

## Ultem\* PEI Fiber debuts in Japan for work wear apparel



Japan Wool Textile Company's New Work Wear Line is made using SABIC Innovative Plastics Ultem Polyetherimide Fiber.

SABIC Innovative Plastics announced that its versatile, high-performance Ultem polyetherimide (PEI) fiber has found an important new application in high-end work wear and protective clothing. Japan Wool Textile Company, a division of NIKKE Group,

is now blending Ultem fiber with wool and other materials to produce yarn, fabrics and garments that offer a unique combination of comfort and protection, including permanent, non-halogenated flame retardance (FR) and excellent ultraviolet (UV) resistance. Unlike traditional aramid materials, Ultem fiber can be easily and cost-effectively colored in a wide range of shades using conventional polyester dyeing processes, enabling Japan Wool Textile Company to enhance the aesthetic appeal of its new line.

Japan Wool Textile currently offers shirts, trousers, jackets and coveralls in an Ultem fiber-rich blend, as well as yarn and woven fabrics.

### ***Tough on Protection, Easy on the Worker***

Ultem fiber is soft and flexible for improved wearability, and can be dyed in many different colors using existing infrastructure, helping to drive down system costs. It resists degradation from UV light, making the material a potential candidate for outdoor wear.

Ultem fiber is inherently and permanently flame retardant. It utilizes proprietary technology that avoids the addition of environmentally hazardous halogens and cannot wash out of the garment, as many FR agents in low-end fabrics can.

This material offers excellent heat resistance meeting the European Union (EU) EN 531/ISO 11612 and U.S. National Fire and Protection Association (NFPA) 2112 standards, and provides low smoke and toxicity performance.

[www.sabic-ip.com](http://www.sabic-ip.com).

## Thies: New hank dyeing unit for speciality high end yarns

The new hankMaster yarn dyeing machine offers reduced water and low energy consumption plus flexible loading for specialized and 'high end' yarns in hank form providing optimal treatment and ease of handling.

The new hankMaster hank dyeing unit from Thies Textilmaschinen completes the company's range of yarn dyeing machines. It has been designed specifically for speciality and 'high end' yarns in hank form.

Its uniquely designed liquor flow ensures perfect dyeing for a wide range of hanked yarns including wool, soft and mercerized cotton, and fibres such as viscose, polyamide, silk and high bulk acrylics.

The hankMaster is designed to dye at temperatures of up to 98°C at a starting liquor ratio as low as 1:5 depending on the loading and yarn capacity.

In order to avoid high spots and lustre marks, the hanks are rotated on specially designed rods, each 960 mm long.

The unit can be supplied with 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 rods each capable of holding a maximum of 10 kg of yarn subject to the volume and type of material.

The maximum hank length is 950 mm. For larger batch size machines, a series of units can be coupled together.

The hankMaster is manufactured in stainless steel and also features a centrifugal circulation pump and a cartridge heat exchanger.

A modern industrial pc system controls and monitors the dyeing and finishing processes at all times.

Fully automatic dosing of dyes and chemicals using pre-programmed times and curves is also available with analogue dosing.



HankMaster hank dyeing unit is designed for speciality and 'high end' yarns in hank form.

## US-Patent granted on DSM Dyneema Tape Technology

DSM has announced that it has been granted a US patent for its tape technology. The US Patent and Trademark office officially granted the patent in August 2011. It protects DSM Dyneema's tape technology. One of the products from this technology recently introduced into the market is BT10, marketed under the Dyneema® brand. This product, as well as future developments building on this patent, are expected to make a significant contribution to life protection, radome and other applications world-wide.

BT10 from DSM Dyneema is the first in a new ballistic tape technology platform offering equal ballistic performance at lower weight and competitive cost levels when compared to many aramid based armor systems.

According to Robert Smulders, DSM Dyneema, Vice President Life Protection: "We have high expectations for this new innovation in Life Protection areas and beyond. We expect more grants for the IP estate protecting this innovative technology platform, not only in the USA but also in other key markets. We see patents as a powerful tool for sustainable growth and competitive advantage for DSM Dyneema's business and that of its customers."

Delivering innovative high performance solutions to key partners and markets is one of the cornerstones of DSM Dyneema's innovation strategy. It underlines the company's commitment to its corporate "People, Planet, Profit" sustainability initiative by delivering increased safety to users, long-term added value to manufacturers and ongoing business opportunities for DSM and its partners.

Robert Smulders: "As an Intellectual Asset pioneer, DSM Dyneema remains committed to offer a valuable mix of Intellectual asset protection such as patents, know-how, service and innovation for our partners. DSM's patent portfolio related to UHMWPE fiber, technology and applications currently consists of over 150 inventions protected by over 600 filed patents and patent applications world-wide, and is expanding all the time. At any given time, DSM Dyneema is likely to have between 10 and 20 new patent filings ongoing. This confirms our continuous commitment to innovation and demonstrates our ability to find innovative solutions for the changing needs in the markets we serve." ♦

### Textile Institute: Design Means Business 2011

The recent Design Means Business exhibition moved to a new venue, Durbar Court which forms part of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where design graduates from leading UK colleges displayed their to invited company executives, designers and technologists; and for their tutors to develop links with guests from the textile, clothing and footwear industries.

The Textile Institute Design Means Business exhibition, was organised by the Design Special Interest Group (SIG) of The Textile Institute under the chairmanship of Professor Clare Johnston of the Royal College of Art. Its aim, in common with many end of year college and graduate shows, is to boost the career prospects of some very talented design graduates; but uniquely also to show what colleges can and are doing to promote design in the business environment and establish links in a practical way between industry and education.

The exhibition was opened by Lord Haskell, a former world president of The Textile Institute, who introduced Lord Howell, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office who welcomed the colleges, graduates and guests to Durbar Court. The Institute's World President, Andreas Weber, added his welcome, noting the international nature of The Textile Institute and the varied background of the graduates.

To emphasize sustainability, a prize was awarded for the piece of work showing the best integration of the theme together with an understanding of what sustainability means. The team of judges, led by Sue Chorley of the Design SIG, included Vanessa Knowles, Katie Greenyer, creative director, Red or Dead (a Pentland brand) and Ian Morris, technical manager, Technical Services Group, Marks & Spencer. The prize, a bursary to attend the World Conference of the TI in Malaysia in



Zoe Fletcher receives her award from Ian Morris.

2012, was awarded by Ian Morris on behalf of the judging panel to Zoe Fletcher of the London College of Fashion. Zoe showed a very clear understanding of the importance of knowledge about the entire supply chain and had actually been to a sheep farm to shear a sheep to gain the complete experience.

The runners up were Amy Pliszka of Central St Martins, Kristina Kurkina of Kingston University and Zara Oxtoby of Manchester Metropolitan University.

Due to the extra space available with the new venue July 2012's Design Means Business will be open to international colleges and universities.

### Department of Fibres and Textile Processing Technology in Mumbai

The highly coveted Centre of Excellence (COE) under the Technology Mission of Technical Textile (TMTT) in Sportech has been awarded to the Department of Fibres and Textile Processing Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Matunga, Mumbai, India. The announcement made on August 25, 2011, by Minister of Textiles, Shri Anand Sharma on the inaugural function of the event Technotex 2011 held between August 25 – 27, 2011, at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Goregaon, Mumbai.

Institute of Chemical Technology (formerly known as UDCT) is headed by Prof. G. D. Yadav, Vice-Chancellor of the Institute who has been spearheading the campaign for excellence with infrastructure build up on par with other national institutes. It has seven major chemical technologies, such as Textiles, Dyestuffs, Oils, Plastics, Paints, Pharma and Food. It has other major courses such as Chemical Engineering, Pharmacy, Bio-Process Technology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and General Engineering. A survey was published by Professor Jude Sommerfeld of Georgia Tech; USA showing that the ICT is leading Institute in India far ahead of several others including IITs, and it is ranked 4th in the world in Chemical Engineering. This rank has been maintained since 1970s. The institute has the most effective relationship with industry.

Department of Fibres and Textile Processing Technology is one of the founding departments of the Institute started at the very beginning, in the year 1933, to fulfill the fundamental and technological demands of the ever flourishing Textile Industry. This department is now headed by Prof. R. V Adivarekar.



The premises of Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) in Mumbai, India.

Technical Textiles is expected to be a booming opportunity for developing economies in Asia both from a production perspective as well as consumption opportunities in a technologically evolving economy. The Sportech segment comprises of technical textile products used in sports and leisure. The technical textile products covered under Sportech are; Sports Composites, Artificial turf, Parachute Fabrics, Ballooning fabrics, Sail cloth, Sleeping bags, Sport nets, Sport shoes components, Tents and Swimwear.

The Expert Committee's Report and Baseline survey on Technical Textile Industry reveal that there is scope to develop products which are 100% imported and having high unit value realization. There exists opportunity for the existing textile manufacturers to diversify into Sportech area and grow the business.

### EDANA advisory on blotter paper for testing coverstock

Following the discontinuation of Hollingsworth and Vose ERT FF3 blotter paper in late 2010, EDANA's ad-hoc task force made the decision, in its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August, that the Ahlstrom Grade 989 appears to be the closest possible substitute for the discontinued paper; but that it cannot be seen as an equivalent, due to differences in its strike through time and in its liquid absorption capacity among other, less important factors.

However, facing the absence of any better alternative, EDANA strongly suggests using Ahlstrom Grade 989 as a substitute for the discontinued material, until further notice.

Data has been gathered by a certain number of member companies which have joined forces to develop a substitute and reach a solution to the problem in the shortest possible time. The numbers they collected tend to suggest that the test procedures recommended by EDANA/ INDA in their book of test methods should be modified to come to results that are comparable to the ones usually obtained when using the original paper.

Test method	WSP number	Recommended number of layers in the method	Suggested number of layers with Grade 989
Strike Through time	70.3 (08)	5	3
Coverstock Wetback	80.10	5	3
Run off	80.9 (09)	2	2
Repeated liquid Strike Through time	70.7 (11)	10	6
Wetback after repeated Strike Through	70.8 (11)	10	6

Said procedures should therefore prescribe a different number of layers in order to adjust to the liquid absorption capacity of Grade 989, as given in the table:

The suggested number of layers (column 4) relates to the number of blotter paper to be superimposed to form the standard absorbent pad referred to in the respective methods. All producers using one or more of these test methods to qualify their production of coverstock are

strongly encouraged to send their data to EDANA; as an in depth analysis of the data is necessary to come to a final recommendation, and eventually to a revision of the related test methods.

It should be understood that this is not an obligation, but a recommendation. As this constitutes a deviation from the original, validated EDANA/INDA test methods, mention should be made of it in any communication between vendor and purchaser.

Companies that still rely on quantities of ERT FF3 who may want to use it as long as possible should realize that following this recommendation is the only way to eventually solve a problem that will affect them sooner or later.

Ahlstrom grade 989 blotter paper can be purchased from Advanced Filtration from Ahlstrom Barcelona s.a.u., Spain.

## Restructuring at Huntsman Textile Effects Business

Huntsman Textile Effects is the leading global provider of high quality dyes and chemicals to the textile and related industries. With presence in 110 countries and 14 primary manufacturing facilities worldwide in twelve countries (China, Columbia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, Thailand, Turkey, Switzerland, USA), Huntsman TE is uniquely positioned to provide fast and expert technical service.

Huntsman Corporation announced on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011, that its Textile Effects (TE) division plans to implement a significant restructuring, including the possible closure of its production facilities and business support offices in Basel, Switzerland, as part of an on-going strategic program aimed at improving its long-term global competitiveness.

The planned restructuring and the possible closures could affect approximately 600 positions in Basel, with potentially 500 job losses and 100 positions moving to other sites across the organization, to build capability closer to customers. In addition, there will be a further 100 new hires added in key markets. The division's Basel-based Research & Technology department will not be affected by the planned restructuring, as the Business remains totally committed to strengthening its innovation capability. Consultations with labor representatives have commenced and the planned restructuring (including possible closures) are targeted for completion by the end of 2013.

Commenting on the planned restructuring, Paul Hulme, President of the Textile Effects division said, "The textiles market continues its shift to Asia, and we now generate more than 50% of our sales in the region. However, we still have two thirds of our manpower costs in Europe, so we need to re-align our Business to help address this."

"The planned restructuring build on the difficult, but successful changes undertaken in the last few years to ensure the TE Business is strongly positioned to maintain its leadership position in the textile industry." Hulme continued. "Let me also emphasize that these moves are designed to leverage the extensive and ongoing investments Huntsman is making to drive further innovation and sustainability in the textile industry." In case of a possible closure, the transition of production to other Huntsman sites will be carefully phased, ensuring continued product availability and deliveries to customers. ♦

## Midea and OES to launch their range of appliances

Midea in conjunction with Orient Energy System (Pvt.) Ltd. (OES) are set to re-launch its selected range of appliances for the first time in Pakistan. The launch ceremony was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, 2011 at a local hotel in Karachi.

Midea is a Chinese manufacturer and exporter covering a range of products in air conditioning systems, home appliances, lighting motors, compressors and other industrial components- some of which would now be available in Pakistan through OES.

OES will present Midea's selective range of appliances as the authorized distributor for the company. The launching ceremony was attended by a delegation from China with other prominent industry professionals, consultants, engineers and entrepreneurs.

M. Elvis Liu, Regional Sales Manager, Midea (Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka) as well as Muhammed Saeed (CEO), Syed Asim Raza (Sr. Manager HVAC-R) and M. Abu Bakr Khan (AGM- HVAC-R) for OES were the speakers. Malik Riaz Awan GM HVACR along with other department heads and officials of OES were also present at the event.

Established in 1996, Orient Energy Systems (OES) is today present in three countries namely; Pakistan, Bangladesh and U.A.E. supported by a strong dealership network. With continuous dedication and hard work, over the years OES has won several awards and emerged as one of a leading distributor of superior quality products. OES represents many international brands in Petrol, Gas, Diesel Generators and other industrial equipment. ♦



The OES group photo taken at the launching ceremony of Midea range of appliances in Pakistan.