

Press Release:

Ismaning, December 16, 2020

PERFORMANCE DAYS © functional fabrics fair
produced by Design & Development GmbH Textile Consult
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Positive feedback for online fair and sustain & innovate conference

Top marks for PERFORMANCE DAYS DIGITAL EVENT

As a result of the Corona pandemic, the PERFORMANCE DAYS fair on December 9th - 10th and the accompanying sustain&innovate conference for sustainability on December 10 could only take place in digital form. Nevertheless: exhibitors, visitors and partners can look back on a successful event. The focus topic “Nothing to Waste - Closing the Loop“ relating to the issue of the textile circular economy in the course of the sustain&innovate conference also provided great discussion material while generating a positive response.

The PERFORMANCE DAYS team also expresses its satisfaction. Because despite the event being solely a digital event on the 9th and 10th of December 2020, an estimated 15.000 participants made extensive use of the comprehensive online offerings of the 191 digital exhibitors, among them drirelease/OPTIMER, Merryson, Stotz, HeiQ, Schoeller Textil, Long Advance, Dry-Tex, Utenos, Fidlock, Cifra, dekoGraphics and Jia Meir, during the week of the fair. The popular “Contact Supplier” function was supplemented with a new online tool that allows exhibitors to be contacted directly via chat, call or per video. This function will remain available until the 20th of December 2020! A total of 3.250 fabric sample orders were placed with exhibitors. The variety on offer included fabric innovations for Autumn/Winter 2022/2023 within the top class PERFORMANCE FORUM and an extensive digital supporting program via live-stream with informative webinars, talks and rounds of discussions. Best of all: the resulting videos will be available on demand on the PERFORMANCE DAYS website free of charge.

A big thanks also goes out to the sponsors of the Concept III conference and to Lenzing, Imbotex, knowyourstuff and Supporter Life Materials.

Finally standard: PERFORMANCE FORUM with sustainable materials
Innovative, sustainable and cutting-edge: the 240 fabrics plus accessory trends at this year’s PERFORMANCE FORUM impressed throughout with exciting environmentally conscious solutions. Natural fibers such as hemp, organic cotton, bamboo, wool or coconut shell remain in demand, while manufacturers are also increasingly refraining from the use of environmentally harmful chemicals, avoiding microplastics, advocating natural dyeing processes and either trying to return fabrics to the cycle, recycle plastic and other waste in order to produce fibres in such a way that they are biodegradable. This environmental awareness is also reflected in this year’s FOCUS TOPIC - so here the 24 best fabrics not only score in terms of sustainability, but also demonstrate that they are both functional and can be returned to the textile cycle, true to the motto “Nothing to Waste - Closing the Loop. In the Marketplace section, visitors have the opportunity to view more than 9.500 exhibitor products, including the fabric highlights of the individual categories of the PERFORMANCE FORUMS. In order to be able to digitally present the fabrics to visitors as realistically as possible in terms of feel, design and structure, the Forum has been equipped with innovative 3D technology, including innovative tools such as 3D images, video animations and U3M files for download.

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And the winners are: PERFORMANCE AWARD WINNERS & ECO PERFORMANCE AWARD

Also in this special season, the jury presented two awards for outstanding fabrics - with the Winter 2022/23 season not only honouring the PERFORMANCE AWARD WINNER, which went to the Merryson Corporation, but also the ECO PERFORMANCE AWARD WINNER, with the award going to drirelease/OPTIMER. General Manager of the fair and jury member Marco Weichert had this to say: *“It is astonishing how many innovative, sustainable solutions were submitted this winter by reputable fiber manufacturers, as well as from yet relatively unknown newcomers. Within the framework of the PERFORMANCE FORUM, the jury was once again spoilt for choice, with a total of 1.000 fabrics to evaluate. What is striking is the focus on sustainable solutions and recycling options, which is visible in all areas. Furthermore, many manufacturers are opting for fabrics that can be guided back into the textile cycle.”*

From fiber to fiber: successful sustain&innovate conference generates discussion

Textile circular economy is considered part of the solution to the global waste problem, curbing the consumption of resources and reducing climate damaging greenhouse gases. But what exactly is the circular economy and how can it succeed? Most importantly, how far are fiber manufacturers in developing mono-component fabrics that can eventually be returned back into the textile cycle? The Focus Topic of this year’s sustainability conference, launched in cooperation with SPORTSFASHION by SAZ, offered a platform for discussion and strove to enlighten with evocative talks, discussion rounds and webinars. Christiane Dolva, Head of Sustainability at Fjällräven, got to the heart of the matter at the start of the expert talks on the second day of the fair, outlining how important emotional consistency is for the brand itself and ultimately also for the consumer - especially when it comes to textile recycling. Durability, good quality, in combination with timeless design are more important than ever today and in the future in terms of sustainable action. Added to this is the possibility of reviving products by means of a repair service. Equally exciting: the development of new technologies in terms of recycling. Erik Bang from the H&M Foundation provided a first glimpse of the new Greenmachine, which should make it possible to separate mixed fabrics such as cotton and polyester as early as 2021. Alternatively, old clothing is converted into new fibres thanks to companies such as WornAgain, Re:newcell, Spinnova or Infinited Fiber, which soon promises to be more than just a mere vision. For those who wish to gain insight into the supply chain of their purchased garment, the start-up know your stuff lets customers track the journey of the respective garment by simply scanning a QR code on the garment in a store or online.

Free extensive retrospective

The next edition of PERFORMANCE DAYS is planned as a hybrid fair and will take place on May 19th and May 20th, 2021 in Munich as well as online. Until then, the PERFORMANCE DAYS platform will remain accessible, for instance with the Marketplace and further inspiring topics of (video) material stories to make online sourcing even easier! Soon the talks from the first day of the fair and the conference will be accessible free of charge on the fair

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website. Stay up to date! The free, weekly PERFORMANCE DAYS newsletter provides news on updates, trends & innovations, material stories and other important information. Simply generate the free visitor account and benefit from the various tools on the website!

Most important links:

Highlights of Expert Talks & Webinars

<https://www.performancedays.com/digital-fair/expert-talk-webinar.html>

Marketplace:

<https://www.performancedays.com/marketplace.html>

3D-Forum:

<https://www.performancedays.com/digital-fair/forum-highlights/3d-forum.html>

PERFORMANCE COLORS by Nora Kühner

<https://www.performancedays.com/digital-fair/color-trends.html>

SPORTSFASHION by SAZ - the digital magazine from PERFORMANCE DAYS Media partner for download:

<https://www.performancedays.com/digital-fair/forum-highlights/saz-sports-fashion.html>

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About PERFORMANCE DAYS

PERFORMANCE DAYS “functional fabric fair” was founded in 2008 as the first and only event specifically for functional textiles for sportswear and workwear. The goal of the biannual fair is to provide top-class and innovative textile manufacturers, suppliers and service providers with the opportunity to present functional fabrics, membranes, as well as coatings, laminates, paddings, finishes and accessories such as yarns, tapes, prints, buttons and zippers.

Industry visitors to the fair - designers, product managers, buyers and decision makers from almost all European sportswear and functional apparel manufacturers (examples online at: [Visiting Brands](#)) - will find the complete portfolio of high-quality materials at exactly the right time in April/May and October/November/December. Thanks to the specialisation in functional textiles, the timing is according early and optimally chosen for summer and winter sports collections. The current list of exhibitors is available online under “[Supplier Search](#)”)

The relaxed and focused working atmosphere distinguishes the functional fabric fair from other, often unclear and stressful fairs. This too contributes to making the Munich trade fair, in the heart of the European sportswear industry, the top address for new fabrics, innovations and industry meeting point for business relations.

The unique [PERFORMANCE FORUM](#) at PERFORMANCE DAYS provides the visitor with an inspiring and knowledgeable overview of new materials, trends and innovations from the various exhibitors. The prestigious [\(ECO\) PERFORMANCE AWARD](#) is also presented here.

Top-quality [Expert Talk Webinars](#) round off the information on offer. All talks are also available online subsequent to the fair - see “[Expert Talk Archive](#)”.

Admission to the fair and the program are free of charge for trade fair visitors.

More information and registration at: www.performancedays.com

The [DIGITAL FAIR](#) and [Marketplace](#) are available all year long for material sourcing and inspiration!

About the Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS

Since 2018, in cooperation with [Reed Exhibitions](#), the functional textile fair has been taking place in the USA as the “[Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS](#)”. At the Javits Center in New York and the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, the sourcing fair presents the latest trends in the functional textile industry in line with the event in Munich, and is the platform in the USA for the sourcing of functional fabrics and accessories. The event includes exhibitions, workshops, talks from industry experts and a program for professional networking and connecting of producers and purchasers.

Here are the dates of the events according to the current status:

- April 14-15, 2021 Portland, OR
- May 19-20, 2021 Munich
- July 19-20, 2021 New York