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Intertextile Shanghai

A true hub of apparel supply chain sourcing

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Content

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Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes driving circular design and waste solutions in Europe

Mohammad Mithun

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes are gaining significant attention as an essential policy tool for advancing the circular economy. The primary aim of EPR is to shift the financial and operational responsibility for a product's life cycle to the producers, especially for managing post-consumer waste. As Europe works towards a carbon-neutral future, EPR plays a key role in improving recycling rates, reducing waste, and ensuring that the costs of waste management are borne by the producers, not the environment or society.

What is EPR and Why Does it Matter?

At its core, EPR holds producers accountable for the entire life cycle of their products, from design to disposal. It aligns with the "polluter pays" principle, where producers pay for the waste their products generate. This mechanism helps cover the costs associated with recycling, waste collection, and treatment. By doing so, it reduces the burden on public services and promotes better waste management practices.

EPR can take two main forms: individual and collective systems. In an individual system, one company is responsible for managing its product's end-of-life. On the other hand, collective systems allow multiple companies to share responsibility, often through Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs), which manage the logistics of waste management on behalf of several producers.

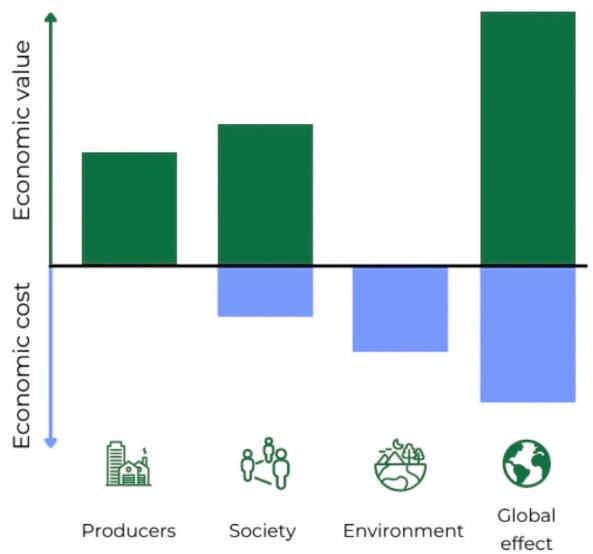
The Rationale Behind EPR Schemes

The environmental cost of waste, often referred to as externalities, has been insufficiently priced in many market systems. This results in products

being designed without consideration for their end-of-life management. Without EPR schemes, producers may not have the incentive to design for recyclability or to manage the disposal of their products responsibly.

EPR schemes aim to address this gap by internalizing the environmental costs of production and consumption. Producers are encouraged to reconsider the design and material choices of their products to reduce waste, enhance recyclability, and minimize pollution. Furthermore, these schemes incentivize innovation in the recycling industry and help develop technologies that enhance waste recovery and material reuse.

Before EPR Scheme Introduction



Source: EPR Scheme ECEPSP

- Producers enjoy high economic value but bear low economic cost.
- Society, the environment, and the global system bear the economic cost of negative externalities (e.g. pollution, waste, biodiversity loss).
- This creates an imbalanced system where producers profit while others pay the price

After EPR Scheme Introduction

- Producers now bear financial and organizational responsibility for their products' end-of-life impacts.

This leads to:

» Eco-design improvements

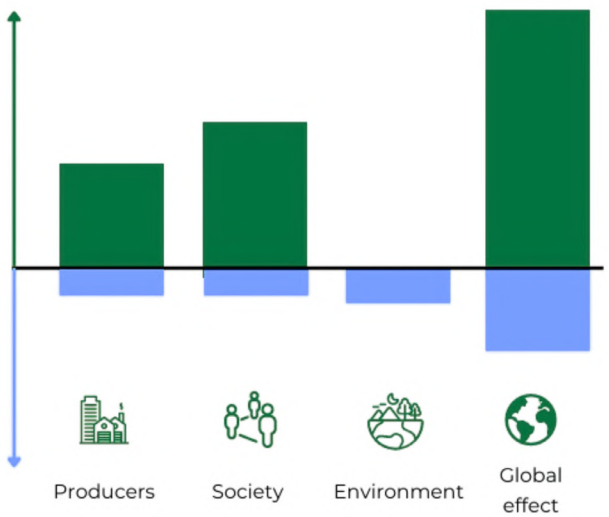
» Take-back and reuse systems

» Recycling infrastructure

» Consumer education

- The economic cost for society and the environment is reduced, while the global net economic value of products increases.
- The system becomes more balanced and sustainable.

Legislative Background and Developments



EPR was first introduced in Europe in the 1990s and is now integrated into several pieces of EU legislation. The Waste Framework Directive (WFD) was one of the earliest to formalize EPR, mandating producers to bear financial or operational responsibility for managing the waste of their products. Since then, various waste-specific regulations have further expanded the scope of EPR, including legislation related to waste electronic and electrical equipment (WEEE), end-of-life vehicles (ELVs), and packaging waste.

In recent years, the focus has shifted towards eco-modulation, which adjusts the fees producers pay based on the environmental impact of their products. For example, products made from recyclable materials may incur lower fees, while those that are difficult to recycle could be charged more. This approach encourages producers to adopt eco-design principles and use sustainable materials, aligning with the EU's broader sustainability goals.

Eco-modulation criteria	Use example
Specification of characteristics that determine recyclability	Packaging schemes in Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, France, Portugal, Sweden
Presence of hazardous substances	EEE, packaging and graphic paper schemes in France
Consumer awareness	Packaging in France, Poland
Recycled content ratio	Packaging schemes in Germany, France; Textiles in France
Product lifespan	EEE and batteries in France, Packaging in Italy, Estonia, France, Belgium; tyres in Portugal

Table: source- EPR Scheme ECEPSP

The Need for EPR Scheme Improvement

While EPR schemes have proven effective, there are still several areas that need attention to fully realize their potential. One key challenge is ensuring that the fees paid by producers reflect the true environmental cost of their products. If the fees are too low, they won't provide enough of an incentive for producers to adopt more sustainable practices. This is where eco-modulation comes into play.

To improve the efficacy of EPR schemes, several recommendations have been made:

1. **Reflect the full environmental and social costs associated with products:** EPR fees should cover the true costs of waste management and environmental impact, ensuring that producers are fully accountable for the lifecycle of their products and supporting sustainable design practices.

2. **Combat Free-Riding:** Enforcement measures are necessary to ensure that all producers comply with EPR obligations, particularly targeting free riders and ensuring online platforms adhere to regulations.

3. **Combine EPR with Other Economic Policies:** EPR should be supported by additional financial incentives, such as tax breaks for sustainable goods and changes to emission trading schemes, to ensure effective pricing of externalities.

4. **Harmonize EPR Rules Across the EU:** EPR regulations should be consistent across EU member states to ensure fair competition, covering aspects like fee modulation, product scope, and reporting frequency, including for non-EU producers.

5. **Ensure that the Magnitude of the Modulated Fee Drives Change:** The modulated fee should reflect the true social and environmental cost of the products' price. By making the fee high enough to encourage sustainable design, it will incentivize the production of more circular products.

6. **Improve the Governance of EPR Schemes:** EPR schemes should adopt a multi-stakeholder approach, involving NGOs and the recycling sector, to enhance cooperation and define clear criteria for recycling and waste prevention. This approach is already in use in some countries, like Belgium, for end-of-life vehicles (ELVs).

7. **Transparent and Non-Discriminatory Tender Procedures:** The processes used to allocate tenders for services like waste disposal and material recovery should be fair and transparent. This ensures a level playing field, particularly between large companies and smaller enterprises that may not have the same resources.

8. **Ex-Post Checks of EPR Scheme Efficiency:** Regular evaluations of EPR schemes are needed to ensure their effectiveness. This will help assess if the schemes meet their objectives and improve implementation.

EPR schemes are a critical tool in advancing the circular economy by holding producers accountable for the entire lifecycle of their products. These schemes not only reduce waste and pollution but also incentivize eco-innovation and circular design. However, for EPR schemes to reach their full potential, it is essential to refine their implementation, adjust fees to better reflect environmental costs, and foster greater collaboration across the value chain. By doing so, EPR can play a central role in achieving the EU's sustainability and circular economy goals.

On Monday, August 11, 2025, the Ministry of Commerce of Bangladesh organized a daylong seminar titled "Forum for EU Trade: Spotlight on Digital Product Passport" at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka. The event was held to discuss the European Union's new sustainability regulations, specifically the Digital Product Passport (DPP), and its impact on Bangladesh's export industries. The seminar was supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, with DigiProd Pass Ltd. and Digital Architect Ltd. as technical partners.

The forum aimed to provide clarity on one of the core elements of the EU's Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR). The regulation, which will be phased in between 2027 and 2030, mandates the use of DPPs, digital "identity cards" for products sold within the EU. These DPPs contain vital information about a product's model, batch, materials, repairs, and recycling potential. With traceability and circularity at the heart of the regulation, the forum sought to examine how Bangladesh can adapt its trade practices to align with these new requirements.

Bangladesh hosts forum on EU's Digital Product Passport and its impact on exports

Sayed Abdullah

Aligning with EU Regulations

The DPP initiative is designed to improve sustainability by creating digital records of a product's components and lifecycle. These records can enhance the traceability of materials, reuse, and recycling in supply chains. Unlike ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) data, which companies typically collect for financial or shareholder purposes, DPP data is meant for regulatory compliance, transparency, and sustainability in the EU market.

Under the ESPR, which took effect in July 2024, industries such as textiles, electronics, and batteries will be the first to comply with DPP standards, with a full rollout expected by mid-2026. The DPP register will be operational, and by 2027, compliance will be mandatory for affected products, with sector-specific rules to follow.

Insightful Discussions from Experts

The seminar featured speeches from key figures, including

Mahbubur Rahman, Honourable Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce, and H.E. Dr. Rüdiger Lotz, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany. MD. Abdur Rahim Khan, Additional Secretary (Export) of the Ministry of Commerce, chaired the event.

One of the main points raised during the forum was how Bangladesh's export sector is preparing for these upcoming changes. Md. Anwar Hossain, Vice-Chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), emphasized the importance of collaboration between the private sector, industry associations, and the government: "Collaborative efforts are crucial moving forward. While the government plays a facilitating role, the private sector and associations like BGMEA and BKMEA are essential in making these changes happen."

Vidiya Amrit Khan, Vice President of BGMEA, highlighted the challenges faced by smaller manufacturers in the face of these new regulations: "Many larger factories are already adopting the DPP, but the situation for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is quite different. Many of these factories have had to shut down, and those that remain struggle to meet the new standards. We need support from both the EU and our government to ensure these factories can stay competitive."

Dr. Rüdiger Lotz, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany

Panel Discussions and Technical Insights

The event included two panel discussions. The first panel, "From Regulation to Readiness," explored Bangladesh's preparedness for the new EU traceability requirements. Representatives from the Ministry of Commerce, BIDA, BGMEA, BKMEA, and the Export Promotion Bureau participated in this discussion.

The second panel, "Implementation Insights and Challenges," offered field-level perspectives. Organizations such as Reverse Resources, Urmi Group, DataDevelop Consulting, DigiProd Pass and SERA Bangladesh shared their experiences in navigating these challenges.

A technical session further elaborated on the structure of the DPP under the ESPR. The session featured examples from the digital battery passport initiative, demonstrating how these systems are already being applied globally.

The forum concluded with a technology showcase, where companies like DigiProd Pass, Garmenttech, Reverse Resources, ProKnoWara, and Leathertrace displayed their digital traceability solutions.

This seminar was a crucial step in helping Bangladesh's export industries prepare for the evolving EU sustainability standards. As the global demand for sustainable and traceable products grows, aligning with these standards will ensure long-term competitiveness and regulatory compliance for Bangladesh's export sector.

US and EU Strike trade deal, slashing tariffs to 15%

Mathew Devis

The United States and the European Union have reached an agreement that ends months of trade tension between the two economic giants. After a series of intense negotiations, US President Donald Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen finalized a deal that establishes a 15% tariff on EU goods entering the United States.

This is a significant reduction from the 30% tariff Trump had initially threatened. In return, the EU has agreed to open its markets to US exports, with no tariffs on certain products. Von der Leyen described the deal as bringing stability to the trade relationship between the EU and the US, which together represent nearly a third of global trade.

Trump, who has used tariffs as a tool to address trade imbalances and reduce the US trade deficit, praised the deal as a win for both sides. He pointed to the EU's commitment to investing $600 billion in the US over the next three years, including spending on American military equipment and energy resources. This investment will also help Europe reduce its reliance on Russian energy sources.

The deal, while hailed as a major victory for the US, has not come without its criticisms. Some European officials, like France's European Affairs Minister Benjamin Haddad, argued that the deal was unbalanced, particularly with regards to sectors like alcohol, where France and the Netherlands are seeking tariff exemptions for their wine and beer industries.

Though the tariffs will apply to most products, certain goods such as aircraft, plane parts, some chemicals, and select agricultural items will remain exempt. A separate deal on semiconductors is also expected to be announced soon.

Despite the agreement, a 50% US tariff on steel and aluminium remains in place, further signaling the tough trade stance Trump has maintained. While this agreement may provide short-term stability, its long-term effects on the balance of trade between the EU and the US remain uncertain. Both sides are expected to continue negotiations on technical details, and the EU member states will need to approve the deal in the coming days. While the US may have secured significant tariff revenue and investments, it's unclear whether the EU has gained much from this arrangement, as the bloc had previously argued that the trade relationship was already quite balanced, especially in the services sector.

Intertextile Shanghai – a true hub of apparel supply chain sourcing

Rahbar Hossain

Visiting Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics - Autumn Edition (September 2-4, 2025) was a truly tremendous and inspiring experience. This isn't just another typical expo—it's where circularity, sustainability, innovation, business opportunity, and market trends collide in real time.
From the moment I walked through the doors at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai, I sensed the energy! Rows of booths brimming with recycled yarns, functional fabrics, high-performance textiles, and accessories that seemed to redefine what fabrics can do. Everywhere you looked, there were fresh ideas and forward-thinking suppliers pushing boundaries.

TexSPACE Today's booth was also at the international hall 5.1. Industry experts, professionals from brands, and manufacturers visited and exchanged their views with us about the necessity of circularity, automation, and innovation for further business acceleration.

A standout highlight was the Econogy Hub, a dedicated space spotlighting sustainability as both urgent and achievable. Major players like Bureau Veritas, Hohenstein, GOTS, Testex, bluesign, Control Union, and Itochu gathered to present green innovations and certifications through the Econogy Check—an independent verification tool aligned with over 100 global standards.

Buyers could easily identify and connect with eco-conscious exhibitors via the Econogy Finder, an online directory showing who passed those rigorous checks.

Companies like Asia Pacific Rayon, Birla Cellulose, Genertec highlight not just new fibre and yarn quality, but also measurable environmental impact—carbon reduction and water conservation were centerstage, not afterthoughts.

Close by, the Functional Lab showcased the fabrics of the future—think smart athletic textiles, technical outdoor materials, and multifunctional sportswear fabrics for protective apparel. Exhibitors including Burlington, Kbtex Warp Knitting Technology, and Unifi presented innovations through "The CUBE," a specially curated display of performance-driven materials.

Fashion-forward creativity also had its place. In the Premium Wool Zone, refined craftsmanship

met performance—with wool, cashmere, silk, and tweed all merging sophistication with utility. The "Bespoke Performance" display spotlighted luxurious suiting fabrics that offer elegance without compromise.

For pattern lovers and designers, Verve for Design was a treasure trove. Studios such as Atelier Mineeda (Japan), Longina Phillips Designs (UK), and PHN Studio (Argentina) showcased bold, eco-conscious prints—many already being integrated into Chinese and South American collections.

Looking to the future, the Innovation & Digital Solutions Zone brought tech to the textile world. Imagine AI-powered design assistants like AiDLab's "AiDa," a garment-sorting Green Machine from HKRITA, and digital tools from Shima Seiki and Symmpix—everything from fabric simulation to virtual sampling and traceable digital product passports. These tools are rapidly reshaping sourcing, making it more efficient, traceable, and waste-conscious.

Throughout the fair, Connect PLUS was the logistical glue. With its AI-driven matching, meeting scheduler, and mobile integration, it streamlined B2B matchmaking—ensuring VIP buyers connected directly with ideal exhibitors in advance. More than just browsing, it made the expo a curated business accelerator.

And it wasn't only about business conversations. The three-day fringe programme featured expert-led forums, seminars, and trend presentations—from Econogy Talks and Technology & Solutions sessions to Intertextile Directions' trend forecasts and global market insights—giving attendees a wealth of inspiration alongside commerce.

Here's what stood out in simple terms:

- New business doors open every day—whether meeting OEMs, discovering new suppliers of recycled nylon, bio-based fibres, or smart labels.
- You discover next season's trends—be it pattern, material, functionality, or digital deeply embedded in the design process.
- You learn from experts—through trend tours, seminars on sustainability, circularity, and digital transformation.
- You add value to your business—by sourcing faster, more efficiently, and responsibly, while staying ahead of market demand.

As Asia solidifies its role as the garment hub, exhibitions like this are where buyers, manufacturers, and suppliers converge with intention. It's a rare space that blends new products with meaningful networking, with innovation and trends feeding directly into real-world decisions.

Walking through the expo, I felt part of something bigger—a global conversation about sustainability, digitalization, and functional design unfolding in real time. The packed halls, excited delegates, and spotlighted technologies all spoke to one thing: Intertextile Shanghai isn't just a fair—it's a bridge to the future of apparel.

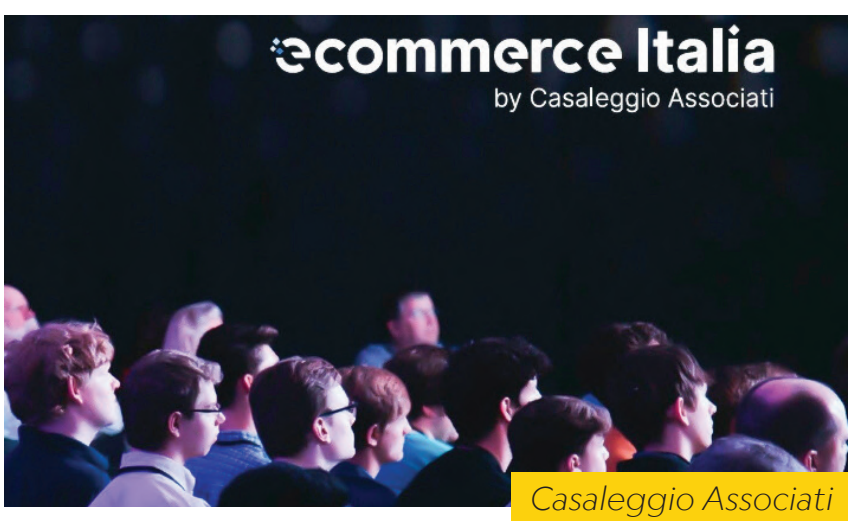
Fashion ecommerce in Italy – 2025 rankings and market overview

M A Mohiemen Tanim

Italy's fashion ecommerce market is set to reach an estimated turnover of €6.03 billion in 2024, marking a 16% increase compared to 2023. According to the Ecommerce Italia 2025 Fashion Report, part of this growth around 4% is due to rising prices, while the bulk (13%) comes from an increase in the volume of items sold.

Data from Casaleggio Associati shows that Zalando leads both in market turnover rankings and popularity among Italian consumers. It holds the top position with a popularity score of 10.000, far ahead of second-placed Vinted (4.958) and third-placed Shein (4.153). Other brands in the top 10 for popularity are Zara, OVS, H&M, Tezenis, ASOS, Bonprix, and Intimissimi.

In terms of turnover rankings for 2025, the top 10 ecommerce fashion sites in Italy are:



Foreign presence in the market is significant. International companies represent 21% of all ecommerce players in Italy, and six of the top ten turnover-ranked platforms are foreign-owned. The most represented countries among these are the United States, France, and Great Britain. Despite this strong competition from abroad, Italian companies still account for 79% of the sector overall, although only 40% of the top ten by turnover are Italian brands.

BELLA+CANVAS 2024 impact report

Key sustainability milestones in people, planet, and product

Oliver Taylor

BELLA+CANVAS, a leader in sustainable apparel manufacturing, has demonstrated its commitment to transparency and responsibility through its inaugural Impact Report for 2024, outlining 2024 performance metrics and goals across its three sustainability pillars: People, Planet, and Product. This report highlights the company's significant strides in reducing its environmental footprint, supporting its workforce, and contributing to the communities in which it operates. The company's mission is to integrate social and environmental considerations into every aspect of its operations, setting a new standard in the apparel industry.

People: Fostering Ethical and Inclusive Practices

BELLA+CANVAS has placed a strong emphasis on its workforce, ensuring ethical practices throughout its supply chain. In 2024, the company achieved Fair Labor Association (FLA) accreditation, reflecting its dedication to worker rights. The company has also developed comprehensive training programs, ensuring that employees are well-equipped to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving industry.

The company's commitment to employee well-being goes beyond compliance with labor standards, offering mental health programs, family planning benefits, and on-site health services. With over 59,000 health clinic visits and 15,000 hours of training in 2024, BELLA+CANVAS has created a supportive environment for its workforce. The organization also celebrated its first-ever People Day, where employees participated in wellness and sustainability programs.

Planet: Advancing Environmental Stewardship

BELLA+CANVAS' environmental efforts have laid a strong foundation for a sustainable future. In 2024, the company completed its first greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and lifecycle assessment, establishing clear metrics to track its environmental impact. The company's climate strategy includes investments in renewable energy projects across its facilities in Maryland and Nicaragua, with a focus on reducing GHG emissions and energy consumption.

Notable achievements include a 51% reduction in textile waste during production and a 33% decrease in water use compared to conventional alternatives. The company also partnered with Altus on a 1.1 MWh solar project in Maryland, which, when completed in 2025, will power local communities with renewable energy. These actions reflect BELLA+CANVAS' ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship.

Product: Sustainability in Design and Production

Product innovation remains a key area of focus for BELLA+CANVAS. The company's EcoMax Tee, made from 100% recycled materials, is a prime example of how sustainability can be integrated into fashion. The product has earned Global Recycled Standard (GRS) certification, validating the company's efforts to reduce waste and minimize its environmental impact.

Additionally, BELLA+CANVAS has made significant strides in chemical management, ensuring that all materials and processes comply with strict environmental standards like bluesign® certification. The company also emphasizes the importance of water-efficient dyeing processes, using advanced technology to reduce water consumption by half compared to older methods.

Community Engagement and Philanthropy

BELLA+CANVAS' community engagement initiatives further highlight its commitment to social responsibility. In 2024, the company donated over $500,000 in monetary and in-kind contributions, including support for refugee children through UNHCR. The company also organized tree planting and health fairs in Central America and Los Angeles, contributing to local reforestation efforts and providing vital healthcare services to underserved communities.

Through these initiatives, BELLA+CANVAS demonstrates that corporate success is not only about profit but also about making a positive impact on society and the environment.

Driving sustainability in global supply chains

Insights from the Amfori – trade with purpose seminar

A Peter Tessa

The amfori Trade with Purpose seminar, titled "Unlocking Opportunities and Managing Challenges in Sustainable Supply Chain Management," recently took place at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The event drew a dynamic mix of buyers, business partners, and key stakeholders, all united by a shared interest in advancing sustainable practices in global supply chains.

The seminar served as a platform for open dialogue, allowing participants to connect, collaborate, and exchange valuable insights on ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) development. The discussions covered a range of topics, from tackling shared challenges to identifying practical solutions that can make supply chains more sustainable and transparent.

One of the standout moments came during a panel discussion featuring Chris Wong, the Global Head of Compliance at Otto International. As a speaker on the panel, Wong shared Otto's firsthand experiences in navigating the complex landscape of sustainable supply chain management. His insights shed light on the key strategies that Otto International uses to address the growing demand for greater transparency, traceability, and accountability in global supply chains.

Chris Wong's presentation focused on three critical pillars that are central to Otto International's approach to sustainable supply chains:

1. Buyer-Supplier Collaboration

A core element of Otto's strategy is the strong collaboration between buyers and suppliers. Wong emphasized the importance of fostering open communication and partnership to achieve common sustainability goals. By working together, companies can overcome barriers and drive meaningful progress toward sustainability within the supply chain.

2.Supply Chain Traceability

Traceability was another major topic of discussion. Wong highlighted Otto's efforts to ensure transparency across multiple tiers of its supply chain. In an era where consumers and regulatory bodies are demanding more visibility, ensuring traceability helps to verify claims about sustainability and ethical sourcing.

3.Data Accuracy and ESG Reporting

Finally, Wong addressed the growing emphasis on accurate data collection and reporting for ESG metrics. With increased scrutiny on corporate practices, having reliable data is crucial for businesses to demonstrate their commitment to sustainability. Otto International places a strong emphasis on data accuracy, ensuring that their ESG reports reflect true performance and areas for improvement.

Turkish textile and apparel move beyond fast fashion to high-value, sustainable growth

Ali Kocali

Turkey's textile and apparel industry is in a real transition. The pace picked up earlier than many expected because of the current economy, yet this turn was coming either way. We can acknowledge the headwinds and still accept the simple truth—this shift was inevitable.

Look at the path others took. The UK, US, Japan, France, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, and more went through the same cycle. Some used their know-how to move from mass production to higher value products. Others branched into new fields. With a focus on value-added technical goods, several now post export figures that exceed Turkey's current levels. That's not a warning; it's a map.

Here's what matters for Turkey today. We have real advantages that still define the industry:

- A very developed end to end ecosystem with strong supply chain and logistics infrastructure
- Innovation capability in fabrics and product development
- Advanced production infrastructure and efficiency
- A practical and solution-oriented culture and mindset
- A highly experienced talent base across both white and blue collar
- Strong compliance with European Union sustainability regulations
- Flexibility and resilience
- Proximity to Europe
- Consistently high-quality standards

Turkey stands as the country with the highest capacity and capabilities in the region. It's hard to find another place that brings this full mix together.

Now the hard truth. "Entry price level fast fashion and mass production" is no longer Turkey's USP. Waiting for the old play to return is a distraction. The job is to accept this permanent change and define a new USP built on what we already do well. The opportunity sits in higher value-added products, new segments, and business models that are sustainable by design.

Bottom line—this is the road ahead:

- Innovation
- Focusing on sustainability
- Becoming a trusted solution partner for our customers
- Strengthening and amplifying our core competencies
- Creating value beyond volume
- Focusing on efficiency, new technologies and automation
- Prioritising quality over quantity

A new chapter is opening for the Turkish textile and apparel industry. Steering it the right way is up to us. Industry bodies—TIM, IHKIB – Istanbul Apparel Exporters Association, TGSD Türkiye Giyim Sanayicileri Derneği, and EURATEX – European Apparel and Textile Confederation—along with all stakeholders, carry a key responsibility in this work. The direction is clear; now we execute.

Recover™ shines with dual wins at 2025 Just Style Excellence Awards

Rahbar Hossain

The textile industry is facing major sustainability challenges. With less than 0.3% of textiles being recycled into new garments, most of the clothing produced ends up in landfills or incinerators. Recover™, a leading materials science company, is addressing this problem with significant strides in both business expansion and environmental responsibility. These efforts were recently recognized at the 2025 Just Style Excellence Awards, where the company won two prestigious awards: Business Expansion in the Recycled Fibers category and Environmental in the Recycled Materials category.

Business Expansion in Recycled Cotton Fibers

Recover™ received the Business Expansion award for its strategic growth in recycled cotton fiber production. The company's global network of facilities and suppliers enables it to source textile waste from around the world and scale its recycling operations effectively. Recover™ primarily focuses on post-industrial textile waste but has the technical capability to process both post-industrial and post-consumer materials, ensuring a consistent and high-quality feedstock.

A key aspect of Recover™'s expansion is the strategic location of its recycling facilities. By placing them close to textile waste sources and major garment manufacturing regions, the company reduces transportation needs and lowers environmental impact. In 2025, Recover™ will operate five recycling centers in strategic regions: Spain, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam (opening in 2025), and El Salvador (with a joint venture beginning in 2025). This global presence makes Recover™ one of the largest cotton recyclers, allowing brands to adopt recycled fibers without concern for geographic limitations or complex operations.

The new Vietnam facility, located in Dong Nai province, is a significant milestone for Recover™. It will have an annual production capacity of 10,000 metric tons and is designed to meet the increasing demand for sustainable materials. The plant is strategically positioned near Vietnam, which is one of the world's largest textile exporters. Additionally, the joint venture in El Salvador strengthens the company's footprint in the Americas, providing brands with nearshoring opportunities that reduce lead times, costs, and carbon footprints.

Advancing Sustainability with Recycled Materials

The second award, the Environmental award, highlights Recover™'s transparent, data-driven approach to reducing environmental impacts through

its recycling operations. The company's Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) quantify the savings in water, CO2 emissions, energy, and land use compared to conventional cotton production. These assessments—carried out in Spain (2022) and expanding to Bangladesh (2025)—are independently verified by EcoReview and utilize Ecochain's Helix tool.

The data from Recover™'s LCAs is compelling: every kilogram of recycled cotton fiber produced saves up to 99.9% of water, 93% of CO2 emissions, 99.9% of eutrophication, 96% of energy, and 100% of land use compared to conventional cotton. In 2024 alone, Recover™ conserved 21.6 billion liters of water and avoided 20,493 metric tons of CO2 emissions, marking a significant contribution to the industry's sustainability goals.

Beyond product innovation, Recover™ emphasizes responsible sourcing and ethical labor practices. The company's Responsible Sourcing Committee ensures that all suppliers, particularly in Bangladesh, meet rigorous standards for worker identification, child labor prevention, workplace safety, and payroll transparency. This commitment supports the creation of a more ethical and sustainable supply chain.

Traceability and Transparency in Recycling

Recover™ has integrated traceability into its operations to further enhance its sustainability practices. The company uses both physical and digital tracers to ensure that the recycled cotton fibers in its products are verifiable. This transparency helps brands comply with regulations such as the Digital Product Passport and reinforces the company's credibility with customers and stakeholders.

Through collaborations with industry leaders like Target and Fashion for Good, Recover™ is pushing the boundaries of textile recycling and circularity. The company's efforts in traceability and transparency are setting new standards for the industry, making it easier for brands to adopt sustainable practices and meet their environmental goals.

A Global Vision for a Circular Textile Economy

Matthew Neville, Chief Commercial Officer at Recover™, reflected on the company's achievements:

> *"This award affirms Recover™'s vision to scale recycled cotton on a global level while staying close to both raw materials and manufacturing hubs. Our growing network, now spanning five countries, enables us to deliver consistent, traceable fiber solutions that help brands meet sustainability goals without compromising speed, quality, or reliability."*

Matthew Neville
Chief Commercial Officer at Recover™

> *"This award is a testament to our commitment to measurable impact and full transparency. Our independently verified data proves that Recover™ recycled cotton can drastically cut water use, land use, and emissions while scaling responsibly. At Recover™, sustainability goes far beyond simply increasing circularity—it is key to supporting and achieving our company purpose."*

Ana Rodes
Head of Sustainability at Recover™,

OEKO-TEX® joins the UN fashion and fifestyle network to support global sustainability

Mohammad Mithun

OEKO-TEX® is now an official member of the United Nations Fashion and Lifestyle Network (UNFLN). This platform brings together key players from the fashion and lifestyle industries, policy makers, civil society, and the UN to collaborate on the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By joining this network, OEKO-TEX® can engage more effectively with global policy dialogues and contribute to initiatives that address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As a member, OEKO-TEX® will actively work on advancing sustainable practices within the fashion and lifestyle sectors. This includes sharing expertise in areas such as sustainable supply chain certification, environmental performance, and transparency. The network fosters collaborative action, which is essential for driving systemic change across industries. With OEKO-TEX®'s engagement in the UNFLN, the organization can influence how sustainability is integrated into global fashion, lifestyle, and textile practices.

TESTEX: Leading the Charge as Official Representative

TESTEX, the official representative of the OEKO-TEX®Association within the UNFLN, plays a pivotal role in this effort. As part of this responsibility, TESTEX will bring its technical and scientific expertise to the network, focusing on sustainable practices in textile production, environmental impact evaluation, and supply chain transparency. TESTEX is also committed to supporting the development of frameworks for traceability and responsible sourcing.

This role highlights TESTEX's long-standing involvement in public-private partnerships and its influence in international standard-setting. TESTEX has contributed to policy developments such as the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles and the upcoming Green Claims Directive. The partnership with the UNFLN enhances TESTEX's position as a leader in sustainable practices and policy development within the industry.

OEKO-TEX® and the SDGs: Making a Tangible Impact

OEKO-TEX®'s participation in the UNFLN underscores its ongoing commitment to advancing the SDGs. The organization actively supports a variety of sustainability goals through its certification programs:

Read more

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Transformers foundation, Naveena Denim, and Indigo Council set water benchmark for denim processing

SK Saha

Transformers Foundation, in partnership with NDL – Naveena Denim Ltd and the Indigo Council, has introduced the industry's first cross-sector water usage benchmark for indigo dyeing. The report, titled "A Reference for Water Consumption During Indigo Dyeing," is based on data collected from seven denim mills across Pakistan, Turkey, Italy, and China. This benchmark offers both baseline and best-practice metrics for rope and slasher dyeing systems.

The initiative saw collaboration from dye experts, chemical suppliers, and mill technicians, as well as input from machinery makers like Morrison Textile Machinery and Karl Mayer. The process also had oversight from bluesign®and DyStar, ensuring comprehensive insights into the dyeing process.

The findings of the report highlight significant discrepancies in water usage, particularly during the post-dye washing and rinsing stages. The research shows that water consumption can be significantly reduced through efficient monitoring, smart water management, and consistent process control.

As environmental claims in the industry come under scrutiny, with the EU Green Claims Directive and UK Green Claims Code targeting misleading claims, this benchmark offers brands and mills a transparent, evidence-based framework to validate and compare their sustainability efforts.

The Indigo Council, a group dedicated to improving sustainability in denim production, includes brands like Candiani Denim, Crescent Bahuman, Diamond Denim, Soorty, Orta, Naveena Denim, and Advance Denim.

Andrew Olah, Founder of the Transformers Foundation, emphasized the importance of accurate data in sustainability efforts, stating, "Real sustainability requires real data. This report finally replaces vague marketing claims like '80% less water' with verified industry-wide benchmarks."

Rashid Iqbal, Executive Director of Naveena Denim, echoed this sentiment, saying, "By setting industrial standards, we move sustainability beyond buzzwords and into real accountability."

Paolo Leidi, Technical Director at Transformers, highlighted that the goal of the project was not to rank mills but to provide stakeholders with reliable data. "This proves transparency and cooperation are possible—even among competitors," Leidi said.

Archroma and V.J.T.I. form strategic partnership to advance green chemistry and sustainability

Jack Thompson

Archroma, a global leader in sustainable specialty chemicals, has announced a strategic partnership with Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (V.J.T.I.), one of Mumbai's premier engineering institutions. The collaboration aims to drive research and education in green chemistry, renewable energy, and sustainable industrial practices.

Advancing Green Chemistry and Sustainable Technologies

This partnership brings together industrial expertise and academic innovation to develop safer chemicals and cleaner manufacturing processes. Focus areas include:

- Green chemistry research for eco-friendly chemical formulations
- Development of renewable energy solutions like biofuels and hydrogen energy
- Creation of sustainable materials such as bioplastics, nanomaterials, and advanced composites

Sustainability Education: New Course Launch at V.J.T.I.

As part of the collaboration, V.J.T.I. is launching a new industry-aligned course titled "Sustainability: Industry Perspectives for a Greener World." Developed in close collaboration with Archroma, the course covers:

- Waste management and circular economy principles
- Greenhouse gas emission tracking
- Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) compliance

Driving Sustainable Manufacturing and Carbon Reduction

The Archroma–V.J.T.I. partnership also emphasizes industrial transformation through:

- Development of life cycle assessment (LCA) tools
- Carbon footprint analysis methodologies
- Policy advocacy for environmentally responsible regulations

Community Engagement and CSR Support

Community outreach is a core part of the initiative. Activities include:

- Workshops and seminars promoting eco-friendly technologies
- Local partnerships for sustainability implementation
- Student training programs backed by CSR funding

"At Archroma, sustainability is at the core of our innovation," said Anjani Prasad, Vice President South Asia, Archroma. "Our collaboration with V.J.T.I. enables scalable, science-backed solutions for today's pressing environmental issues."

Fashion rental significantly reduces environmental impact

William Moore

A new study from Australia's leading peer-to-peer fashion rental platform, The Volte, reveals that renting clothing can reduce environmental impact by up to 78% per wear compared to owning. The research, conducted by the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), highlights how fashion rental offers both sustainability and access to luxury fashion—without the need to buy.

Titled How Australian women bought less but had more, the study is the first of its kind in Australia to assess the environmental and social outcomes of peer-to-peer clothing rental. Using ISO-standard life cycle assessment methods, researchers analyzed the behavior of 908 renters from The Volte's community of over 300,000 active monthly users.

Results show that the climate impact of a rented garment is 44% to 78% lower, depending on how many times it's rented out. This impact is especially important in occasion wear, where many garments are worn once and stored away.

"If we're serious about reducing fashion's environmental footprint, increasing clothing utilization through rental must be front and center of the solution," said Bernadette Olivier, CEO and cofounder of The Volte.

Founded in 2017, The Volte has grown to become the world's largest peer-to-peer fashion rental platform, specializing in designer and event wear. The platform hosts over 70,000 luxury fashion pieces and connects renters with nearly 15,000 Australian lenders, including more than 270 "Super Lenders" earning between AUD 50,000 and AUD 200,000 per year by sharing their wardrobes.

Rental prices range from AUD 50 to AUD 3,500, with the most expensive listing—a wedding dress—valued at AUD 28,000. The Volte's users are primarily women aged 20 to 40, seeking high-end fashion without the environmental and financial cost of ownership.

Associate Professor Timo Rissanen of UTS, who led the study, emphasized that switching from ownership to access is key:

"We can drastically cut production, waste, and emissions across the supply chain."

The findings support national sustainability goals under Seamless, Australia's clothing product stewardship scheme launched in July 2024. Seamless aims to divert 120,000 tonnes of clothing from landfills by 2027, promoting circular fashion models like rental. Retailers including The Iconic, David Jones, BigW, and R.M. Williams are among its 56 members, alongside over 120 supporting organizations.

Australia currently ranks among the world's top consumers of fashion, with the average person buying 53 garments each year. By making luxury fashion more accessible while reducing waste, platforms like The Volte are helping shift consumer behavior—and driving the move toward a more sustainable future in fashion.

Jet 250HT delivers efficiency and consistency for textile dyeing

Mohammad Mithun

The Jet 250HT is an advanced fabric dyeing machine designed for a wide range of textiles. It is ideal for cotton and blended fabrics used in casual wear, high-end silks, and technical materials. This versatile machine is also perfect for dyeing natural and synthetic fiber knits, including sensitive knit fabrics, tubular and warp knits for sportswear, as well as velvet, ensuring optimal results across various fabric types. The Jet 250HT is designed to keep textile production running smoothly. One key feature is its minimized distance between the containment chamber and the nozzle, which keeps tension low on delicate fabrics. This detail helps prevent stretching and preserves the surface—even with items prone to creasing.

Jet 250HT Dyeing machine

Technical data	
Pressure	3,5 bar
Temperature	143 °C
Number of ropes	From 1 to 6 in various lengths
Total capacity	From 20 to 1500 kg
Tandem	Yes
Liquor ratio	1:8
Max Speed	450 m/min

The launch tube comes in four adjustable diameters, allowing fabrics to reach speeds up to 450 meters per minute. As the fabric passes through the elliptical outlet, it spreads out and moves toward the chamber with ease. The reel, forged entirely from stainless steel, keeps material immersed in the dye bath, which helps avoid abrasion marks and uneven results.

Operation is straightforward. Loading from the top is hassle-free, and no specialized crew is needed onsite. Technicians have full access inside the nozzle turret and can inspect fabric progress through a built-in porthole. Maintenance routines are kept simple, with repairs and adjustments handled internally. This approach has resulted in optimized workflow and reduced overall costs for clients.

Sustainability is a priority. The machine uses a bath ratio of 1:8, which translates to roughly 20 percent water savings per cycle. This reduction matters for manufacturers striving to lower both costs and their environmental footprint, offering a healthier product and process. Sizes range from 20 to 1,500 kilograms total capacity, with options for working in tandem or dividing loads for smaller runs.

The Jet 250HT also meets standards for textile production under Industry 4.0. Integrated sensors track consumption in real time, and remote support is available whenever needed. This package supports transparency, reliability, and ease of management at every stage.

With pressure at 3.5 bar and dyeing temperatures reaching 143°C, the Jet 250HT covers a wide spectrum of textile needs. It accommodates anywhere from one to six fabric ropes of various lengths. Flexibility and reliable performance are at the core of every cycle.

Read more

AI and laser technology
RIT's solution to efficient textile recycling and waste reduction

Luke Wilson

Every year, the average U.S. consumer discards nearly 82 pounds of clothing, contributing to over 11 million tons of textile waste. A significant portion of this waste comes from garments that are difficult to recycle due to their complex compositions, such as mixed material blends and components like buttons and zippers. But now, a team at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) has developed a new automated system to address this problem.

This system uses artificial intelligence (AI) and lasers to identify and remove non-recyclable elements from used garments. With a processing time of just 10 seconds per garment, the system aims to make textile recycling more efficient, helping to recover high-value materials and reduce the environmental impact of textile waste.

The process begins with a conveyor-fed imaging station equipped with specialized cameras that create a multi-dimensional map of the garment. This map allows for a detailed analysis of the fiber composition, down to the millimeter. Using near-infrared (NIR) camera technology, the system detects surface materials such as cotton, polyester, and nylon, and AI-powered algorithms help identify hidden components like elastic bands in cuffs, which are invisible to the camera alone.

Mark Walluk, the technical program manager and lead engineer of the project, explains that the combination of NIR data and AI is key to recognizing materials that are often missed by traditional recycling systems. Once the system detects these non-recyclable parts, a robotic laser cutter removes them without damaging the usable fabric, which is then sorted into separate recycling bins by a robotic system.

The project, led by Walluk and a team of engineers at RIT's Golisano Institute for Sustainability, aims to transform post-consumer clothing into valuable feedstock for recycling. While current systems prefer post-industrial fabrics due to their predictable material properties, the RIT team's system is designed to handle the complexity of used garments, making them more viable for reuse.

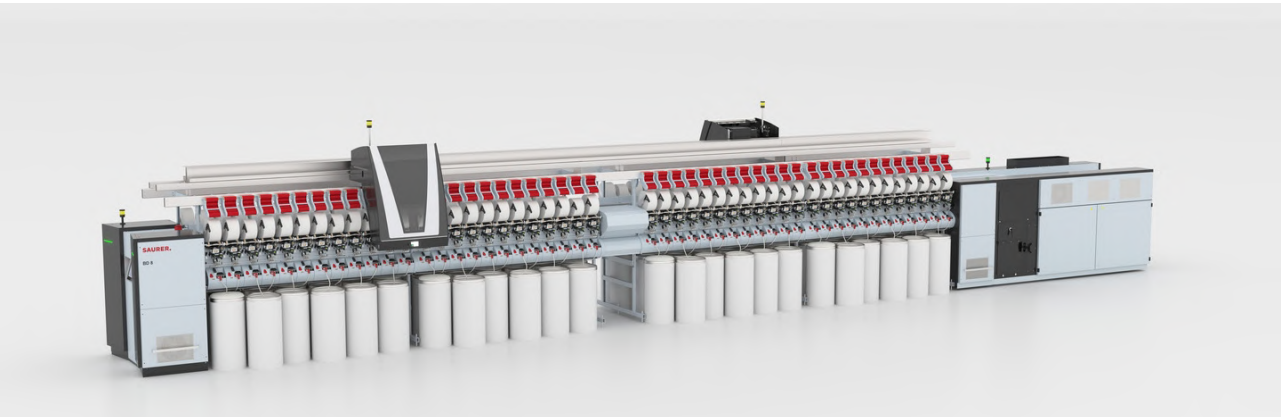
This project is a step toward achieving a circular economy, where materials are continually reused rather than ending up in landfills. Key partners such as Ambercycle and Goodwill of the Finger Lakes have provided garments for testing, while Nike has contributed industry insights during the project's early stages. The research, which started in 2023, was funded by a nearly $1.3 million grant from the Remade Institute, a public-private partnership focused on circular manufacturing solutions.

While the system is still in its pilot phase, it has attracted attention from global recyclers across the U.S., Europe, South Asia, and Latin America. Walluk and his team are working to refine the system and transition it to partners for further testing and potential deployment later this year.

The hope is that this technology will not only help improve existing recycling processes but also support the growth of new startups working on innovative recycling solutions. By making textile recycling more efficient, RIT's team is taking a significant step toward addressing the global textile waste crisis.

Enhancing spinning efficiency with advanced semi-automatic rotor spinning technology

Rahbar Hossain



Saurer BD 8 semi-automatic rotor spinning machine (credit: Saurer)

Automation has become a vital part of the textile industry, driving efficiency and maintaining productivity in the face of labor shortages. The Saurer BD 8 semi-automatic rotor spinning machine is designed to meet these needs by offering a practical and efficient solution for spinning mills. Equipped with a new, advanced doffer unit, this machine is engineered to enhance operations and streamline workflows.

One of the key features of the BD 8 is its automatic package doffing unit. This doffer unit greatly reduces operator workload by changing full yarn packages in just 10 seconds, without interrupting the spinning process. The machine can be equipped with up to four of these doffers, allowing seamless handling of large production volumes. It supports large packages up to 320 mm in length and 5 kg in weight, with automatic doffing triggered for all packages within the defined tolerance range. The yarn reserve is adjustable to maintain consistent quality and production continuity.

Beyond its primary function, the doffer unit also serves as a blowing device when package changing is not required, enhancing the machine's operational flexibility. This dual capability helps keep the spinning units clean and running smoothly. The doffer unit can be installed on the BD 8 as well as the older BD 7, offering an upgrade path to mills looking to automate and improve efficiency.

The BD 8 offers more than automation. It combines ergonomic design and energy-saving technologies like the Twinsuction system, which reduces vacuum requirements by about 40% and lowers energy use by up to 10%. With up to 600 spindle positions and take-up speeds reaching 230 meters per minute, it delivers strong productivity while maintaining premium package quality.

This machine is versatile enough to handle various yarn types, including coarse yarns and recycled fibers, making it a reliable choice for mills adapting to raw material fluctuations and the circular economy. The BD 8 also features smart operation aids such as digital piecing technology for superior piecing reliability and an intuitive touchscreen interface for easy control.

For spinning operations aiming for improved productivity, reduced labor demands, and consistent yarn quality, the Saurer BD 8 with its automatic doffing unit stands as an effective solution. The capability to change packages quickly and manage large yarn packages automatically means less downtime and more continuous production, which is critical in today's competitive textile market.

Future of denim-maximizing sustainability and profitability with 3D

Sayed Abdullah

Otto International's Dhaka office recently brought together denim leaders and industry innovators for a session on how digitalisation and 3D workflows are reshaping denim development. The event highlighted how new tools are changing the way products are designed, tested, and produced—reducing waste while speeding up the entire process. A live demo gave participants a first-hand look at tools like the digital assets library, digital showroom, and the online collaboration platform in action.

Otto International

Why 3D Matters

The discussions circled back to one central point: 3D is no longer optional. Brands and manufacturers that adopt these workflows gain both financial and environmental benefits. Development cycles are faster, sample rounds are reduced, and the collaboration between suppliers and brands becomes smoother.

Key Takeaways from the Session

Time and cost savings

3D streamlines product development, cutting down the number of physical samples needed. This not only shortens lead times but also helps brands and manufacturers build stronger partnerships.

Sustainability in practice

By replacing physical samples with digital ones, companies save resources and lower their carbon footprint. Less water, fewer chemicals, and reduced waste mean more responsible production without slowing down creativity.

First-time-right accuracy

With advanced 3D fitting tools, garments can be tested digitally for precision before moving into production. This helps ensure the first version is already close to the final product, avoiding unnecessary revisions.

AI plus human expertise

AI tools assist in the creative process by generating quick design variations, while human specialists step in to refine details and make sure the designs are practical and manufacturable. This balance keeps both speed and quality intact.

Preparing for the Digital Product Passport (DPP)

By 2030, digital product passports will become a standard requirement across the industry. Collecting and managing data at every stage of the supply chain will be essential. Companies that start adapting now will be ready for compliance and transparency when the time comes.

The denim sector is under pressure to balance profitability with responsibility. The event showed that 3D workflows aren't just about technology—they're about building a smarter, cleaner, and more efficient way forward. For brands and manufacturers, the message was clear: adapt now, or risk being left behind.

Nobody's child expands Digital Product Passport program

Luke Wilson

Nobody's Child is making transparency part of every-day fashion. Since 2023, the brand has been rolling out Digital Product Passports (DPPs)—a simple QR code that connects customers to the full story behind their clothes. From fabric sourcing to production, resale, and recycling, each passport shares over 140 data points collected across 10 suppliers.

The journey began with three capsule collections in collaboration with Fearne Cotton and Fabacus. In August 2024, the team launched a denim-focused pilot with Chottani, followed by trials using Fairly Made's traceability software. These pilots helped refine the process and prepare for upcoming EU sustainability regulations, which will require brands to provide detailed product lifecycle data.

So far, Nobody's Child has introduced DPPs to 112 styles, with over 20,000 QR scans by customers. The response has been encouraging—people are engaging with the data and valuing the transparency. Harriet King, Operations Manager at Rechain, noted, "When people can see the full journey, they value the garment more".

The brand's efforts have earned six industry awards and laid the groundwork for full-scale implementation by Autumn/ Winter 2025. With four successful pilot projects completed, Nobody's Child is showing how traceability can be scaled without losing sight of simplicity or customer experience.

Drying plays a crucial role in producing high-quality nonwoven products, but it's also an energy-intensive process. To tackle this challenge, Trützschler has introduced the Modular Performance Dryer (MPD), a solution designed to improve drying efficiency and reduce energy consumption. The MPD is already helping companies like Lentex make significant strides in sustainability and cost reduction. The first MPD was installed at Lentex's facility in Lubliniec, Poland, in December 2024. Since then, the drying capacity of the production line has increased, with a 30% improvement in efficiency compared to the previous dryer model. This upgrade has helped Lentex lower CO2 emissions and mitigate the impact of high energy costs in Europe, all while maintaining its profit margins in spunlaced materials.

Modular performance dryer

Boosting energy efficiency & sustainability in nonwoven production

Mohammad Mithun

What sets the MPD apart is its compact design, which saves floor space and fits into existing production lines without any major changes. The smooth installation process at Lentex is a testament to Trützschler's focus on customer satisfaction. Trützschler's team worked closely with Lentex to determine the best positioning and calibration for the new dryer, ensuring minimal disruption to production. The whole process was carefully planned around Lentex's production calendar, with only a week of downtime for the integration.

This successful installation is just one chapter in the long-standing partnership between Trützschler and Lentex, a relationship that has flourished since 1999. Lentex, which specializes in sanitary nonwovens using cotton, viscose, polyester, polypropylene, and other fibers, now benefits from a dryer solution that supports its sustainability goals and reduces energy costs.

Rafal Grabowski, Head of Maintenance at Lentex, commented, "Lentex has trusted Trützschler for more than 25 years, and this MPD is another value-adding innovation that increases production, cuts costs, supports sustainability, and ensures quality for our company."

As more companies adopt the MPD for drying nonwovens, they'll be able to manage rising energy prices while continuing to focus on sustainability. The success of the Lentex installation is just the beginning, with Trützschler's engineers excited to help more textile producers benefit from this next-generation drying solution.

Autocoro 11 makes recycling easier for spinning mills

Rahbar Hossain

Saurer's Autocoro 11 has changed the way rotor spinning machines handle recycled fibers. With global interest in circular production rising and environmental rules getting stricter, recycling has become a central focus in textile production. Anticipating this shift, Saurer introduced the Recycling Xtreme (rX) version of the Autocoro 11, designed specifically for spinning mills that rely on recycled materials.

Spinning even the shortest fibers

The rX version allows mills to process even the shortest mechanically recycled fibers without losing efficiency. This applies to both pre-consumer waste, such as cut pieces from garment factories, and post-consumer waste, like worn-out clothes. Pre-consumer fibers are fairly consistent in type and color, but they often vary in length. Post-consumer fibers are even more challenging, with unpredictable quality. The Autocoro 11 manages both through built-in features that keep production stable and raw material use efficient.

Flexibility in yarn production

The machine uses single-drive technology, making it simple to adjust for different fiber types. By fine-tuning rotor speed, yarn twisting, and roller settings, mills can achieve recycled yarn quality that comes very close to new cotton. This flexibility opens opportunities for mills to expand their product range while staying profitable.

Case study from Turkey

Polat ®plik Tekstil, a Turkish manufacturer, has been producing yarn from recycled fibers for 40 years. According to owner Fahri Polat, the Autocoro 11 has helped them handle raw materials more efficiently while improving yarn quality. He explains that all 816 spinning positions can be brought up to speed within minutes, which allows them to scale up production faster and experiment with smarter fiber mixes.

Balancing strength and stability

Recycled yarns usually have limits in how fine they can be spun compared to virgin cotton. The finer the yarn, the more polyester binder fibers are needed to keep the yarn stable. If settings are not adjusted properly, increasing recycled content can lead to yarn breaks. Autocoro 11's Synchropiecing 60 technology addresses this by compensating for increased breakages, helping mills maintain consistent efficiency.

Less cleaning, lower costs

The machine's self-cleaning yarn guides, supported by continuous air blowing, reduce maintenance needs significantly. One Turkish spinning mill reported extending manual cleaning intervals from every 3 days to every 6 weeks, a fourteen-fold improvement. At the same time, yarn consistency improved, with fewer issues like uneven bobbins.

Keeping yarn quality high

Recycled fibers often leave residues in rotor grooves, which can lower yarn quality and cause breaks. To solve this, Autocoro 11 uses rotor intermittent cleaning through its Doffing Cleaning Unit. With digitally controlled linear motors, the cleaning scraper works in precise sync to prevent buildup. This regular and thorough cleaning ensures yarn stability and quality remain high throughout production.

Automation Fair 2025 set for November in Chicago

Desk Report

The Automation Fair 2025 will take place from November 17 to November 20 in Chicago, hosted by Rockwell Automation. This four-day conference gathers thousands of professionals engaged in problem solving, building, and making within the automation industry. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with peers and explore practical learning sessions and inspiration tailored to help them achieve their goals, whether they are just starting or well advanced in their automation journey.

The event promises an immersive experience focused on addressing current and future challenges in automation, offering attendees relevant insights and networking opportunities to support their ongoing work and projects.

This year's event continues to be a key gathering for those involved in the field, providing a platform for sharing knowledge and practical solutions over multiple days of engagement in Chicago.

The Automation Fair runs Monday through Thursday, November 17 to 20, 2025, and is open to individuals across the spectrum of the automation community.

Rockwell Automation organizes the event, which is recognized as a cornerstone conference in the automation calendar.

Further details can be found on the official event website.

This year's Automation Fair highlights the practical, collaborative side of automation in a setting conducive to learning and relationship building.

Automation Fair 2019

Shaping a sustainable future

Embracing circular economy in the textile industry

M A Mohiemen Tanim

The textile industry, consuming 3.25 billion tonnes of materials annually, is currently only 0.3% circular. Over 99% of these materials come from virgin sources, leading to significant environmental and social issues, including climate change, water scarcity, and labor rights violations. As per capita fiber consumption increases, a shift toward a circular economy is essential to tackle these challenges. The circular economy framework focuses on strategies like reduce, reuse, repair, repurpose, and recycle, offering a pathway to more sustainable textile practices.

The SOLSTICE Project: A Path to Circularity in Textiles

The SOLSTICE project, led by Circle Economy in collaboration with various local organizations, such as with Circular Berlin, Grenoble-Alpes Métropole, the Comune di Prato, and Generalitat de Catalunya) aims to address the key social, environmental, and technical challenges of the textile industry through the circular economy. The project's analysis of textile ecosystems in Berlin, Grenoble, Prato, and Catalonia reveals valuable insights into how different regions can enhance circular practices. The study focuses on spatial planning, material flows, and local infrastructure to identify opportunities for promoting circular textiles in each region.

Circular Textile Services:

Access and Opportunities

In regions like Berlin, Grenoble, Prato, and Catalonia, access to circular textile services varies significantly depending on location. People living closer to city centers have better access to services like recycling and repair, while those in more peripheral areas face longer travel times. This disparity emphasizes the need for improved distribution of circular services to ensure equal access for all residents. As circular textile services become more widespread, regions with better service coverage will lead the charge in creating a more sustainable future.

Material Flow Analysis: Opportunities for Recycling and Reuse

Material flow analysis reveals that regions like Berlin and Grenoble primarily import fibers and collect only small amounts of post-consumer textiles for recycling or reuse. On the other hand, Prato stands out as a production and recycling hub. Catalonia, despite its large collection of textiles, still sends over 90% of its mixed-waste textiles to landfill or incineration. This shows a clear opportunity to enhance local recycling, repair, and reuse infrastructure to build a more circular textile economy.

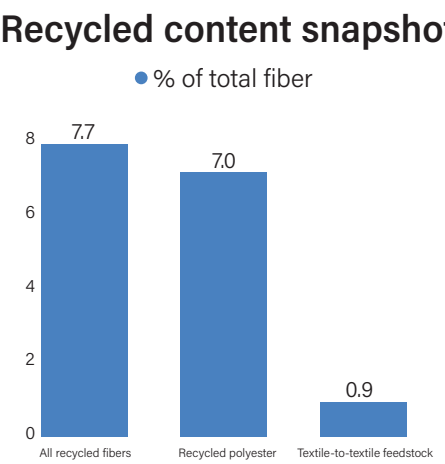
Read more

Comparative analysis of virgin and recycled textile raw materials

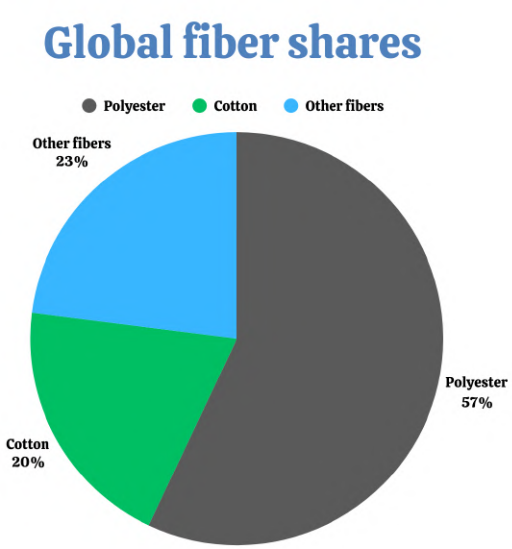
Market overview, challenges, and solutions

Mohammad Mithun

The textile industry is navigating a complex shift from traditional virgin raw materials to recycled fibers. Both materials hold critical roles today, but the landscape is changing due to rising environmental concerns, technological advances, and market pressure for sustainable options. Here's a detailed, data-backed look at where virgin and recycled textile raw materials stand today, the challenges they face, and the trends shaping their futures. The global textile fiber market is vast and changing. In 2023, worldwide fiber output reached 124 million tonnes. Polyester dominates this production, making up 57% of total fiber use, while cotton accounts for roughly 20% (around 24 million tonnes). Other fibers make up the remaining 23%



Source: Textile Exchange 2024 (All recycled fibers 7.7%; recycled polyester -7.0%; textile-to-textile <1%). Link: https://materialchangeworld.com



Current Market State

The Role of Recycled Fibers Today

Recycled fibers represented about 7.7% of the total fiber use in 2023. Of that, recycled polyester (rPET) alone contributed nearly 7.0%, making it the largest component within recycled materials. However, textile-to-textile recycling, which involves turning old textiles directly into new ones, still makes up less than 1% of the feedstock, highlighting the limited scale of true circular textile recycling today.

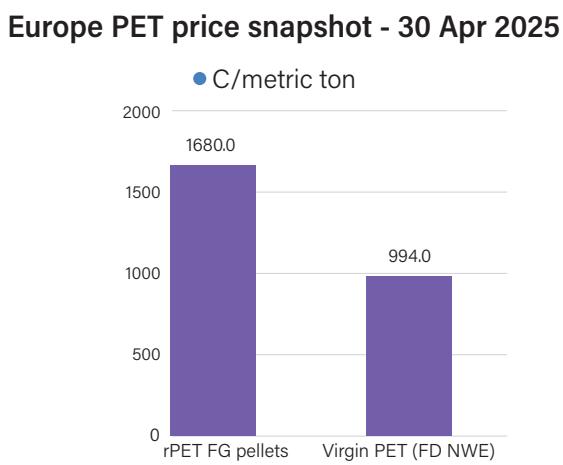
Nearly 99% of recycled polyester originates from PET bottles, not old clothes. This means the current recycling landscape largely focuses on bottle-to-fiber rather than closing the loop within textiles themselves.

Market Pricing and Cost Differences

Cost is a significant factor holding back wider adoption of recycled fibers. As of April 30, 2025, in Europe, food-grade rPET pellets were priced at approximately €1,680 per metric ton. This is €686 higher per ton than virgin PET, which was roughly €994 per ton on the same date. Brands often face this premium pricing when opting for recycled materials, reflecting supply-demand imbalances and recycling costs.

In the U.S., the cost premium on rPET widened again in 2024, with estimates placing it around 30–35% higher than virgin PET through early 2025.

Regulatory Environment and Policy Drivers



Source: S&P Global Commodity Insights (Europe rPET FG pellets €1,680/mt; premium to virgin C686/mt). Link: https://www.spglobal.com

The European Union is driving change through regulation. By January 1, 2025, separate collection of textiles became mandatory, aiming to improve recycling feedstock quality and quantity. A provisional agreement enforces Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), requiring producers to finance textile collection, sorting, and recycling systems. Digital Product Passports (DPPs) will be mandated under the EU's Eco-design law, enhancing transparency and traceability from production to end-of-life

Key Challenges and Practical Solutions

Cost Premium: The rPET price premium challenges price-sensitive markets. Strategic approaches include securing multi-year offtake agreements, blending different rPET grades depending on application, and using price escalation clauses tied to energy and raw material costs. Across 2025 snapshots in Europe, rPET often carries a €600–700/mt higher to virgin PET, which slows adoption in price-sensitive lines

Traceability and Claims: Bottle-to-fiber claims often lead to confusion and greenwashing risks. Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) and Global Recycled Standard (GRS) chain-of-custody certifications help ensure authenticity. Digital Product Passports will reinforce transparency by carrying detailed material and lifecycle data.

Infrastructure unevenness

Collection is rising, but quality pre-sorting, regional sorting hubs, and local re-manufacturing are still catching up. Export flows and informal channels add more complexity for EU value chains

Strategies to Address Key Challenges

Lock supply deliberately

Sign multi-year offtake with recyclers for rPET pellets and high-grade flakes; tie volumes to bale indices and energy to share risk. The aim is to smooth the rPET–virgin delta that S&P flags.

Design for recycling up front

Standardize single-polymer bodies where possible; keep elastane under tight thresholds; specify easily removable trims and labels; avoid deep disperse shades if you plan chemical-recycling routes. This directly improves sortability and yield (and will map cleanly into DPP fields).

Pilot textile-to-textile where it fits

Use mechanical recycling for clean pre-consumer cotton waste; use chemical depolymerization for polyester where you can secure capacity. Track early capacity at Eastman Kingsport (operational since early 2024, ®110,000 t/y molecular recycling) and European enzymatic/methanolysis projects as they scale.

Virgin materials still set the baseline on price and scale, while recycled inputs move forward on the strength of policy and contracting. The data shows why: recycled content is growing from a small base, rPET often carries a premium, and true textile-to-textile volumes are still early. The rules arriving in Europe separate collection, producer responsibility, and product passports—will tilt the field toward recyclability, traceability, and real end-of-life plans.

Recycle Raw is leading Bangladesh's textile waste revolution

An inside look at how recycling, traceability, and global partnerships are helping Bangladesh step into the next frontier of circularity

Rahbar Hossain & Sayed Abdullah

Figure 1: Abdur Razzaque, Managing Director of Recycle Raw, explaining the sorting process to the TexSPACE Today team.

In a country that has become the world's second-largest garment exporter, the challenge of managing post-industrial waste is growing every day. Bangladesh produces nearly one million metric tons of post-industrial textile waste annually, yet much of it remains underutilized. Against this backdrop, Recycle Raw Limited has emerged as a pioneer, transforming waste into opportunity and sustainability.

Founded in 2016 by three university friends with a vision to build a business that was both profitable and purposeful, Recycle Raw is now one of the first registered limited companies in Bangladesh's textile waste sector. With a monthly processing capacity of 3,500 tons, the company operates as a one-stop solution for collecting, sorting, and supplying textile and garment waste to recyclers. What sets them apart is their strong focus on traceability and compliance—working with global partners like Reverse Resources to ensure complete transparency from the factory floor to the final product.

In this exclusive interview with TexSPACE Today, Chairman Ibrahim Sajib and Managing Director Abdur Razzaque share their journey of building Recycle Raw, the challenges of working in a "waste" industry, their efforts in R&D and international collaboration, and their bold vision for Bangladesh's role in the global recycling revolution.

TexSPACE Today: Your business model seems very different from the traditional nature of the Bangladeshi textile market. Why did you choose this path?

Ibrahim Sajib: Recycle Raw's journey began in 2016 when three of us—university friends with textile engineering backgrounds—decided to pursue a business that was not just profitable but also meaningful for

our country and the industry. We saw recycling as the future and a sector with tremendous potential.

As a first-generation business, it was not easy. Many of our peers went into jobs, but we stayed committed. Today, we are proud to be one of the first registered limited companies in Bangladesh's textile waste sector, providing a complete, transparent, and traceable solution for managing garment and textile waste.

TexSPACE Today: Transparency seems central to your model. How do you ensure traceability in your operations?

Ibrahim Sajib: Traceability is at the heart of what we do. We work with Reverse Resources, a global traceability partner, which helps us certify and track materials. Each bag of waste we collect is tagged with details—such as brand (H&M, Walmart, C&A) and composition of the specific order.

We maintain records of where each category of waste goes, which yarn is produced, and who the end buyer is. This database-driven system ensures accountability and builds trust with brands, recyclers, and customers.

TexSPACE Today: What were the toughest challenges in setting up this business?

Figure 2: Ibrahim Sajib, Chairman of Recycle Raw Ltd.

Ibrahim Sajib: The stigma of working with "waste" was our first big challenge. Convincing banks was also tough—seven banks rejected our application before one finally agreed to open our export account. On top of that, managing dust during the sorting process is another daily challenge. But with passion and the right tools, we've turned these hurdles into stepping stones.

TexSPACE Today: Could you explain your collection and sorting process?

Ibrahim Sajib: We collect waste directly from factories and also from local markets. Once the waste arrives, we trace its origin and segregate it in a two-step quality process.

- Stage 1: Separate by color and composition.
- Stage 2: Remove impurities and refine.

We categorize materials into four groups—by color, composition, chemical properties, and size—tailored to each recycler's requirements. With a monthly capacity of 3,500 tons, we supply

Fgure 3: Abdur Razzaque, Managing Director (right) and Kajal Bahadur, Director (left) of Recycle Raw Ltd.

Figure 4: Abdur Razzaque, Managing Director of Recycle Raw with the TexSPACE Today team.

to mechanical recyclers and work closely with R&D teams to deliver consistent quality.

TexSPACE Today: How do you maintain consistent quality standards?

Ibrahim Sajib: We run strict quality control with a zero-tolerance policy. Our workers receive continuous training, and we use tools like burn tests to identify fibers. Before packaging, every batch goes through an AQL system check. Only approved batches are shipped—ensuring trust and reliability for our partners.

TexSPACE Today: What role does R&D play in your company?

Ibrahim Sajib: R&D is central to our growth. We collaborate with universities, NGOs, and research centers across Bangladesh, Europe, and America. We've also shared our expertise in Cambodia, Vietnam, and now operate a unit in Indonesia. Soon, we'll be in Singapore, Copenhagen, and Milan. Our vision is simple: to create a zero-waste world where everything is recycled.

TexSPACE Today: Bangladesh produces huge amounts of pre-consumer waste, while the US and Europe struggle with post-consumer waste. How do you see Bangladesh's role in this global discussion?

Abdur Razzaque, Managing Director: That's a key question. Bangladesh generates about 1 million metric tons of post-industrial waste annually, but the bigger challenge is the post-consumer waste piling up in the West. Unlike factory waste, which is homogeneous, post-consumer garments vary in composition and color—making recycling much harder.

Countries like Bangladesh, India, and Vietnam can play a huge role here. With lower costs and large manufacturing ecosystems, we are better positioned to recycle this waste. But we need enabling policies.

TexSPACE Today: What policy support would make this possible?

Abdur Razzaque: Right now, Bangladesh has an embargo on importing textile waste. This discourages global investors since they can't rely solely on our local waste supply. If the government introduced a bonded facility system for textile waste imports, similar to RMG, it would allow us to import waste under strict monitoring.

This would encourage FDI, create jobs, and help recycle waste systematically—preventing environmental harm while boosting exports.

TexSPACE Today: You mentioned chemical recycling. How do you see its future?

Abdur Razzaque: Between 2026 and 2040, chemical recycling will be the game-changer. Unlike mechanical recycling, which requires almost 100% uniformity, chemical recycling can work with mixed colors and compositions, allowing up to 5% tolerance. This will reduce dependency on labor-intensive sorting.

However, the government must strictly regulate chemical use to avoid misuse or environmental damage. If done right, chemical recycling can open a new era for Bangladesh's textile industry.

"Our dream is to build a world where everything is recycled and nothing goes to waste."
— Ibrahim Sajib, Chairman, Recycle-Raw Ltd.

China faces waste shortage as efficient recycling succeeds

Desk Report

China has become so proficient in recycling waste that it now faces a shortage of materials to process. This issue, which has garnered attention on Chinese social media, is linked to the country's growing number of "Hungry Incinerators." These are facilities that burn waste to generate electricity or fuel but are struggling to find enough waste to meet their processing needs, as reported by Global Times. The plants have become so desperate for waste that many are now looking beyond local sources, with some even importing waste from other countries.

According to a report by Insight and Info, by October 2024, China will have 1,010 waste incineration plants, nearly half of the world's total. Hainan province was the first in China to implement a comprehensive waste-to-energy system across the entire region. During a visit to Sanya, China News Network reporters observed a silo at a local plant capable of storing 20,000 metric tons of waste.

At this facility, each metric ton of waste produces between 340 to 350 kilowatts of electricity per hour, enough to meet the energy needs of one household for an entire month. Simply put, the waste from five households can power one household for a month.

These "smart" waste incineration plants have significantly boosted China's waste management capabilities. The environmentally friendly process of turning waste into energy is now gaining traction worldwide.

The China Ecological and Environmental Status Bulletin, published by China's Ministry of Environmental Science in 2024, revealed that the amount of household waste collected in Chinese cities reached 263 million metric tons in 2024. The country is capable of safely processing nearly 1.16 million metric tons of waste each day without causing environmental harm.

China has surpassed the waste-processing goals set in its 14th Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule. By the end of 2025, China's capacity to incinerate urban household waste will reach about 8 million metric tons per day. Despite this progress, the country is now dealing with a mismatch: its processing capacity exceeds the amount of waste collected, leading to underutilized incineration plants.

According to E20 Institute, a semi-governmental think tank in Beijing, these plants are operating at just 60% of their capacity, leaving 40% unused. To cope with this, many plants are now scouring for more waste, even unearthing waste that has been buried for decades.

In the short term, to maintain full operations, these incineration plants need more waste to process. In response to the shortage, some Chinese companies are even looking to source waste from abroad. Leading firms have started projects in Southeast and Central Asia, as well as in advanced countries like the UK and France, to produce energy from waste.

Circularity drives progress in materials science and plastic waste management

Mohammad Mithun

The landscape of materials science is seeing a growing focus on circularity as a key way to address environmental and economic challenges. Since 2019, projects supported by the Alliance to End Plastic Waste have been making a measurable difference. By 2024, they have kept nearly 240,000 tons of plastic waste from ending up in unmanaged disposal sites. Instead, over 253,000 tons of plastic have been recycled or reused, which helps keep resources in use longer and reduces pollution. These efforts have also created more than 2,100 jobs, showing how environmental efforts can support economic opportunities. The Alliance's work has attracted over $610 million in additional investments, helping expand the reach and impact of their programs.

The 2024 progress report highlights that the Alliance is focusing up its work in India, Indonesia, and South Africa. Each country will receive significant financial backing to develop circular economy projects. These programs target materials that are harder to recycle, such as flexible plastics, and support partnerships that improve recycling infrastructure. The Alliance also emphasizes including informal waste workers and women-owned businesses.

Sorting PET bottles in a MRF in Kathmandu. (Credit: Alliance to End Plastic Waste)

This inclusive approach supports stronger, more resilient supply chains in countries where waste management is a major challenge.

Dow takes a similar approach in making circularity part of its business strategy. The company plans to produce 3 million metric tons of circular and renewable materials each year by 2030. Dow's Circular & Renewable Solutions platform helps move waste plastics back into the supply chain and reduce emissions. The company works with partners to build better recycling systems and aims to ensure 1 million tons of plastic are collected and reused or recycled by 2030. Importantly, Dow works with informal and formal waste workers to build local economies around better waste management.

Materials science plays a crucial role in supporting these efforts, enabling packaging and products to be easier to recycle or reuse. Success depends on cooperation among companies, recyclers, technology developers, and governments. Circularity helps companies reduce environmental impact while creating more reliable supply chains and opening new business opportunities. As demand for sustainable products grows, circular solutions answer both economic needs and environmental priorities.

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H&M and Coach are redefining business success with circular models

Mohammad Mithun

In the fashion industry, where decisions are often driven by revenue and sales, adopting circular business models can sometimes feel like an isolated sustainability effort. But brands like H&M and Coach are redefining success metrics to better integrate these models into their core business strategies. This shift not only supports sustainability but also strengthens competitiveness and resilience.

New Ways to Measure Success

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation's project, The Fashion ReModel, is helping major fashion brands explore how to scale circular business models effectively. The project involves both high-street and high-end brands, focusing on how these models can be economically viable and lead to long-term success.

One of the key takeaways from the project's first year is the importance of new success metrics. These metrics allow brands to quantify how circular models, like resale, rental, and repair, contribute to both financial growth and sustainability goals.

Revenue-Based Metrics for Circular Models

Traditionally, circular models were seen as side projects or niche initiatives. But now, brands like H&M are moving these models into the heart of their businesses. The company has made strides with resale models through Sellpy, Europe's largest secondhand platform. In 2024, resale sales made up 0.6% of H&M's total turnover—double the share from just two years earlier.

For H&M and other participants in The Fashion ReModel, establishing a clear revenue goal from circular business models is essential. This metric—percentage of total revenue from circular initiatives—helps align teams and demonstrate the tangible financial benefits of sustainability.

Customer-Centric Value in Circular Business Models

One challenge circular models face is that their profit margins can appear lower than traditional, linear models. To address this, The Fashion ReModel partnered with NYU Stern Center for Sustainable Business to uncover additional value beyond direct profit margins, such as enhanced customer loyalty and engagement.

Indorama Ventures recycles 150 billion PET bottles, advancing global sustainability efforts

Daniel Brown

Indorama Ventures, a global leader in sustainable chemicals, has just reached a major milestone: it has recycled over 150 billion post-consumer PET bottles since 2011. This achievement highlights the company's ongoing dedication to the circular economy and its strategic investments in recycling infrastructure worldwide.

With more than 20 recycling facilities spread across 11 countries, Indorama Ventures now recycles an impressive 789 PET bottles every second. The company converts used PET bottles into high-quality recycled PET (rPET) resins, which are used in a wide range of industries globally. These efforts help Indorama Ventures and its customers meet their sustainability goals.

Indorama's recycling journey has been marked by rapid growth. In 2020, the company reached its first major milestone: 50 billion bottles recycled. By 2023, it had doubled that figure, recycling 100 billion bottles in just three and a half years. Now, the company has hit 150 billion bottles, showing a clear trend of increasing demand for recycled materials and the company's ability to scale up recycling operations through infrastructure investment, strong partnerships, and innovation.

Yash Lohia, Executive President of Petchem and Chairman of the ESG Council at Indorama Ventures, reflected on the milestone: "Recycling 150 billion PET bottles is more than a milestone—it reflects the power of people, purpose, and technology driving scalable, sustainable impact. We're grateful to our consumers, customers, and partners who make this progress possible. This achievement reinforces the value of long-term thinking, strategic investment, and collaboration as we lead the shift toward a circular economy."

Dreamstime

The impact of this milestone goes beyond just recycling. By recycling 150 billion PET bottles, Indorama Ventures has prevented approximately 3.8 million tons of CO®emissions and diverted 2.8 million tons of plastic waste from landfills and the environment.

Indorama's approach to circularity is built on three key pillars: education, collection, and innovation. Through its Waste Hero program, the company has educated nearly 1 million people in schools and communities worldwide. This initiative aims to encourage informed recycling choices and foster long-term behavioral change as part of its goal to impact 2030 targets. By collaborating with a vast network of collection organizations, Indorama ensures a steady supply of high-quality post-consumer PET, strengthening circular supply chains. Alongside this, the company works with technology providers to implement advanced recycling solutions, improving efficiency and reducing environmental impact.

Andritz gets order for complete spunlace line in Algeria, start-up planned for late Q3 2026

Desk Report

Contract signature at Kherib familly's facility in Bejaia (Credit: ANDRITZ)

SNC Kherib et Cie. has awarded ANDRITZ a contract to supply a complete spunlace line for its plant in Bejaia City, Algeria. Start-up is slated for the end of Q3 2026. This will be the first ANDRITZ spunlace line installed on the African continent.

Here's what matters. The line will run both viscose and polyester fibers. That setup lets SNC Kherib produce high-quality spunlace roll goods for wet wipes, meeting growing demand from African consumers. The project is presented as a key step for the continent's spunlace industry and an opening for local converters to source closer to home.

The investment is family-led. Members of the Kherib family are directly involved, and the company is positioning itself as an early mover in bringing advanced spunlace technology to the region.

Farid Kherib, founder of SNC Kherib, said, "We are proud to collaborate with a global leader like ANDRITZ. This partnership highlights our commitment and passion for developing innovative solutions tailored to the specific needs of the African market using state-of-the-art equipment."

Financial terms are not disclosed. The order will be recorded in ANDRITZ's order intake for the first quarter of 2025.

About SNC Kherib. Based in the Bejaia area of Algeria, the family business works across several product lines, including nonwovens such as viscose and cotton cleaning cloths and polyester wadding for mattresses and pillows, as well as PVC cling film, PP woven bags, PVC doors, and sandwich panels.

ANDRITZ neXline spunlace line

Optimizing recycled cotton fibers for quality and consistency solutions

Robert Heymen

Uster AFIS Pro 2 machine and recycled fiber

The textile industry has made significant strides in adopting recycled fibers, which are no longer just a trend, they are a permanent part of the future. As sustainability becomes a top priority, the recycling of cotton fibers is gaining momentum. However, several challenges remain in ensuring the quality and consistency of recycled fibers. In this article, we explore these challenges, the importance of standardized testing, and how the Uster AFIS Pro 2 is helping overcome these obstacles with its comprehensive testing and quality control methods.

The Rise of Recycled Cotton Fibers

Globally, textile waste continues to increase. It's estimated that 100 million tons of textile waste are produced annually, but less than 0.5% of textile fibers come from recycled materials. This statistic underscores the urgency for the textile industry to innovate and find better ways to recycle fibers. As mechanical recycling processes are implemented on a larger scale, they are reshaping the future of cotton yarn production. Yet, these fibers often come with lower quality than virgin cotton, presenting unique challenges.

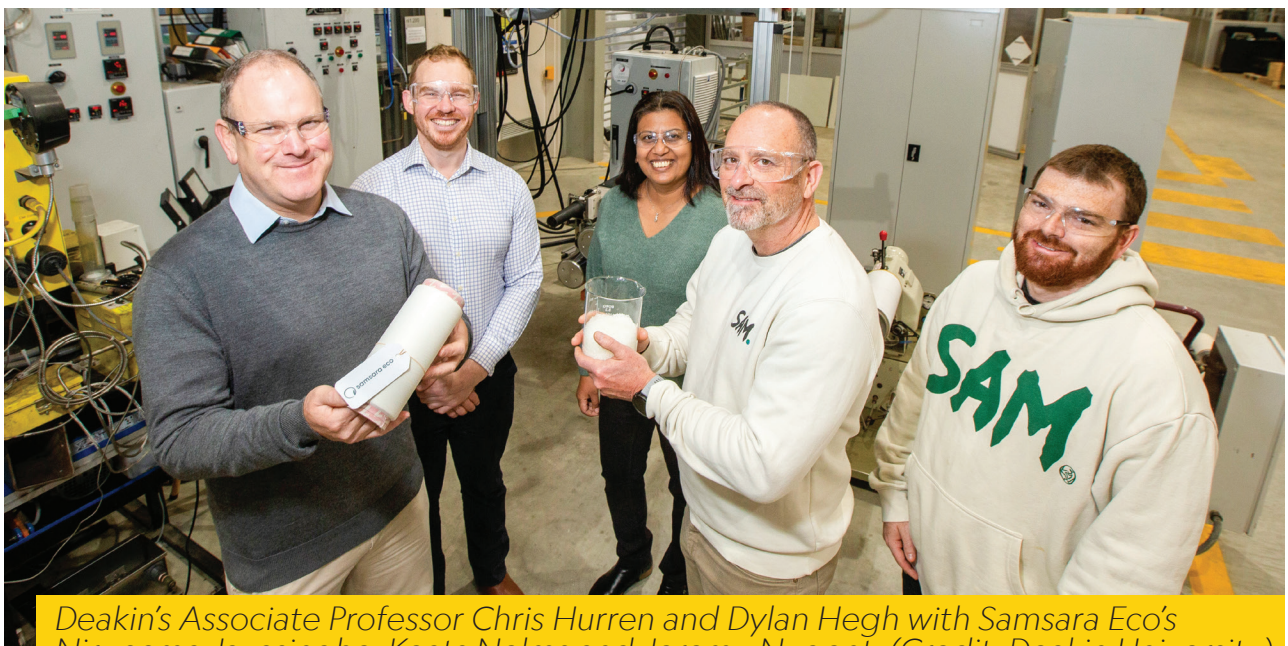
Challenges in Spinning Recycled Yarns

Challenge A: Spinning recycled yarns involves processing raw materials from various types of textile waste. The waste is often prepared in different ways, influencing the final material's properties. This inconsistency can affect the quality of the yarn, making it difficult to predict how the material will behave during spinning.

Read more

REACH, Samsara Eco partner to transform textile recycling with enzyme tech

Mohammad Mithun



Deakin's Associate Professor Chris Hurren and Dylan Hegh with Samsara Eco's Nirupama Jayasinghe, Keats Nelms and Jeremy Nugent. (Credit: Deakin University)

REACH has joined forces with Samsara Eco to accelerate the development of a world-first technology capable of recycling plastics and textiles that were once deemed unrecyclable, and could take centuries to break down in the environment.

Textile waste is one of the world's most pressing environmental issues, driven by fast fashion, overconsumption, and poor disposal practices. In Australia, synthetic fibres like nylon and polyester make up nearly 60% of the materials used in clothing. Yet, with less than 1% of discarded garments being recycled into new clothes, most of them end up in landfill or are incinerated, contributing to pollution and harmful emissions.

Samsara Eco's AI-designed enzymes can break down fossil-fuel-derived materials, such as nylon 6,6 and polyethylene terephthalate (PET), into their original building blocks or monomers. These monomers can then be used to create new products with the same high quality as virgin materials.

This collaboration will see Samsara Eco leverage Deakin University's expertise in advanced chemical analysis and polymer processing to address challenges posed by specific additives, such as dyes, finishes, and coatings found in textile waste. Understanding and finding solutions for these contaminants is key to unlocking effective recycling options.

The research team includes Deakin's Associate Professor Chris Hurren and Dylan Hegh, along with Samsara Eco's Nirupama Jayasinghe, Keats Nelms, and Jeremy Nugent.

Samsara Eco already has a 10-year agreement with global activewear brand lululemon, which will support around 20% of its fibre portfolio with Samsara's recycled materials. With its first commercial facility set to open in Jerrabomberra later this year, Samsara Eco's 2030 vision is to recycle half a billion clothing items and 10 billion plastic bottles annually, avoiding hundreds of thousands of tonnes of carbon emissions.

7th European recycling conference to address key challenges in the recycling industry

Robert Heymen

The 7th European Recycling Conference will be held on October 1, 2025, at the East Hotel Hamburg, Germany. The conference is poised to bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and stakeholders to discuss pressing issues in the recycling sector.

Event Overview

This year's conference will tackle a range of important topics, focusing on the challenges of preserving EU competitiveness and enhancing global trade for recycled materials, especially amid geopolitical uncertainties and energy disruptions. The event will feature keynote speeches, panel discussions, and networking opportunities, making it a crucial event for professionals in the recycling and circular economy sectors.

Keynote and Panels

The conference will kick off with opening remarks and a keynote address, setting the tone for the day's discussions. Among the notable speakers will be Jan Ceyssens, Deputy Head of Cabinet for European Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience, and Circular Economy, Prof. Dr. Frank Pothen from the University of Applied Sciences, and Emily Sanchez, Chief Economist of the Recycled Materials Association (ReMA).

Panel Discussions and Notable Guests:

1. Panel Discussion I: Building a Competitive Market for Recycled Materials

- Jan Ceyssens, Deputy Head of Cabinet for Jessika Roswall, European Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience & Circular Economy
- Prof. Dr. Frank Pothen, Professor of Economics, University of Applied Sciences, Jena, Germany
- Murat Bayram, President, Verband Deutscher Metallhändler und Recycler e.V. (VDM)
- Emily Sanchez, Chief Economist, Recycled Materials Association (ReMA)
- Olivier François, President of EuRIC

2. Panel Discussion II: Establishing an EU Single Market and Boosting Demand for Recycled Materials

- Matthias Harms, CEO of Veolia Germany
- Mariska Boer, Corporate Communications Executive, Boer Group
- Pär Larshans, Sustainability Director, Ragn-Sells
- Katharina Schlegel, Council Director for Circularity and End-of-Life, Plastics Europe
- Florian Flachenecker, Taskforce Leader Circular Economy Act, DG ENV, European Commission

3. Panel Discussion III: Enabling a Circular Automotive Future

- Poul Steen Rasmussen, CEO, Genan
- Marta Roche Diéz, Sustainability and Environmental Regulations Manager, CLEPA
- European Commission Representative (tbc)
- Tess Pozzi, Head of Public Affairs, Derichebourg Environnement
- Regina Kohlmeyer, Scientific Officer, German Environment Agency

Notable Guests and Attendees

Among the distinguished guests attending the event will be Olivier François, President of EuRIC, Murat Bayram, President of Verband Deutscher Metallhändler und Recycler e.V. (VDM), and Susie Burrage, President of the Bureau of International Recycling (BIR). Industry leaders and policymakers from across Europe will be in attendance, contributing to lively discussions and sharing insights into the future of recycling.

Rixo launches UK resale platform to promote circular fashion

Mathew Davis

British fashion label Rixo has officially launched Rixo Pre-Loved, a resale platform exclusively available to UK customers. This new initiative aligns with the company's commitment to creating timeless fashion pieces that can be cherished for years and passed down through generations. As co-founders Henrietta Rix and Orlagh McCloskey say, the platform is designed to help customers contribute to a more sustainable fashion industry by offering "future vintage."

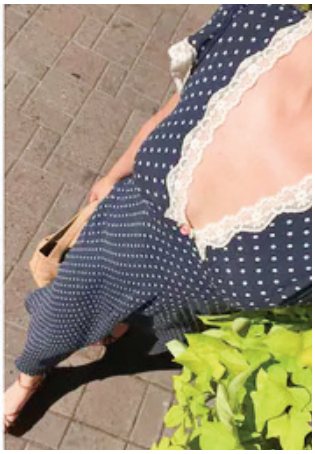
With Rixo Pre-Loved, customers can buy and sell Rixo items, including unique and rare finds from the founders' personal wardrobes. To sell, customers simply take photos of their Rixo pieces, answer a few questions, and submit them for review. Once approved, sellers receive a pre-paid shipping label and payment after the item is sold. Sellers have the option to receive either the resale value or 110% of the value in store credit to use towards new Rixo pieces.

This new platform reinforces Rixo's commitment to sustainability by promoting a circular fashion model that extends the life of its clothing. Customers can now participate in a resale ecosystem that reduces waste and keeps high-quality garments in circulation for longer periods.

Expansion and Growth: Rixo's Retail Strategy

The launch of Rixo Pre-Loved comes during a period of expansion for the London-based brand. Earlier this year, Rixo opened its first store in Ireland at Kildare Village, an upscale shopping destination. Last autumn, the brand also debuted its homeware collection, Casa Rixo, bringing its signature



aesthetic into home décor. Additionally, the company's New York City pop-up on Prince Street has transitioned into a permanent store due to the overwhelming positive response and strong sales, contributing to a 43% increase in direct sales in the US.


Financial Performance Amid Growth

While Rixo has seen a surge in brand awareness and customer engagement, its latest financial results reflect the costs of expansion. For the 2023/24 financial year, Rixo's revenue dipped slightly due to challenging market conditions and cautious consumer spending. Operating profit decreased to £303,000, down from £2.3 million the previous year, and net income fell to £251,000 from £1.8 million. The increase in administrative expenses—from £9.2 million to £11.2 million—was primarily due to investments in digital marketing and store openings.

Despite a dip in profits, Rixo's strategic focus on growth, both in physical retail and online, ensures that the brand is well-positioned for long-term success. Through Rixo Pre-Loved, the company is setting a strong example of how fashion brands can foster a circular economy while remaining true to their signature style.

Rixo's Impact on Sustainable Fashion

By launching its resale platform and expanding into new retail spaces, Rixo is leading the way in promoting sustainability in the fashion industry. The Rixo Pre-Loved platform allows customers to keep high-quality, timeless pieces in circulation, reducing waste and contributing to a more sustainable fashion ecosystem. As the company continues to evolve, its commitment to circular fashion and responsible business practices will likely inspire more brands to follow suit.


Textile fiber boost shares promising results from fiber booster technology

Mathew Davis

Fiber Booster Technology, Textile Fiber Boost's latest development, is showing promising results in early trials. The focus so far has been on polycotton (65% polyester, 35% cotton) and denim (100% cotton). Early tests suggest a clear improvement in fiber length and strength.

The technology uses a specialized pre-treatment process that prepares textiles before they go through mechanical recycling. This pre-treatment reduces fiber damage during the tearing stage, which is a common issue in traditional methods. As a result, the fibers produced are longer and stronger, making them much more suitable for creating high-quality yarns.

But it doesn't stop at better fiber quality. The process also increases fiber yield, allowing more of the original material to be reused. This combination of improved performance and higher recovery rates makes Fiber Booster Technology a key step in scaling up textile-to-textile recycling.

As the fashion and textile industries continue to look for sustainable solutions, this technology offers a practical way to reuse both blended and natural fibers. Textile Fiber Boost is playing a crucial role in advancing the circular economy by making textile recycling more efficient and effective.

Nicodemus Sherwood appointed as Vice President of Sales Americas

Desk Report

Nicodemus Sherwood has been appointed as the new Vice President of Sales Americas at TOMRA. With extensive experience in the recycling industry, including roles in sales, project management, and operations, Nicodemus is set to lead the company's Americas business and guide the expansion of the Charlotte headquarters, where he will also serve as Managing Director.

His in-depth knowledge of the recycling market and his dedication to customer success will play a key role in supporting the company's mission to provide high-performance sorting solutions across the region.

In his new role, Nicodemus shared, "It's an honor to lead our dedicated teams in the Americas, as we partner with our customers to provide solutions delivering optimal performance to achieve their commercial objectives and improve operational profitability."

This appointment reflects the company's commitment to strengthening its presence and impact in the Americas.

Textile recycling in Denmark
Challenges, progress, and future opportunities

Daniel Brown

A recent study by NewRetex A/S claims that only 2% of Danish textiles are suitable for high-quality recycling. This startling statistic sheds light on the current challenges in the textile recycling industry. Despite the growing interest in this field, the complexity of textile waste and the limitations of recycling technology create a significant hurdle.

Textile recycling is a key area of research for many universities and research institutions, who are digging into the intricate problems facing the industry. These challenges range from the material composition of textiles to the limitations of existing recycling methods. But the landscape is changing fast. As consumer expectations grow and new technologies emerge, the potential for improving recycling rates increases.

NewRetex plays a major role in addressing these issues. The company handles more than a quarter of all textile waste collected from Danish municipalities, covering regions across the entire country. This large-scale operation provides them with valuable data on textile waste, giving them a unique perspective on what can and cannot be recycled. According to their findings, 45% of the textiles they receive are suitable for recycling. Brands like ID® IDENTITY, Superstainable, and liiteGuard already use fibers recycled by NewRetex in their collections.

One common misconception in the industry is the idea of "high-quality recycling." The term often implies that materials that aren't suitable for fiber-to-fiber recycling end up as lower-quality products, a process sometimes referred to as down-cycling. But NewRetex takes a different approach. They argue that not all textiles are eligible for fiber-to-fiber recycling, especially because many are made from multi-fiber blends. While this makes recycling more complicated, it doesn't necessarily mean the recycled material is of poor quality.

In fact, NewRetex has found that some of their highest quality recycled fibers come from dual-blend materials—further proving that the recycling process doesn't always determine the final product's quality. What matters most is the performance and durability of the recycled products, which must meet the same standards as those made from virgin materials.

Loom turns unsellable Oxfam donations into upcycled patchwork bags

Mathew Davis

Every year, charity shops like Oxfam receive a huge volume of donated clothing, shoes, and accessories. While well-intentioned, many of these items never reach store shelves. In fact, only 10% to 30% of donated fashion items are actually sold in-store. The rest are either passed along, sold overseas, or end up unused. Now, upcycling app Loom is teaming up with Oxfam to change that—one bag at a time.

Loom and Oxfam Launch Sustainable Upcycled Bag Collection

Loom has launched a limited-edition collection of upcycled patchwork bags made entirely from unwearable or damaged clothing donated to Oxfam. These bags are crafted from materials like old denim, curtain fabric, and other discarded textiles, and each design is one-of-a-kind. Thoughtful details such as original pockets, buttonholes, and cuffs are preserved to tell the story of each piece.

"We're excited to collaborate with Oxfam on this project," said Daisy Harvey, founder of Loom. "This collection isn't just about fashion—it's about sustainable upcycling that's both practical and commercially viable."

Limited Drop, Unique Designs

Only 200 bags are available in this first release, with prices ranging from £40 to £50. Each bag features a QR code that links to the full story of how it was made, including the process of upcycling and the teams behind the collaboration. These bags don't just extend the life of unwanted clothes—they also raise money for Oxfam's global mission. "This is a perfect way to turn unwearable items into something beautiful and useful," said Penny Walker, Oxfam's Head of UK Warehousing & Logistics. "All proceeds from these bags help fund projects fighting poverty and inequality around the world."

A New Approach to Fashion Waste

This collaboration highlights a growing demand for sustainable fashion and textile waste reduction. By working with existing clothing donations, Loom and Oxfam are showing how upcycling can be a real, scalable solution. While this is just a trial, there are plans for more product drops and collaborations in the future. With growing interest in eco-friendly fashion alternatives, this upcycled bag collection is a small but powerful example of circular design in action.

Giorgio Armani dies at 91, master of Italian elegance

Mohammad Mithun

Giorgio Armani, the Italian fashion designer whose name became a global symbol of style and sophistication, has died at the age of 91. Armani was often described as the face of Italian elegance. He reshaped the way men and women dressed, giving classic suits a softer, modern look that appealed to generations. From a small luxury label launched in 1975 with his late partner Sergio Galeotti, Armani grew his business into an empire. Today it spans fashion, beauty, fragrance, music, sport, and even luxury hotels, with annual revenues topping £2 billion.

His company said in a statement that Armani "worked until his final days, dedicating himself to the company, the collections and the many ongoing future projects." It described him as "indefatigable to the end," guided by "relentless curiosity and a deep attention to the present and to people."

Donatella Versace posted a tribute on Instagram, writing, "The world lost a giant today, he made history and will be remembered forever." British designer Paul Smith called Armani a "dear friend and fellow designer," praising his independence and "staying power in remaining as an unlisted, independent company."

Hollywood also remembered him. Russell Crowe, who wore Armani for many red-carpet events, said the designer was part of "so many significant moments" in his life. Julia Roberts shared a picture of them together, writing, "A true friend. A legend."

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni honored Armani as "an icon, a tireless worker, a symbol of the best of Italy," thanking him for bringing "lustre to Italian fashion and inspiring the entire world."

Armani's influence went far beyond the runway. He helped shape modern red-carpet fashion, dressing stars like Zendaya, Cate Blanchett, Julia Roberts, and Lady Gaga. He designed costumes for films such as American Gigolo and The Wolf of Wall Street.

In 2006, after the death of model Ana Carolina Reston from anorexia nervosa, he became the first designer to ban underweight models from his shows. His decision was seen as a turning point in how fashion addressed body image.

Vogue's Laura Ingham called him a "true gentleman" and "titan of the industry," adding that "if you don't know anything about fashion, you'll still know Giorgio Armani."

Armani was born in 1934 and originally studied medicine before moving into fashion in the 1960s. His style became known for clean lines, refined silhouettes, and immaculate tailoring. Despite controversy at times—including criticism for remarks in 2015 about gay men and a 2014 financial settlement with Italian tax authorities—he remained one of the most respected names in global fashion.

Away from the catwalks, Armani was deeply involved in sport. He supported Inter Milan football club

and owned the Olimpia Milano basketball team. He also partnered with Ferrari's Formula 1 team. Driver Charles Leclerc said it was "a great honour to have had the chance to meet and work with such an amazing person."

Even in his 90s, Armani continued to design. His March 2025 show addressed global politics, with the designer saying he wanted to "imagine new harmony." Though his health raised concerns earlier this year when he missed Milan fashion week, he still directed his couture show in Paris remotely from Milan in July.

Armani received both the French Legion of Honour and the Italian Order of Merit for Labour during his career. His influence stretched far beyond fashion, shaping culture and red-carpet style for decades.

As Paul Smith put it, his "strength and creativity" inspired countless designers. And as many of those he dressed for film premieres and award shows made clear, Giorgio Armani was not only a fashion legend but also a trusted friend.

His legacy—timeless, elegant, and unmistakably Italian—will live on.

Matterr announces partnership with BESTSELLER to advance polyester recycling

Desk Report

matterr has announced a new partnership with BESTSELLER, joined through their investment platform, Invest FWD. This collaboration supports a shared goal: to make polyester a sustainable, endlessly reusable resource.

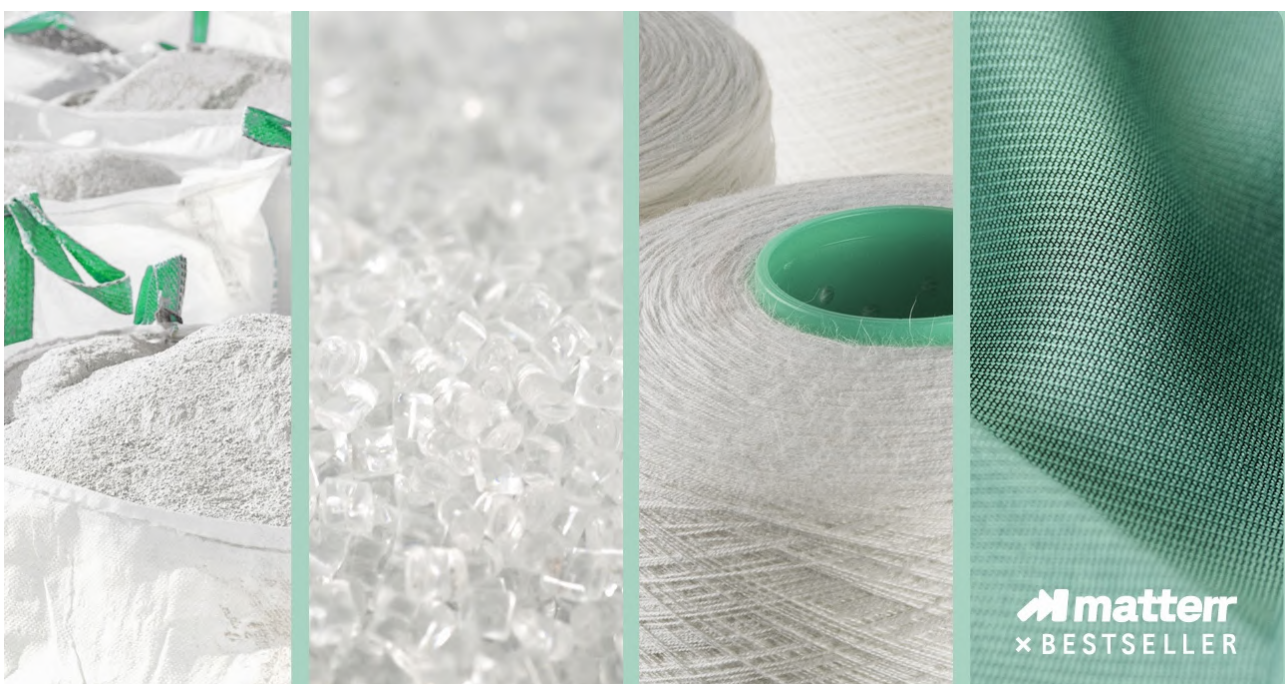
At matterr, the team has developed a chemical process that breaks down polyester (PET) from textiles and packaging waste, even when blended and tough to recycle, back into materials matching virgin quality. This process uses no solvents, consumes less energy than traditional methods, and has been designed to scale up efficiently for industrial use—all with a focus on practicality and cost-effectiveness.

With backing from the EU and new investment from BESTSELLER, matterr is preparing to build a small industrial plant in Germany. This facility will mark an important step toward making recycled polyester solutions available at a commercial scale.

> *"Scaling breakthrough technologies requires strong and pragmatic partners. With BESTSELLER, we share not only mindset and values, but also the belief that drop-in ready, scalable and eco nomically viable solutions are the business models of the future. This partnership accelerates our mission to make polyester a resource that can be recycled repeatedly"*
>
> **Melanie Hackler,**
> Chief Executive Officer, matterr

Both matterr and BESTSELLER believe that solutions ready to integrate smoothly into existing production, viable economically, and scalable in size are essential for reducing carbon emissions in the polyester supply chain. BESTSELLER stands out as a partner committed to this realistic and impact-driven vision of expanding recycled materials.

The new partnership highlights a shared commitment to pushing forward with technologies and investments that make polyester recycling an industrial reality.



France allocates $49 million to strengthen textile recycling infrastructure

Mathew Devis

France has announced a €49 million investment to stabilize its national textile recycling system, addressing increasing concerns in the sector about the sustainability of textile waste management. The funding, scheduled for 2025, is part of the government's effort to strengthen the country's recycling network, which has faced mounting pressure in recent years. An additional €57 million is set aside for 2026 to further bolster the system.

The announcement follows protests by Le Relais, a prominent recycling organization in France, which has raised alarms over the inadequate financial support for recycling operations. Le Relais recently staged a protest by dumping 12 tons of clothing outside a Kiabi store in Arras, demanding improved economic conditions for the recycling sector. The protests highlighted the growing crisis within the industry, particularly concerning the fees paid by manufacturers and distributors under the "polluter pays" principle.

Currently, the sector receives €156 per ton of textile waste managed through Refashion, the organization responsible for overseeing the fees. Le Relais has called for an increase in this contribution to €304 per ton to ensure the financial sustainability of the recycling system. In response, the French government has committed to increasing this contribution to €223 per ton in 2025 and €228 per ton in 2026.

France's textile recycling system collects about 270,000 tons of textile waste annually, with around 60% of this waste being resold as second-hand clothing. A significant portion of these textiles, about 90%, is exported to markets in Africa. However, the sector has been destabilized by a drop in international prices for used textiles, particularly in African markets. Demand for used clothing from Africa is now shifting toward cheaper garments from Asia, resulting in a decline in the resale value of second-hand clothing and the closure of many traditional clothing collection points in France.

The French government's initiative aims to address these challenges and ensure the continued success of the country's circular economy model. Despite the recent setbacks, France remains one of Europe's leaders in textile recycling and is taking steps to protect this vital industry while promoting other environmental initiatives, including a law targeting ultra-fast fashion.

Turning plastic waste into fuel through pyrolysis

Plastic Energy has reached a new milestone with the production of its first batch of pyrolysis oil, branded as TACOIL, from mixed post-consumer plastic waste at its Geleen facility in the Netherlands. This marks an important step in Europe's move toward chemical recycling and more sustainable packaging.

Faysal Ahmmed

Turning waste into value

The company's process focuses on plastics that are difficult to recycle through traditional methods. These materials are converted into TACOIL, which can then be used as a feedstock for high-value applications such as food-grade packaging and medical plastics. Unlike mechanical recycling, which often struggles with contamination and degradation, pyrolysis can handle complex waste streams at scale.

Some key points stand out:

- Less than 30% of Europe's 32 million tonnes of plastic waste is currently recycled.
- The SPEAR facility, developed with SABIC, is expected to recycle 20,000 tonnes of plastic annually once fully operational.
- TACOIL provides a direct alternative to fossil-based naphtha, making it possible to produce truly circular polymers.

Integration with petrochemical infrastructure

What makes this development notable is its integration into an existing petrochemical facility. This is the first setup of its kind in Europe, and it enables the use of circular feedstocks without requiring separate infrastructure. The approach supports the EU's 2030 target for fully recyclable packaging.

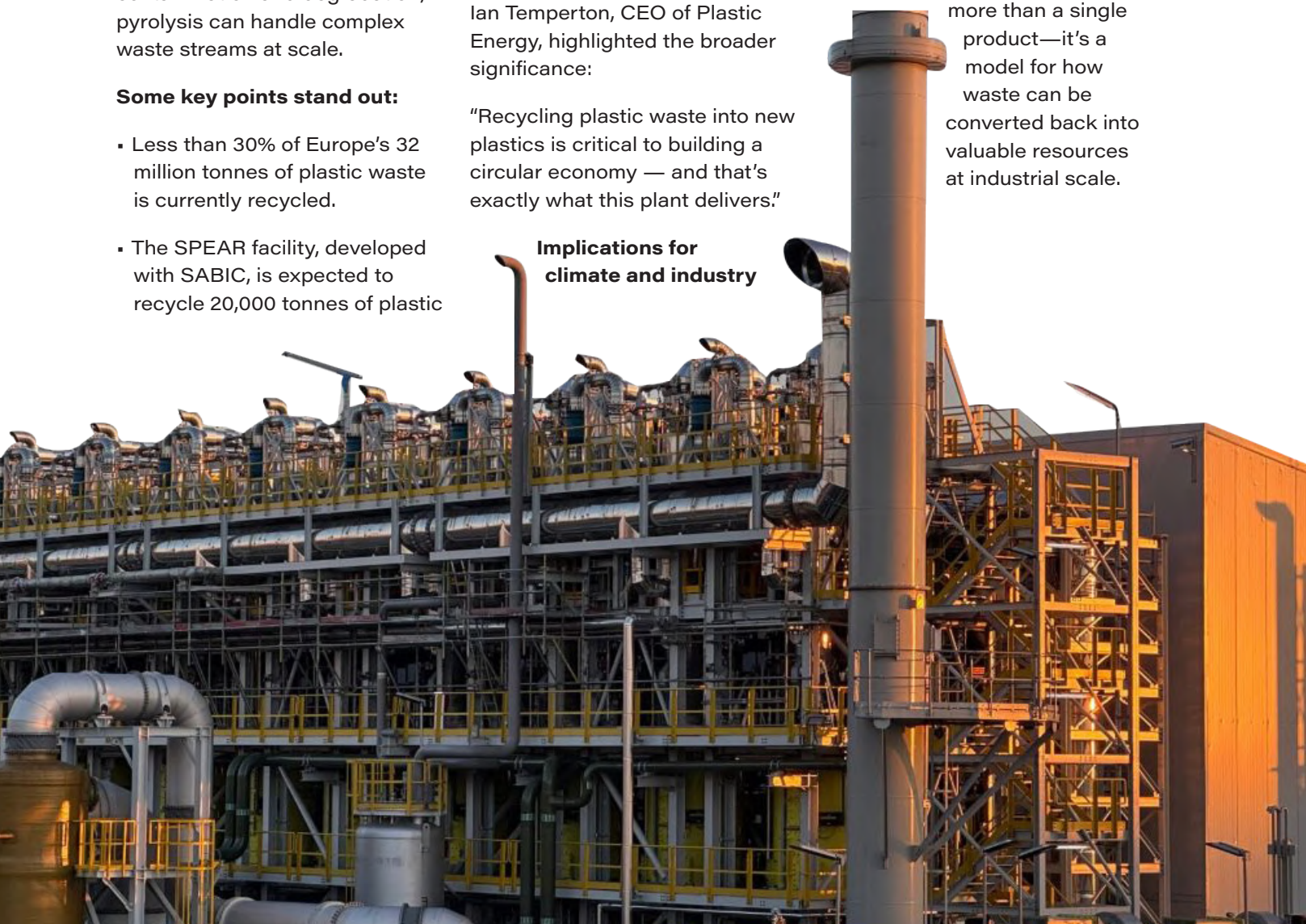
Ian Temperton, CEO of Plastic Energy, highlighted the broader significance:

"Recycling plastic waste into new plastics is critical to building a circular economy — and that's exactly what this plant delivers."

Implications for climate and industry

The success of this project shows how chemical recycling can be brought into mainstream production. It reduces the reliance on virgin fossil resources, lowers carbon emissions, and helps meet tightening regulatory goals. For industry, it also proves that complex plastic waste can be turned into materials that meet the highest safety and quality standards.

As Europe pushes ahead with the Green Deal and its circular economy plans, projects like this provide a clear example of how scaling chemical recycling can make a real difference. TACOIL is more than a single product—it's a model for how waste can be converted back into valuable resources at industrial scale.



Brazil welcomes global cotton leaders to showcase sustainability, quality, and traceability

A Peter Tessa

Brazil welcomed a delegation of textile industry leaders from six of the world's largest cotton-importing nations—Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, India, Turkey, and Vietnam—from August 3rd to 9th. The visit was organized by Cotton Brazil, in partnership with local producers, exporters, and government agencies, and aimed to showcase the country's cotton industry, with a focus on sustainability, quality, and transparency.

During the week-long tour, delegates explored various aspects of Brazil's cotton production, visiting farms, ginning facilities, laboratories, and the Brazilian Cotton Analysis Reference Center. Stops included the Federal District and key cotton-producing states such as Mato Grosso, Bahia, and Goiás.

Sustainability and Traceability Take Center Stage

At the heart of the visit were Brazil's core values of sustainability, quality, and traceability. The country's cotton producers follow strict standards through programs like ABR (Responsible Brazilian Cotton), ensuring environmental and social responsibility throughout the production process.

Brazilian cotton is known for its superior quality, particularly its fiber strength and consistency. This reputation is supported by advanced classing and ginning technologies that maintain high standards of production.

Traceability also plays a significant role in Brazil's cotton industry. Each cotton bale is assigned a unique 20-digit code, offering transparency from the farm to export. This system is fully accessible online and will soon be available through a mobile app, giving buyers real-time insights into where and how their cotton is grown.

Industry Leaders Share Insights

Delegates from various countries shared their thoughts on the experience. Vikram Narayen from India highlighted the value of learning about Brazil's sustainability initiatives and traceability system. "The best thing out of this trip is that we got to know about Brazil and mainly the sustainability activities, traceability, and the huge agriculture network," he said.

Labelexpo Europe 2025 arrives in Barcelona this September

Mathew Davis

Labelexpo Europe 2025, the largest trade fair for the label and package printing sector, will take place at Fira Barcelona Gran Via from September 16 to 19, 2025.Organisers say booth space has grown 15 percent compared to the 2023 edition, with over 650 exhibitors expected to attend. More than 35,000 visitors from over 130 countries typically attend this event.

LABELEXPO EUROPE 2025

Labelexpo Europe 2023

A New Venue for Growth

The move from Brussels was driven by venue limitations and demand for more advanced infrastructure. According to Tarsus Group, Barcelona's Fira Gran Via offers larger halls, improved visitor flow, high-capacity Wi-Fi capable of over 128,000 concurrent users, extensive catering, solar-power generation, and better support for technical exhibitions.

City officials welcomed the event. Matthias Cardinotti from BOBST said this move "reinforces [Labelexpo's] positioning as the place to be" and underlined the show's legacy since its Brussels tenure.

Sustainability Takes Center Stage

FINAT, the European federation for self-adhesive labels, noted that sustainability would be integrated deeply into this edition. A Pulse Arena in Hall 7 (Stand 7B27) will host daily presentations on new EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), flexible packaging, AI, and automation.

Planners highlight the show's live demonstration areas and topical programming that address pressing environmental regulations and industry-scale automation.

Paris fashion week spring/summer 2026 schedule announced

Desk Report

Paris Fashion Week is set to return with a packed schedule for its spring/summer 2026 season. The Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode (FHCM) released the provisional lineup on Thursday, detailing 76 shows and 36 presentations from 29 September to 7 October.

Among the exciting newcomers is Belgian designer Julie Kegels, as well as the avant-garde label Matières Fécales and the eponymous brand from Meryll Rogge, the new creative director of Marni. The presentations program also introduces Belgian brand Façon Jacmin and Danish brand Ganni, which made its Paris debut in September 2024, though previously outside the official calendar.

This season marks the return of several major fashion houses, many under new creative direction. Jean Paul Gaultier, led by Duran Lantink, Carven with Mark Thomas, Mugler with Miguel Castro Freitas, Loewe with the duo of Jack McCollough and Lazaro Hernandez, and Maison Margiela, debuting its first ready-to-wear collection with Glenn Martens at the helm, are all part of the comeback. Celine, Vêtements, Agnès b., Thom Browne, and Lanvin are also returning to the lineup.

One of the most highly anticipated events is Chanel's show on 6 October at 8 p.m. GMT, where Matthieu Blazy will unveil his first collection as creative director. Blazy, who previously led Bottega Veneta, takes the reins at the French fashion giant. Pierpaolo Piccioli's debut collection for Balenciaga is also expected to be a major highlight.

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