acquires Presto Absorbent Products
- New Suominen nonwoven fabric offers high wipes absorbency

- Mogul launches Madaline nonwoven textile
- Pegas Nonwovens to invest in production plant in South Africa
- Mogul Durell launches cross-lapped spunlace capacity
- Welspun establishes new technical textile plant in Gujarat
- Nanofibre solution for fresh air by Singapore team
- Suominen introduces new nonwoven substrate
- Reifenhäuser debuts low capacity nonwoven production line
- Fibrix acquires specific assets of Custom Nonwovens
- Mogul Nonwovens opens new site in South Carolina
- Suominen unveils material for undercast paddings
- Codi Group acquired by Active Capital Company
- Mitsui Chemicals designs world's 1st flexible nonwoven
- NC State University opens a nonwovens institute
- Florida mill to get Georgia-Pacific \$400 million investment
- Technical Absorbents develops durable SAF fabric
- Ontex opens new production plant in Ethiopia; to set up new production plant in Poland
- AstenJohnson acquires Foss' Northern Division
- Japanese company to set up technical textiles plant in Andhra Pradesh
- WPT opening \$six million plant in Ohio County
- Valmet unveils new generation polarised forming fabrics
- Sandler Nonwoven Corporation inaugurated in Pery
- NatureWorks develops durable hydrophilic formulation
- India forms eight committees for technical textiles standards
- Pegas Nonwovens to shift headquarters to Czech Republic

MEDICAL TEXTILES

- Chinese firm invests \$20 million in HealthWatch
- UNSW engineers weave fabric mimicking bone tissue
- Hygiene products marketer SCA revamps tissue division
- Asahi Kasei starts new production facility for Bemliese
- Intelligent diaper by Abena and MediSens
- Intelligent Fabric Technologies signs agreement with Strategic Partners
- Tough fibre-reinforced hydrogels produced in Japan
- Compression products maker Sigvaris expands facilities
- EDANA launches AHP Global for absorbent hygiene sector
- Hohenstein Institute sets up Hohenstein Health Centre
- Harvard scientists make soft sensor to move with body
- FDA calls Celliant products as medical devices
- Vanderbilt engineers design undergarment for back pain
- 3M develops 3M 4076 extended wear medical tape
- BeoCare, Fra Production form strategic alliance
- Leeds spin out makes textile that disinfects itself
- Ahlstrom-Munksjö's fabric for protection from pathogens
- TNT Pro Series launches Sauna Suit
- Zoll, Myant to develop tech for LifeVest defibrillator
- Vestex reduces bioburden of MDR bugs by over 99%
- Visakhapatnam to be medical textiles hub in Andhra Pradesh

COMPOSITES

- Hero Group arm Rockman forays into carbon composites
- Mitsubishi Rayon acquiring US subsidiary of SGL Group
- Stratasys inks 3D printing solution deal with McLaren Racing
- Evonik unveils new method for composites mass-production
- Evonik & Forward to explore composite solutions in auto sector
- R-Tech invests in Zwick's composites testing tech
- Mitsubishi Rayon Carbon Fiber acquires Gemini Composites
- Toray merges North American composites businesses
- Aerospace composites supplier Argosys opens Taiwan unit
- NCC, Composites UK to support SMEs
- IACMI, UAMMI join hands for advanced composite technology
- Exel Composites acquires Chinese composites business
- Ensinger takes over Next Composites
- Trelleborg acquires Automated Dynamics
- Deakin, LeMond Composites join hands
- Avio, Toray sign long term supply agreement till 2027
- Saertex modernising its Saerbeck production site
- Rhode Island gets \$125,000 federal grant for composites industry
- Gurit qualifies as composites supplier for aerospace
- Solvay investing in MultiMechanics for research
- Arlington Capital Partners acquires Tex Tech Industries

- RIL to foray into composites & carbon fibre business
- Altair acquires Compoengineering
- Hexcel acquires Structil
- Gurit to move UK prepreg business to Gurit Spain by 2018
- Toho Tenax makes lightweight multi-material roof cover
- AC&A acquires Applied Composites Engineering
- Kordsa & Sabanci University launch DiCoMi project
- Solvay and Strata enter into a joint venture agreement
- SGL Carbon becomes owner of Benteler-SGL, Paderborn
- ATIRA gets Focus Incubation Centre for Composites
- Kordsa enters agreement to acquire two composite firms
- Michelman, EFT partner for innovation, product development
- Carbon-livery by Hexcel incorporated into H160 prototype
- Trelleborg finalises acquisition of Automated Dynamics

AUTOMOBILE TEXTILES

- Lear Corp to acquire Grupo Antolin's auto seating business
- ELG & Adesso to make recycled carbon fibre for automobiles
- TeXtreme reaches breakthrough in commercial aircraft
- Magna, Ford, produce low mass subframe
- Indorama Ventures acquires tyre cord fabric maker Glanzstoff
- Monadnock Non-Wovens unveils new acoustic media
- Chomarat develops multi-axial carbon for automobiles
- Autoneum unveils improved acoustics for electric vehicles
- Kordsa unveils new resin technology for automotive industry
- Garware-Wall Ropes signs agreement with Aero-T
- Faurecia opens new seating plant in Morocco
- Kordsa & Continental make sustainable adhesion system
- IVL to acquire DuraFiber's Mexico operations
- Lear to construct seat manufacturing unit in Michigan
- Autoliv, Adient join hands to work on vehicle seating
- Shanghai Shenda and IAC Group form Auria Solutions
- Lear breaks ground on new seat manufacturing facility
- IAC opens state-of-the-art plant in Poland
- Autoneum expands production in China with four plants
- Faurecia launches new tech centre in the Silicon Valley
- SGL Carbon to become sole owner of SGL ACF
- Sika to take over Faist ChemTec Group

MACHINERY

- Kolon buying 3 Lectra FocusQuantum laser cutting solutions
- CSIRO and Deakin University launch wet spinning line
- IteMA SpA acquires major shares in Lamiflex SpA
- PlastiComp installs new pultrusion line in Winona
- Voith, Trützschler develop standard for WLS machines
- Rieter launches A 12 UNifloc automatic bale opener
- Kanfit gets machining centre for composite parts, tools
- Kurskhimvolokno increases capacity by more than 30%
- Don & Low to expand Forfar facility with a new RF4 line

INDUSTRIAL TEXTILES

- Directa Plus bags grant to develop graphene based fabrics
- ContiTech opens new coated fabrics facility in China
- Heathcoat Fabrics uses Spectra in tough textiles
- India begins anti-dumping probe on Chinese belting fabric
- Porcher Industries acquires Interglas Technologies

CONSTRUCTION TEXTILES

- Invisible polyester roofing carriers with fibreglass
- Sioen Industries acquires James Dewhurst Group
- Fiberline Composites and Schöck form joint venture
- Fibertex Nonwovens to supply Formtex for bridge project
- Alpha ProTech joins hands with JX Nippon ANCI
- UMass Lowell team creates fabrics with sensors
- Fibrelite designs safe access covers
- Sika starts producing concrete reinforcing fibres
- Exel Composites joins hands with Eze Shoring

RAW MATERIAL

- Michelman bags ISO 9001:2015 certification for US plants
- HB Fuller acquires adhesives business of Wisdom Worldwide
- Revolution Fibres increases production of Xantu.Layr

- BASF presents new aqueous acrylic binder
- StratasyS introduces two new material advances
- Lubrizol launches new powder coating additives
- The Crypton Companies acquired by Berkley Capital
- Victrex acquires PEEK based fibre producer Zyex
- AMSilk forms strategic partnership with Gruschwitz
- Twitchell Technical Products acquires Quantum Group
- Henkel acquires Sonderhoff Holding
- Ashland completes acquisition of composites firm Etain
- Lanxess unveils two new polyamide 6 compounds
- IACMI members fabricate first COPV from recycled carbon tow
- H.B. Fuller Company to purchase Adecol
- Viloft granted 'OK biodegradable MARINE' certificate
- US firm Supreme Corporation launches new Volt smart yarns
- LyondellBasell's new PP compounding plant starts
- PolyQuest, Straterra Holdings form Fiber Innovators
- Solvay completes acquisition of European Carbon Fiber
- Aliancys unveils new Neomould 2017-S-1 resin
- Toray to expand PP spunbond business in China
- Trelleborg enhances its prototyping capabilities
- Teijin to integrate carbon fibre subsidiary Toho Tenax
- Chemieque Adhesives develops Aerotak
- Scott Bader expands additional mixing capacity
- Kelheim Fibres develop improved viscose fibre

GEO TEXTILES

- Burdens Australia signs deal with Cortex
- Geosynthetics supplier Huesker sets up Aussie subsidiary
- IRC recognises jute as geotextile for building roads
- Guyana's NAREI to install geotextile groynes in Essequebo
- Kerala to create 'Kerala coir' brand, set up marketing firm

PROTECTIVE TEXTILES

- Safariland Group completes acquisition of three companies
- New Honeywell fabric reduces weight of tactical vests by 40%
- Superior debuts world's first 18 gauge arc flash rated glove
- Alexium International Group partners with Benwel
- Cordura brand & Carrington launch flame retardant fabric
- Teijin Aramid unveils Value Partner Programme
- Eco Tech unveils odour controlled gloves with Polygiene
- MSA Safety completes acquisition of Globe Holding
- Dainichi Giken develops aqueous flame retardant coating
- PPSS introduces emergency body armour for civilians
- Hexion develops epoxy resin system with low FST
- Kappler designs AntiFog Expanded-View Visor
- Teijin Aramid introduces new super wicking fabric
- Teijin Aramid develops Twaron ComForte SB3
- Zansors & Blauer to develop defence wearables
- Ballyclare's process accredited to Article 11B of PPE
- Teijin Aramid unveils Endumax Shield XF33
- Ironclad Performance Wear taken over by BBI
- DuPont launches protective solutions for firefighters
- IIT Delhi-DRDO project to develop smart jacket for army

SPORTS TEXTILES

- Directa Plus & Eurojersey to make graphene-based textiles
- Don & Low starts synthetic grass yarn line
- DiveR introduces fins reinforced by TeXtreme technology

RESEARCH

- Utah university scientists develop 100% biodegradable sanitary pad
- MIT scientists make sweat-responsive suit, shoe
- Massachusetts university makes electricity transporting clothes
- City College of New York has smart fabric to neutralise nerve gas
- Graphene Flagship scientists make spider's silk tough
- Massachusetts university team makes electrically heated cloth
- Solvay unveils 2 new polymers for thermal management
- Chem-Trend unveils release agent for composites
- Drexel setting up Pennsylvania Fabric Discovery Centre
- FSU scientists develop affordable motion sensors
- Lincoln Lab opens Defence Fabric Discovery Centre