

## French manufacturers prepare for ITMA with real optimism

The French manufacturers export on average about 1 billion Euros (1.4 billion USD), their strategy is to bring value to their customers thanks to R&D efforts and a strong commitment to customers' service. Although these companies are specialty manufacturers & SMEs, but are world leaders or among the world leaders on specific applications. They are particularly strong in weaving preparation, nonwovens, and in specialized spinning, dyeing and finishing machinery.

After a very difficult year in 2009, they prepare ITMA ASIA+CITME 2010 with a real optimism. Asian countries like China and India are already recovering, the US seem to emerge from the slump as well as Europe.

Investments start to pick up again and a very important incentive to invest is the development of new products which need new production technologies.

"Clearly, we see warmer prospects since the end of 2009. Spare parts business is getting back to usual levels which mean the utilization of the existing production facilities has improved, orders for new machines also and many new projects are under discussion. I expect a robust rebound end of 2010 and in 2011" says Bruno Ameline the French Association's President.

In China, for example, the government announced a series of measures. One of the projects concerns doubling the investment in rail networks. It will need millions of square meters of geotextiles which increasingly evolve in the direction of nonwovens solutions. French machinery manufacturers are very well positioned for such investments.

Bruno Ameline adds "our companies are well positioned for the future because during the crisis, we have continued to invest in R&D in close relationship with our clients. We also have worked with machinery manufacturers offering complementary technologies to offer our customers a "single point of purchase".

We have also worked very hard on energy savings. In many examples, the energy saving is in the 30-40% range, same or even more for the water consumption in dyeing and finishing.

For Evelyne Cholet, the Association Secretary General, "we cannot compete on high volume commodity products, Chinese and other Asian manufacturers offer low cost machines, but our strategy of specialized manufacturers with a tailor made approach is to address in depth customers' needs. This is once again what our manufacturers will show at next ITMA ASIA+CITME and we cordially invite all interested textile producer to visit us and it will be an hour to receive them."

### NSC Nonwoven (Asselin-Thibeau) Hall E1 - Booth A04

NSC nonwoven supplies turnkey nonwoven lines for spunlacing, needlepunching and thermobonding. They are equipped with a supervisory control assistance system, which includes production recipes, maintenance and assistance to line management.



Asselin-Thibeau : NSC nonwoven line.

NSC nonwoven (Asselin-Thibeau) is well known for such nonwoven equipments as the Excellence® cards, crosslappers, IsoProdyn® weight distribution regulator, drafters, needlelooms, winders and slitters-rewinders.

To meet all nonwoven producers' targets, the above NSC nonwoven machines are available in several level of performances. Thanks to the combination of Access and Excellence® equipment, NSC Nonwoven answers major customers' expectations such as production lines adapted to local market size, cost reduction with faster production lines, lower average fabric weight, lower maintenance requirements and also customized products with in line combination of technologies.

### PERFOJET Hall E1 - Booth A05

PERFOJET together with Andritz Küsters will present the latest innovations for spunlace and spunjet technologies. PERFOJET will exhibit some strategic parts of spunlace technology. These parts have been designed by PERFOJET and bring customer benefits for spunlace process like energy savings.

The main part of the hydroentanglement process is called injector. PERFOJET's injector is fitted out with filtering cartridge to ensure final filtration of process water just before the strip, and EXH strip which provide a perfect quality of needles water.



Perfojet: Complete spunlace line.

Spunlace producers have the opportunity to customize their final fabrics thanks to the patterning sleeves designed by PERFOJET. The producers can choose different patterning sleeves technologies, MP+® or MPP.

One of PERFOJET's successes is JETlace® 3000, capable of producing excellent spunlace fabrics from 30 to 500 gsm and with capacities of up to 25000 tons per year.

JETlace®Avantage enables spunlace fabrics to be produced from 30 to 120gsm with capacities of up to 4000 tons per year. With the recent market introduction of JETlace®Essentiel, PERFOJET offers the perfect machine for the production of wipes. JETlace®Essentiel is ideally configured for lightweight fabrics from 30 to 80gsm and with capacities of up to 15000 tons per year.

PERFOJET brings a new milestone in nonwovens industry thanks to Spunjet technology. SPUNjet® fabrics marry the strength of spunbond and the softness of spunlace. The Spunjet process offers additional fabric properties with regard to softness, drape, tensile strength and isotropic MD:CD ratio.

### LAROCHE Hall E1 - Booth A02

LAROCHE will display its new AIRFELT line, designed to produce insulation felts and includes fiber opening and blending, web forming, steam oven and/or thermobonding oven, cutting, slitting and packaging. Felts can be resin bonded or bonded with low melt fibers, semicured or fully cured, addressing all the needs of the automotive and appliance industries as well as the furniture industries. LAROCHE staff will be available to present its new "Flexiloft+" Airlay line with extended weight range.