

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**ITMA 2015 chalks up new milestone with biggest participation in 64 years**

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**Milan exhibition attracts 1,691 exhibitors; 20 per cent larger than 2011 exhibition**

12 November 2015 – ITMA 2015 has achieved a new milestone, attracting the biggest number of exhibitors since the show's launch way back in 1951. Opening at the Fiera Milano Rho today, the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of ITMA has 1,691 exhibitors from 46 countries and economies. The previous record was set by ITMA 2007 when 1,451 exhibitors from 38 countries took part in the exhibition.

Mr Charles Beauduin, President of the European Committee of Textile Machinery Manufacturers (CEMATEX) which owns the ITMA series, said, "ITMA has a very strong reputation as the world's most established textile and garment technology exhibition. We are grateful to our exhibitors and industry partners who have put their faith in the ITMA brand. The key to ITMA's success is its ability to reinvent itself and remain relevant to the industry that it serves."

ITMA 2015 also features a larger exhibition, with net exhibit space of over 108,000 square metres, occupying 11 halls of the Fiera Milano Rho fairgrounds. It is about 20 per cent larger than the 2011 exhibition.

As in previous years, exhibitors from CEMATEX countries occupy the largest space. They booked 73,830 square metres, or 69 per cent of the total net exhibit space. This is an 18 per cent increase from the 2011 figure.

The largest participating country in terms of space booked is Italy. Italian exhibitors booked a total of 32,540 square metres. This is followed by Germany at 21,380 square metres, Switzerland at 5,530 square metres, and Spain with 4,540 square metres.

From non-CEMATEX countries, the four largest groups of participants are from Turkey at 7,590 square metres, China at 5,880 square metres, India at 4,870 square metres, and Japan at 3,960 square metres.

The countries fielding the largest contingent of exhibitors at ITMA 2015 are Italy (453 exhibitors), Germany (238 exhibitors), China (184 exhibitors) and India (158 exhibitors).

ITMA 2015 features exhibits clustered into 19 chapters. The sectors range from spinning, web formation, winding and texturing, weaving, knitting and hosiery, embroidery and braiding, finishing, dyestuffs and chemicals, software, logistics, plant operations, recycling and education to garment making and textile processing, printing and fibre and yarn.

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The top five sectors are:

- dyeing and finishing which occupies 23 per cent of the space, with 303 exhibitors
- spinning, 14 per cent of the space, 290 exhibitors
- weaving, 12 per cent of the space, 179 exhibitors
- knitting and hosiery, 13 per cent of the space, 128 exhibitors
- printing, 10 per cent of the space, 113 exhibitors

### **Focus on industry sustainability**

The theme of ITMA 2015 is 'Master the Art of Sustainable Innovation'. The exhibition is not only a mega technology showcase; it also features initiatives underpinning the focus on sustainability.

Among the efforts is the launch of the ITMA Sustainable Innovation Award, the rebranding of the Research and Education Pavilion to Research and Innovation Pavilion, and many knowledge-sharing platforms to drive home the sustainability message.

CEMATEX continues to support research and educational institutes with a grant for the participation in the Research and Innovation Pavilion. The pavilion has 40 participating institutions. Taking centre-stage at the pavilion is the Speakers Platform which will be held from 15 to 17 November. A total of 43 papers on the theme of sustainable innovations, achievements in innovation and technical textiles applications, will be presented at the platform.

A series of complementary events have been organised to meet the needs of textile and garment industry professionals. These key events include:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> World Textile Summit
- Nonwovens Forum
- Textile Colourant and Chemical Leaders Forum
- 2BFUNTEX Final Conference
- Better Cotton Initiative's Responsible Sourcing Seminar
- Digital Textile Conference
- EURATEX Convention
- Sistema Moda Italia Presentation

The ITMA Sustainable Innovation Award is a new initiative by CEMATEX to honour those who have made pioneering efforts to promote industry sustainability. Three of the finalists are vying for the ITMA Industry Excellence Award while another three are competing for the ITMA Research and Innovation (R&I) Excellence Award. The results will be announced at the ITMA gala dinner.

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Visitors may purchase their badge online to avoid the long queues at the registration areas. The rates are 90 euros for an 8-day badge and 50 euros for a 1-day badge. Onsite rates are 120 euros for an 8-day badge and 80 euros for a 1-day badge.

Organised by MP Expositions, ITMA 2015 is expected to draw visitors from over 130 countries. It is held from 12 to 19 November at the Fiera Milano Rho. Opening hours are from 1000 hours to 1900 hours.

Milan also hosted the ITMA exhibition in 1959, 1975, 1983 and 1995. The next ITMA will be held in Barcelona at Fira de Barcelona Gran Via venue from 20 to 26 June 2019. For more information on ITMA, please visit [www.itma.com](http://www.itma.com).

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#### **About CEMATEX & ITMA**

The European Committee of Textile Machinery Manufacturers (CEMATEX) comprises national textile machinery associations from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. It is the owner of ITMA and ITMA ASIA. Considered the 'Olympics' of textile machinery exhibitions, ITMA has a 64-year history of displaying the latest in machinery and software for every single work process of textile making. It is held every four years in Europe.

#### **About MP Expositions**

MP Expositions is a subsidiary of MP International Pte Ltd, a professional exhibition and conference organiser. Established in Singapore in 1987, MP has organised and managed over 2000 major national, regional and international events, including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2009 Leaders' Week. It is the organiser of ITMA 2011 and 2015, and ITMA ASIA 2001 and 2005. It is also co-organiser of the ITMA ASIA+CITME shows in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. A member of the Pico group, MP International is headquartered in Singapore with a global footprint across Asia and Europe. MP's success with various partners is a testimony of its ability to identify opportunities and maximise the rewards for win-win partnerships.

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