

## 3<sup>rd</sup> International Technical Textile conference, Karachi.

Textile Institute of Pakistan organised the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Technical Textiles Conference at the Karachi Expo Centre concurrent with Megatech Exhibition organised by Pegasus Consultancy Pvt Ltd. The main object was to highlight the latest developments in technical and functional textiles and disseminate relevant information to Pakistan's textile industry so that the textile mills can diversify their respective production pattern in order to face intense global competition, maintain sustainable growth, exports and continue to make major contribution to the economy of Pakistan. The following report is compiled by Dr. Hafeezur Rehman Sheikh, Prof. Textile Institute of Pakistan and Honorary Editor, Pakistan Textile Journal.



Mr. A. Majeed, Chairman, Associated Textile Consultants (ATC).

**Mr. Abdul Majeed, Chairman ATC and Member Board of TIP** started the proceedings of the conference by welcoming the Chief Guest Mr. Waqar Masood Khan Federal Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Mr. Arif Hasan, Chancellor TIP and all participants of the conference.

Mr. Abdul Majeed appreciated the role of Dr. Zubair Bandukda, Dr. Tahir Shah in planning, organising and Mr. Aasim A. Siddiqui, Chairman Pegasus Consultancy for providing financial support.

Mr. Abdul Majeed also announced that the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference is expected to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2011. The theme of the conference will be "Natural Fibres and Applications in Technical Textiles."

**Chairperson, TIP Mr. Arif Hasan**, in his remarks mentioned that the Research



work by the Institutes /universities must correspond with the requirements of the stake holders and end-Users. A very important aspect of any vision is the constraints and development of strategy to remove the constraints.

**Mr. Waqar Masood Khan, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Textiles** in his address appreciated organising a conference on the timely and important topic of Technical Textiles. He mentioned that high

quality of research work is being carried out on new technologies in this high growth area. Global trade in Technical Textiles has increased from 75 billion dollars in 2006 to 130 billion dollars in 2010. Pakistan is a Textile producing country yet we have not yet progressed in Technical Textiles, due to our dependence on cotton.

According to Mr. Waqar Masood Khan, Technical Textiles is a prominent area in the Textile Policy of the GoP. Centres of Excellence will be established in Technical Textiles and research work will be supported by the Government of Pakistan.

**Chairperson, Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmed Akhtar Rector, National Textile University, Faisalabad**, congratulated the Textile Institute of Pakistan (TIP) and Pegasus Consultancy for organising the conference and introduced the speakers Viz Dr. Tahir Shah, Dr. Zubair Bandukda and Mr. Muhammed Kamran Iqbal.

**Mr. Zafar Mehmood, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Commerce**, in his address mentioned that the economy of Pakistan relies heavily on the textile industry which has not so far changed from the production of conventional to non-woven technical textiles!

Mr Mehmood emphasised that TIP, NTU and other textile institutes and universities must offer modern education programs according to the requirements of the Textiles Industry. Mr. Zafar Mehmood congratulated all speakers and expected that the outcome of the conference will be available in the form of recommendations and 'Road Map' for appropriate action to be taken by the Government of Pakistan for its implementation.

### Sponsors of the Conference

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ATC: Associated Textile Consultants. ♦

Speakers	Presentations
Dr. Tahir Shah from University of Bolton, UK	Technical Textiles: Current Global trends and prospects in Pakistan
Muhammad Kamran Iqbal, Senior Research Assistant, Textile Research and Innovation Centre (TRIC), Textile Institute of Pakistan	Prospects of medical textiles in Pakistan: a case study
Professor Stephen J. Russell, Director, Nonwovens Research Group, University of Leeds	Role Of Nonwoven Materials In Combating Nosocomial Infections. The paper was presented by Dr. Tahir Shah..
Dr. Zubair Bandukda, Textile Consultant and Educationist from U.K, former President of the Textile Institute of Pakistan (TIP)	Research by Entell Fibres on Electronic Yarn Application for Medical Textiles.
Prof. S Anbhan Ariadurai, Textile Research & Innovation Centre, Textile Institute of Pakistan	"Geo-Textiles in Pakistan – The way forward".
Mr. Nadeem Shukat, Assistant Professor at Fabric Manufacturing Department, National Textile University, Faisalabad	"Electro –Spinning for Technical Textiles Special Application to Medical Textiles".
Syeda Madiha Zaidi, Assistant Professor at Department of Urban and Infrastructure Engineering, NED University of Engineering and Technology	"Benefits of Geo-Textiles Reinforcement in Soft Soils"
Ms. Syeda Faiza Jamil, Research Assistant at Textile Research and Innovation Centre, Textile Institute of Pakistan	"Geo-Fabrics for Roads".