Digitalization Conference gets an overwhelming response from Industry

International Conference on “Digitalization – A Step towards Textile 4.0”

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit organized Annual Conference on “Digitalization – A Step towards Textile 4.0” on Friday, 14th October 2022 at Hotel The Lalit, Mumbai. The Conference received overwhelming response as over 300 delegates attended the Conference. The theme of Conference, topics, presentations and speakers were highly appreciated. This was the first Conference on Digitalization in Textile industry in India.

Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, TAI, Mumbai Unit welcomed the Chief Guest. Ms. Roop Rashi, Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Guest of Honour Mr. Rajesh Kumar Pathak, Secretary, Technology & development, Government of India (present virtually), Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Wazir Advisors, Awardees, Speakers, Press, Media and delegates. Mr. Ranjan welcomed and congratulated two awardees Mr. Yogesh K. Kusumgar for The Lifetime Achievement Award and Mr. Anil Kumar Jain for The Industrial Excellence Award. Mr. Ranjan said that all the conferences organized by TAI, Mumbai Unit have always selected contemporary & innovative topics presented by high profile speakers. This conference is also no exception to this.

Mr. V. C. Gupta, Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit and Convener of the Conference briefed about two previous conferences on Textile 4.0 held in 2018 and 2019. The main objective of those Conferences was to familiarize the textile fraternity on what is Textile 4.0 and what impact it would have on the textile industry. Textile 4.0 is basically an extension of Industry 4.0 as applicable to textiles & apparel industries. He also described what Smart Factory is. The aim of extending the textile industry to Textile 4.0 is to increase productivity, flexibility and efficiency through use of automation, robotics, artificial intelligence, Internet of Things etc. Textile 4.0 is already used in spinning, weaving and in garment & apparel industries. There are new norms and Digitization, Digitalization and Digital Transformation became the new buzz words. These three words also became part of advancement in textile industry, particularly in the apparel & garment sectors. It became obvious that the change is certain, but in what form and shape will it take for textile industry. How should textile & garment industry engage with the new trend, what future might hold for business and investment decision makers, what impact it would have throughout the textile value chain? And how digitization would help and benefit the textile industry in supply chain, timely deliveries and competitiveness. In this pursuit, The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit decided to hold this Conference with a view that the Textile fraternity gets closer to these new buzz words - Digitization, Digitalization and Digital Transformation. As a Convener of the Conference, he thanked all the speakers, sponsors, advertisers and delegates for their kind support to make this conference a great success.

Mr. G. V. Aras, The Conference Chairman, briefed about the details of the Conference, including topics and speakers. He said Digitalization and Industry 4.0 are the keys to process excellence - and thus the opportunity to save costs and resources. Through the possibilities of digitalization, manufacturers can strengthen their production, improve their competitiveness and react more quickly to changes. He further emphasized that for this to be successful, the textile value chain manufacturers and retailers will have to invest in digitization. The garment and retail supply chain has to a larger extent adapted Digitalization which is helping them in becoming more efficient, cost competitive and respond fast to market needs. It is high time that the Indian textile companies also adapt Digitalization on priority and participate in the making of the Digital India, a dream project of our prime minister. He further said that now the digitalization is not a choice anymore but a necessity.

Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Jr. Managing Director, WAZIR Advisors Pvt. Ltd. in his Theme Presentation said that Industry 4.0 refers to the Fourth Industrial Revolution and describes the growing trends towards automation and data exchange in technology and processes within the manufacturing industry. He further said that a smart factory is a highly digitized and connected production facility that relies on machinery and
equipment that are able to improve processes through automation and self-optimization. He said that manufacturing processes need to be digitalised to create an ecosystem of data which further can be used to fully implement the Industry 4.0 technologies. He showed the actual working of the smart factory in his presentation.

Mr. Rajesh Kumar Pathak, Secretary, Science & Technology Development Board, Govt. of India who was the Guest of Honour made his presentation online from New Delhi and said that Digitalization has very significant role in today's industrial revolution and the industry should accept the challenge and diversify their activities towards the smart factories. He discussed various initiatives taken by Govt. of India in this direction.

Honouring the best in class:

Mr. Yogesh K. Kusumgar, Chairman, Kusumgar Corporates Pvt. Ltd. receiving The Lifetime Achievement Award by the hands of Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi

Mr. Anil Kumar Jain, Executive Chairman, Indo Count Industries Ltd. awarded The Industrial Excellence Award. This was received by Mr. K. K. Lalpuria on behalf of Mr. Jain by the hands of Chief Guest

a) The Lifetime Achievement Award
The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit has set a precedent by felicitating the textile professionals for their outstanding contribution to the textile industry. In this Conference, the TAI, Mumbai Unit felicitated Mr. Yogesh K. Kusumgar, Chairman, Kusumgar Corporates Pvt. Ltd. for his pioneering work in the field of technical textiles with “The Lifetime Achievement Award”.

b) The Industrial Excellence Award
TAI, Mumbai Unit also felicitated Mr. Anil Kumar Jain, Executive Chairman, Indo Count Industries Ltd. with “The Industrial Excellence Award” for his contribution in the field of man-made fibres. As Mr. Jain was unable to attend the conference Mr. K. K. Lalpuria, Executive Director, Indo Count Industries received the award on behalf of Mr. Jain.

Ms. Roop Rashi, Textile Commissioner, Govt. of India who was the Chief Guest addressed the delegates with her thoughts on Textile 4.0. She wondered why the Textile 4.0 is not extended beyond spinning and garment industries. She emphasized the Government of India has initiated many projects & plans and pushing for digitization in all industries. She appealed to the textile heads to adopt digitalization very fast to keep up with the pace of the international industry.

Knowledge and informative technical sessions
Mr. Ram Sareen, Chairman & Founder, Tukatech, USA presented paper on “Welcome to the Future. It Arrived Yesterday”. He said that in the world of digital design and development, everyone in the supply chain needs to collaborate with real data. Designers can use these true-to-life digital resources to see how a garment will look and fit in virtual design software, then purchase the physical material from the mill knowing it is exactly what they need.

Mr. Sudhir Mehani, Chief Digitalization Officer, Marzoli India presented paper on “Digital Transformation – Step towards Smart Factory Operations”. He said to maximize overall equipment effectiveness (OEE) and minimize the total cost of ownership (TCO), there is a need to take steps towards maintenance of the machines and taking optimized production.

Mr. Ashish Sharma, Sr. Vice President (Sales & Marketing), Truetzschler India Pvt. Ltd. presented paper on “My Intelligent Mill – by Truetzschler”. He discussed about the concept of My Mill. The cloud-based mill monitoring system can be accessed over web frontend. Data is sent from the machines to the My Mill cloud via secure gateway. My Mill frontend can only be accessed by authenticated & authorized mill personnel.

Mr. Ricardo Vega Ayora, Project Engineer, ITA Academy GmbH, Digital Capability Centre, Germany presented his paper virtually on “Process Mining for a Sustainable and Efficient Textile Industry”. He said in a world with always greater concerns regarding climate change and increasing energy prices, every industrial company needs to increase resource efficiency, in particular reducing their respective carbon (product) footprint and energy consumption. The textile industry is no exception. This comes as no surprise given the amount of resources required to finish textiles by washing, coating and thermo-fixing processes.

Mr. Ronnie Hagin, Group CEO, Datatek AG, Switzerland presented paper on “Systems on the path to profitable sustainable textile manufacturing – Achieve business & sustainability objectives by applying available opportunities of systems, AI and Blockchain”. He said that systems have been available for the industry since the early 1980’s, difference to day is the availability of affordable technology to support big data and fast processing, allowing for fully seamless integrated business solutions. The availability of new technology also has increased the opportunities using AI and ML and also the newly introduces blockchain technology. AI will be used to optimize business results while improving customer service.

Mr. Surinder Pal Singh, Head of Customer Support and Asset Management, Forbes Marshall presented paper on “Digital as a Tool for Utilities
Sustenance – Beyond Connectivity”. He said that Digitising the most important and relevant parameters enables continuous monitoring, advanced analysis and predictions. This helps plants improve and on their own with their internal teams. He further said Digital connectivity of devices enables monitoring on a continuous basis by subject matter experts who can use static tools, their experience and knowledge to come up with optimum performance points. Digital, plays multiple roles of providing visibility (and triggering basic corrections), information on uptime of equipment (and possibly prediction of failure) and possibilities of improvement and sustenance.

Mr. Atul Vaidya, Managing Director, Oerlikon Textile India Pvt. Ltd. presented paper on “Smart Factory – Digitizing the Polyester Value Chain”. He said that current industry pains points and needs for digitizing production information and processes. He discussed the Key challenges in digitalization of factory viz. Huge upfront investment from both money and people resources. Redesign production processes to unleash the potential. Mindset change, digital talents, and trainings and lack of industry standardization.

All Papers received very high response as well as interactions from the participants.

The Panel Discussion was moderated by Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Jt. Managing Director, Wazir Advisors Pvt. Ltd. The theme of the discussion was “Digitization: The New Era in Textile and Apparel Industry”. The Panel Members were Mr. Kapil Pathare, Director, VIP Clothing Ltd., Mr. Yashasvi Sahajpal, Leadership Team – Digital Initiative, Forbes Marshall, Mr. Raja Harbinder Singh, Head Global Sourcing-Westside, Trent Ltd. and Mr. Bhavin Seth, President and CTO, ATE Enterprises Ltd.

Following Key points were discussed in the Panel Discussion.
- Digitalization as an opportunity for the Textile and Apparel Industry must and not an option
- Digitalization as a pre-requisite of Industry 4.0, it’s being implemented by players like VIP Westside
- Impact of Digitization on Textile and Garment Manufacturing operations is huge, some examples
- Smart Factory Solutions were discussed
- Issues and challenges while adopting potential Digitalization technologies
- Training of team, data analysis, clear awareness of digital solutions
- Implementation Roadmap for a Smart Factory with examples of digital data Centre (DCC) at ITA, Germany was also presented and Wazir’s Tie up with them to implement in India was announced

The Panel Discussion was very lively and good interaction was received from the delegates. Mr. A. V. Mantri, Hon. Secretary, TAI, Mumbai Unit proposed a vote of the thanks. The Conference was a grand success and was attended by over 300 participants.

Report of Business Growth - A CMR-Airtel Forum

Business Growth Forum 2022 organized the Panel Discussion to Brief on “Ensuring Sustainable Business Growth in the Post-Pandemic World” on 26th August, 2022 at 06.30 pm onwards followed by the Networking over Dinner at TAJ Skyline, Ahmedabad.

The Textile Association (India) Central Office were invited for Panel Discussion on “Ensuring Sustainable Business Growth In the Post-Pandemic World” Dr. V. D. Gottmare, Chairman, JTA Editorial Board was one of the Panelist in the above discussions.

Journal of The Textile Association was the Media Partner of the above forum. Mr. Mahendrabhai G. Patel, Hon. Gen. Secretary, TAI- Central Office was invited on behalf of Journal of The Textile Association and he received a Memento in the hands of Mr. Abhishek Sinha, Head, Airtel Business as a token.
It is pleasure to inform you that the 83rd Annual General Body Meeting of The Textile Association (India) held on 16th September, 2022 at 04.15 pm at The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit Hall, 602, 6th Floor, Santosh Apartment, Dr. M. B. Raut Road, Shivaji Park, Mumbai—400 028.

Mr. R. K. Vij, President of The Textile Association (India) presided over the meeting. 26 members were attended the 83rd Annual General Body meetings from various TAI Units.

Mr. Mahendrabhai G. Patel, Hon. Gen. Secretary and Mr. D. I. Patel, Trustee of TAI came from Ahmedabad to attend the AGM. Also Dr. P. A. Khatwani, President of TAI-South Gujarat Unit attended the above AGM.

Mr. Mahendrabhai G. Patel, Hon. Gen. Secretary briefed the financial status of the Association and also gave brief report of the accounts & audited balance sheet for the year ending 31st March, 2022.

He further highlighted the details of various heads under Income & Expenditure Account and Audited Balance Sheet of the financial year 2021-2022.

Mr. Vivas Gharat have been assigned by Atal Innovation Mission under NITI Aayog to mentor Indian youth by Professionals as mentors of change. It is a great vision of Late Hon’ble P.M. Shri Atal Bihari Vaipai ji, to educate the Indian youth for the progress of our Nation.
Sarees and Fabrics Predicted to rule the festive and fall season

“Sarees in rich and opulent hues & fabrics predicted to rule the festive and fall season”, predicts Resha Mandi in latest trend forecast report. Season is to be marked by lavish and upbeat tones that offer a sense of luxury and hope in the face of adversity.

The largest farm-to-fashion digital ecosystem for natural fibres in India, ReshaMandi, has identified the major trends that will influence consumer-buying behavior this festive season. The company recently introduced its trend forecast report, a first for the industry, that deep-dives into trends that will impact the industry for the next six months to a year. According to the most recent report for the upcoming festive and fall seasons, sales of sarees, a staple Indian ethnic wear and a crucial part of festival attire, are anticipated to increase. This is significant as particularly in the last two years consumers were keeping their celebrations very limited or casual due to the pandemic.

The season will be marked by rich, upbeat tones that offer comfort and luxury in the midst of challenges. Ten main colours are expected to dominate the colour scheme for the festive and winter seasons, namely classic blue, crystal teal, green jacket, love potion, rubocondo, orchid, Jaffa orange, calendula, bright chartreuse, and star white.

In November, it’s anticipated that slightly more sentimental hues like orchid and love potion will take centre stage alongside the traditional blue and green jacket and the same is expected to continue in December. The opulence of winter gradually gives way to the approach of spring in February and colours like Jaffa orange, green jacket, and vivid chartreuse are predicted to grow increasingly in demand among consumers.

The prevalence of Indian traditional fabrics will continue, especially those used for sarees; soft silk, cotton, cotton silk, organza & tissue, chiffon, georgette, and banarasi silk are projected to be the most popular textiles. Given the popularity of reviving traditional clothing and promoting locally produced materials, traditional sarees such as those woven in the Kanjeevaram, Banarasi, Tant, Pochampally, and Kota styles are likely to be more in demand.

ReshaMandi’s Founder and CEO, Mayank Tiwari said, “With the popularity of Kanjeevaram, Banarasi, and Kota sarees, the anticipated trends for this festive season reflect the pan-Indian desire to embrace more natural materials and revitalize traditional weaving patterns. This is encouraging for us as a company working to build a productive environment for natural fabrics.”

Small border/borderless, micro motifs, updated zari, scalloped/lace edges, and translucency are likely to be favored in terms of details. Dots, stripes, and checks, painterly florals, delicate vines, cluster florals, birds and animals, and mix-and-match are among the popular patterns.
Deepika Padukone launches Navyasa winter collection

Deepika Padukone launches Autumn Winter collection of Navyasa by LIVA India’s first new-age saree brand. Navyasa by LIVA new collection aims to perceive sarees as the new cool.

After an overwhelming response to its launch early this year, Navyasa by LIVA has launched their much-awaited Autumn Winter collection featuring Deepika Padukone. The collection showcases quintessential contemporary sarees in vibrant colors spread across floral, geometric, and abstract expressions adorned with metallic foil prints, crystal stones, and embroideries.

It also debuts two new fabric designs, LIVA Sheen & LIVA Shimmer with zari, and an extended range that includes tunics, kaftans, tops, dresses, capes and jumpsuits. The collection features ethereal prints and chic styles. Each saree tells a color-rich story with a modern twist. The unique bold designs and diverse themes are designed to allow style to converge with fashion. Renowned designer Abir and Nanki, along with the LIVA design team at have been instrumental in bringing the collection alive.

Explaining the thought behind the launch of this brand, Mr. Rajnikant Sabnavis, Chief Marketing Officer, Grasim Industries (Pulp and Fiber), said. I am hoping to see a much larger shift in the perception and adaptability to sarees especially among the younger generation and urban women. “Aimed at perceiving sarees as the new “cool” and making it preferred attire for the modern Indian women. The brand is an ode to true contemporary, cosmopolitan Indian women who believe that style is a combination of fashion and comfort.”

Starting from Rs. 2499, navyasa by LIVA currently offers 200+ styles in different varieties of nature based LIVA fabrics appealing to various consumer sensibilities & desires. The new collection is available now at five stores in India’s top cities; Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore, alongside all leading e-commerce portals.

Designers Abir and Nanki added, “The new edit is inspired by all things nature with colors that are a mix of bright and light. This melange of head turning prints has been especially curated for the contemporary woman of today and tomorrow. The modern woman wants her saree to fit comfortably like a second skin, look well, and feel good and navyasa by LIVA accomplishes just that. The fabrics made from natural materials breathe well and at the same time look luxe.”