

New programme to modernise Egypt's textile industry

Contracts have been awarded to industry players for the first phase of the programme at ITMA 2019, worth approximately €1bn

Yesterday, Cotton and Textile Industries Holding Company (CTIHC) of Egypt kicked off the implementation of a major modernisation programme at ITMA Barcelona. The programme, supported by the president of Egypt, Abdul Fatah Al-Sisi, and Minister of Public Enterprises, Dr Hisham Tawfik, aims to upgrade Egypt's upstream textile industry to support its competitiveness to become a major regional sourcing hub in the Mediterranean region.

The restructuring programme, performed and supervised by Werner International, aims to restore Egypt's prominent position in the world markets, capitalising on the globally renowned fine Egyptian Cotton fibre.

The programme includes the modernisation of spinning, weaving, knitting, dyeing, finishing, printing and confection, based on a product line definition which brings forth added value to Egyptian cotton, from cotton farming to ready-made goods with "world-class" levels in terms of quality and efficiency – aiming to support

Egypt Private Sector upstream manufacturers' competitiveness in the world markets.

The total value of the programme is approximately €1bn, which includes around 780,000 new spindles and 1,250 new looms, dyeing, printing and finishing machinery and state-of-the-art cutting and sewing equipment.

The foreseen investments will stimulate the dynamism for upgrading technology in the entire industry and ensure a continual increase in productivity as well as technical and management skills, to maximise value creation within the Egyptian textile value chain. It will affect largely Egypt's vertical integration and competitiveness, taking advantage of Egyptian cotton.

Dr Ahmed Moustafa Mohamed, chairman of the Holding Company, was proud to announce that, as part of the restructuring project, the masterpiece of this development plan is the establishment of a state-of-the-art new spinning mill for fine and extra-fine counts,

hosting over 180,000 spindles under one roof, making it the biggest of its kind worldwide.

During ITMA, contracts were awarded for the first phase of the modernisation programme to seven textile machinery suppliers: Benninger (including Thies and Brückner), EFI Reggiani, Iteima, Karl Mayer, Marzoli, Rieter and Savio.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, held yesterday in Hall 8.1, CC8, Dr Ahmed Moustafa Mohamed said: "The Government of Egypt has decided to make a big investment into the textile industry of the public sector. The programme will have a major impact on the competitiveness and the success of the Egyptian textile industry in the future. It is an important step for our country. I am proud and happy that the leading machine suppliers are committed to support the Holding Company in the implementation of the programme. We thank ITMA for having hosted the signing ceremony which gave us the opportunity to kick off our ambitious programme so solemnly."



ITMA exhibitors including Karl Mayer, Benninger, EFI Reggiani and Savio, among others, were awarded contracts

Halo ERP solutions prove popular at ITMA

Halo, a provider of enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions from fibre to product, is seeing interest in its enterprise resource planning (ERP) platform, Inteos. Halo notes that this year's ITMA has been busier for the company than the exhibition's previous iteration in Milan in 2015.

Showcased at its stand, Halo's Inteos is a technological application that offers customised solutions and transparency tools to its customers. Marcus Ott of Halo says users of Halo's software can utilise Industry 4.0 solutions such as predictive maintenance (PdM), accessible data management and production planning.

"We cover the full process from manufacturing execution systems (MES) to ERP, which means from fibre to product and from offer to invoice," Ott says. "Where we are different to whatever is on the market is that we have the full integration from the shop floor to the administration and the commercial part."

"This means, for whatever product area and production type you have, whether it's knitting, weaving, finishing, printing,



garment production, apparel, you can cover the shop floor and all your commercial processes. It's all integrated in one database from one solution – Inteos."

The platform can additionally be used in conjunction with Halo's augmented reality

AR+, which projects information directly into the user's field of vision, leaving the user's 'hands [...] free for the important things'.

For more information on Inteos, visit Halo in Hall 8.1, Stand A109.

ACIMIT is a proponent of digitalisation, so much so that Italian textile machinery manufacturers receive incentives to invest in future technologies. These solutions focus on green manufacturing but streamlining the textile supply chain is also critical. "To remain competitive globally, digitalisation is crucial," Zucchi adds.

Despite investment in new technologies, the Italian textile machinery sector has struggled in the first half of the year. Exports to Asia have fallen and spinning machinery exports have been the hardest hit.

However, Zucchi is confident that ITMA 2019 will boost the fortunes of Italian textile machinery OEMs. But to succeed long term, Zucchi stresses that Industry 4.0 and further digitalisation is required to take the textile industry to the next level in manufacturing capability.

ACIMIT can be found in the Barcelona Suite, Stands B2-4.



ACIMIT has served the textile industry for more than 25 years