Meet B.I.G. Yarns at Clerkenwell Design Week to explore inspiring possibilities for carpet tile collections

Discover yarns for high-resilient colourful flooring with emotion, sustainability and comfort at its core
• Be inspired by the design freedom & sustainable solutions for contract applications
• Find B.I.G. Yarns in Clerkenwell at The Order of St. John exhibition venue Stand D11

B.I.G. Yarns has secured its debut spot at the return of Clerkenwell Design Week (24-26 May 2022) and can’t wait to inspire carpet makers, architects and designers with the endless possibilities to create imaginative and sustainable contract flooring.

“We’re passionate about offering yarns that go way beyond a product, they’re essential to opening the door to creativity and innovation that will convey a specific desired atmosphere within a building. Indeed, the right mix of colours, contrasts, patterns and textures in flooring can stir emotions, challenge perceptions, bring comfort and even enhance overall well-being.

Clerkenwell Design Week brings contract ............

Continue to Page 5
READY TO SUPPORT YOU

**TEXTILE PRINTING**

COLARIS Digital Printing Systems can print on almost any fiber-based material.

Through certified ink manufacturers reactive, low and high energy disperse, direct sublimation, acid, VAT Indanthrene and cationic inks are available. Common end-products are home textile incl. bedding, furnishing, window fashion, terry towel, velour substrates but also knit fabrics in the fashion industry.

The wide range of products such as contract, automotive, promotion, residential or function carpets etc. requires matching of specific fastness properties for each individual product. Accordingly, different inks, print and finishing processes are required.

COLARIS and CHROMOJET technology cover the complete range of textile-based floor coverings incl. wall to wall carpets, rugs, mats and tiles, no matter whether they are produced from PA, PES, CDPES, PAN, CO, VIS, Sorona.

Single pass printing at highest efficiency onto a big variety of different substrates.

Full range of inks such as acid, sublimation, high energy disperse, automotive grade disperse, pigment and reactive inks is available through various certified suppliers.

COLARIS-NF can be integrated into an existing dyeing range or laid out as a fully integrated production line including inline pre-treatment, post treatment, washing and finishing.

**FLOOR COVERINGS**

**NARROW FABRICS**
CHALLENGE US

TECHNICAL TEXTILES

Functionality fabrics, military applications, automotive textile, sunblind fabrics, umbrellas, awnings, fabrics for flags and banners, camping and different outdoor use such as construction fabric are covered under our Technical Textile business unit.

Mentioned products can be printed either with our valve based CHROMOJET or the piezo based COLARIS or COLARS-NF technology.

Our technologies based on CHROMOJET and COLARIS product lines can also be used for special coatings, conductive printing or may also cover other products.

Electro conductive printing, thermophore coatings, security prints, 3D digital manufacturing are just a few applications that are covered.

SPECIALITIES

ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems is the competent partner to your success in printing and finishing of textile-based substrates.

- Developing the idea
- Building the process
- Installing and commissioning the equipment
- Implementing and transferring the process technology and Know-how
- Servicing the production line
- Designing and manufacturing the printer and line components

INNOVATION | QUALITY | SERVICE

ZIMMER MASCHINENBAU GMBH
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www.zimmer-austria.com
The DOMOTEX Turkey Trade Fair as part of the Procurement Delegation program offers an opportunity for expanding into new markets.

The Heart Of Exports to Beat in Turkey

The big meeting of the carpet and floor covering sectors will take place at DOMOTEX Turkey to be organized at the Gaziantep Middle East Fair Center between May 14th and 17th, this year.

DOMOTEX Turkey will bring together both local and foreign enterprises and professionals after a 2-year break.

A Procurement Delegation program will be implemented as part of the trade fair under the organization of the Secretariat-General of Southeast Anatolian Exporters' Associations (GAIB) with an eye to creating a significant trade volume for the participating companies with a platform, whereby they could make business contacts.

An opportunity for expanding into new markets

The Domotex Turkey Trade Fair to be organized as part of the Procurement Delegation program under the coordination of the Ministry of Commerce with an eye to increasing our exports, diversifying our export ranges, finding new markets for our export products and maintaining our market shares will provide the participating companies with a platform, among other things.

While authorized resellers get an opportunity to meet with their suppliers after a 2-year break, all local and foreign purchasers, on the other hand, would be able to have personal contact with the product pipelines and trends to be promoted at the event, thereby placing their orders.

Closing the year 2021 with an export volume of 3.2 billion dollars in the carpet sector, Turkey aims to achieve an export input of 4 billion dollars in 2022, with a further contribution from DOMOTEX Turkey, the International Trade Fair for Carpets and Floor Coverings organized by Deutscher Messe as part of the Procurement Delegation program.

Enjoying a huge interest, the trade fair will exhibit the products not only at its existing premises, but also inside a tent to be set up for the first time this year. Geared to exhibit new designs, innovative products and new patterns in the carpet and floor covering sectors, being an essential component of decoration, DOMOTEX Turkey will also promote the new-generation Turkish carpet-making approaches.
From Page 1 ....carpet tile makers, architects and interior design professionals together, giving us the uniquely exciting opportunity to talk in person with all parts of the design chain so we can start to co-create and co-develop, and achieve amazing results together,” says Global Sales Director, Glenn Hyzak.

B.I.G. Yarns’ polyamide-based collections are high-performing with a strong emphasis on elevating design through remarkable colour contrasts and patterns: from bulk continuous filament (BCF) to twisted and heat-set yarns, one-colour to multi-colour, between 650 and 15000 dTex.

Designers can tap into the Class 33 resilience and various comfort levels of its market-leading one-step 3Ply Resilya, Softitude, and new two-step ColorMind solutions to meet application requirements, as well as access monthly inspiration care of #CatchtheColor.

ColorMind offers never-seen yarn diversity to support a new level of design sophistication in high-end carpet segments. The ColorMind colour bank features predefined colours, always in stock, meaning short lead times. Manufacturers can also benefit from customized lot sizes and bobbin length, creating even more flexibility and design freedom.

Plus, take steps to reduce ecological impact of carpets by using sustainable products that will not compromise crucial aspects like colour or tuftability. B.I.G. Yarns continues to extend its ranges to reduce fossil-carbon in the industry and encourage greater product circularity. Its EqoCycle PA6 yarns incorporate recycled content originating from recycled and regenerated PA6 and are fully recyclable, improving resource efficiency and other environmental benefits throughout the value chain.

Carpet tufters can also contribute to a sustainable future through less use of fossil resources and reduced greenhouse gas emissions with EqoBalance yarns. Both ranges offer the same high-quality performance as virgin-based yarns.

“B.I.G. Yarns is committed to taking the lead in helping global carpet tile manufacturers meet the contract market’s specific demands and support changing end-market needs.

This year, we’re excited to be adding more production capacity for our one-step 3ply yarns where we use cutting-edge polyamide yarn technologies to expand design, contrast and colour freedoms for manufacturers. Our investment in these new lines also increases flexibility in lot sizes so we are even better placed to respond to evolving supply needs,” comments Emmanuel Colchen, General Manager, B.I.G Yarns.

Find B.I.G. Yarns during the CDW festival in the expo Detail, located in the Church of St John exhibition space, Stand D11. Click on the CDW website for more details. And contact our yarn experts, Glenn Hyzak or Belinda Ottevaere to fix an appointment.

Clerkenwell Design Week showcases leading UK and international brands and companies in a series of showroom events, exhibitions and special installations that take place across the area. With over 125+ resident showrooms, an array of exhibitors and local practices taking part, CDW has firmly established itself as the UK’s leading independent design festival and annually attracts the international design community to the area for three days of exciting events.

Balta Group nv completes divestment to Victoria PLC

Balta Group nv is pleased to announce that it has completed the sale of its Rugs, Residential polypropylene (Residential PP) and Non-Woven businesses, together with the Balta brand, to Victoria PLC (the Transaction, the Divested Businesses) on 4 April 2022.

The Transaction will allow the remaining Group to focus on developing its commercial businesses in Europe and the United States under the main brands modulyss and Bentley Mills respectively, as well as its premium European Residential polyamide (Residential PA) business (ITC). The remaining Group will continue its activities under a new name, to be announced in Q3 2022.

With the closing of the transaction, Balta Group nv has also settled the tender offer for its senior secured notes and refinanced other debt facilities. Post completion, the group has outstanding senior secured notes of EUR 132m, a sale and lease back facility of EUR 20m and an undrawn RCF facility of EUR 45m.

Cyrille Ragoucy, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Balta said,

“I would like to thank the whole Balta Team for the passion, the dedication and the hard work to achieve the completion of this mutually beneficial transaction with Victoria PLC. I wish our colleagues at Balta Home, the Residential PP business and Captiqs all the best under the new ownership.

With the remaining team, I am looking forward to successfully develop our commercial businesses in Europe and the United States under the existing brands modulyss and Bentley Mills, as well as our premium European Residential polyamide business under the existing brand ITC.”

Philippe Hamers, CEO of Victoria said,

“We are excited to have completed the Balta Rugs and Broadloom Carpet acquisition. We cannot wait to start working closely together with our new colleagues, and are looking forward to developing the planned synergies with our incumbent business. I would like to thank the selling Balta management team for the professional and straightforward discussions which have led to this successful deal.”

Middle East and North Africa Carpet News »»»
Saurer has a wide range of products from pre-spinning machinery to Automation and mill management, please share with us the latest innovations and products from Saurer.

Saurer Technologies specializes in intelligent and economical twisting and cabling machines for tire cord, carpet, staple fiber, glass filament, and industrial yarns, which allow customers to adapt flexibly to dynamic market requirements.

Currently, the main trends in the market are automation, digitalization, and recycling. Digitalization has revolutionized traditional services such as site visits, in-person training, and machine troubleshooting.

Automation within the single machine, between the machines, and on the complete mill level has become the new standard. Aligned with Saurer’s vision as a solution provider, the Senses mill management system allows customers to connect all their Saurer and third-party machines in one system.

The Autocoro 10 is perfectly tailored to sustainable raw materials, especially those that consist largely of recycled and regenerated materials. With SynchroPiecing 36, the Autocoro 10 offers a 50% higher piecing capacity than the previous generation, which ensures particularly high productivity, especially when regenerated material is being processed. It has a market share of more than 90% with more than 1 million spinning units sold worldwide.

Since the introduction of the air-spinning machine, Saurer now is the only textile machinery manufacturer to offer machinery for all five end-spinning applications: ring, compact, rotor, air, and worsted spinning. Saurer is traditionally strong in the Middle East region with its worsted ring-compact-spinning machine Z 451 for wool and acrylic yarns.

Saurer Twisting Solutions offers remote service to allow the experts to access a fully digital read-out of the error log, which allows them to identify any issues. The Saurer Academy offers a wide range of online and web training courses for machine operators. Customers can book classroom and live web-based training courses.

2- Saurer is a leading manufacturer of high efficiency, high yield and high-quality blowroom machinery in the world, please let us know more about your blowroom production facilities and the latest technologies and innovations for that.

Saurer pre-spinning is the foundation of the Zinser ring-spinning and Schlafhorst open-end systems. The flexible portfolio offers the right solutions for the preparation of all kinds of fibres for the subsequent processes. The right combination of blowroom and carding machinery ensures excellent fibre utilisation and sliver quality for high efficiency and yarn quality in spinning.

Saurer offers automatic and reciprocating bale pluckers, enabling customers to adapt their blowroom according to their individual needs. Booth bale pluckers are suitable for all kinds of materials with a fibre length below 76 mm. Our engineering department offers different configurations for the blowroom depending on the raw material used.

The new Autocard was developed to create further value in the fibre preparation chain. The machine’s higher carding area means 18% higher output and an even cleaner sliver. It also features LED lights for intelligent operator guidance. Can changes are carried out during full production without slowing down the speed of sliver delivery.

Complete lines with Saurer pre-spinning line to-
Create perfect ring yarns.

ZR 72XL / ZI 72XL – the modular all-rounder

Our new ring- and compact-spinning machines – the direct path to a successful future. Choose between different drafting systems, compact and yarn systems. Benefit from the powerful cutting-edge technology and our modular solutions. Take the step into the future with modern machine intelligence.

saurer.com
get together with the fully automated Autocoro rotor spinning machines have already been installed in several markets. The combination offers excellent ROI and low spinning costs for all textile applications, for conventional cotton spinning as well as for the processing of sustainable fibres.

3- Saurer participates in the most important trade shows all around the world in 2022 like ITM Istanbul or JEC World. How do you feel to meet again customers and potential clients face to face after a long Coronavirus pandemic period?

We hope that the easing pandemic situation will allow some of the large exhibitions to take place to live in 2022, enabling more direct meetings again and presenting our latest innovations. We very much look forward to meeting our customers in person again. The pandemic has not only caused exhibitions to be postponed but also made traveling difficult. Both, our customers and we ourselves feel that digital meetings cannot replace personal meetings.

4- How do you evaluate the textile industry in the Middle East and Africa region?

Near- and on-shoring has been discussed on several occasions over the years. The current freight rates for containers from Asia to Europe are adding urgency to these discussions. A certain re-location of production also in the Middle East and African regions is expected.

Further, several African countries export cotton and this offers an opportunity for further value addition in the country and on the continent. We have been expecting the African textile industry to grow and diversify even more – maybe the post-pandemic opportunities will further support this development. We consider developments and opportunities within the region from the viewpoint of the spinning industry.

5- How do you evaluate new investments in the spinning sector in the Middle East and CIS especially Turkey, Egypt, and Uzbekistan?

The new investments are triggered both by near/re-shoring as well as the requirements to increase value add in the textile value chain inside the countries. Turkey is preparing to take over some of the Asian market shares and the investments over the past years have been considerable.

We are pleased to see the modernisation of the spinning industry in this region. Several of Saurer’s key customers come from this region and many of our most advanced automated high-speed and high-efficiency installations have been and still are being delivered to the region.

6- Saurer developed a powerful customer portal to support clients all around the world easily and fast, could you please explain more about Secos? How does it work and what are the benefits for manufacturers?

The Secos – Saurer Customer Portal is more than just an e-shop for Saurer original parts. With the updated version of the portal, it is easier for customers to find original parts – with photo uploads, customers can quickly identify the required original part they need.

In the user’s Secos account, all machine-related manuals and technical documentation for their machines are saved for quick reference in case of questions on operation and maintenance. Like Senses, Secos can be accessed anytime, from any mobile device. Saurer Twisting Solutions experts can access a fully digital read-out of the machine log. They can also adjust machine control settings, update software and do diagnostics checks of any hardware defects as well as check CPU usage, energy consumption, and machine temperature. This means getting the customer’s machine running at optimal capacity faster with less downtime.

7- Sustainability and energy consumption are two main factors for textile machinery manufacturers for many years, what is Saurer Group’s sustainability policy, and your latest innovation and achievement in this sector?

With the E3 philosophy, Saurer ensures that each machine new generation uses less energy, supports customers to save resources, and offers improved working conditions and optimised material flow. As an environmentally conscious company, we aim to make our products as energy-efficient as possible.

Aside from decreasing our clients’ energy costs, this approach also allows our customers to position their offerings as sustainable – a necessity today given the climate challenges the world faces. For example, the Saurer twisting machine CompactTwister offers up to 40% energy saving by optimised spindle technology, and the Saurer ring/compact spinning machine Z 72XL offers up to 66% energy on suction thanks to Twinsuction and Optisuction compared to previous models.

Saurer is in an excellent position to process recycled fibres with the market leader Autocoro in the fully automated market segment and the BD product series in the semi-automated market segment.

We already have a large number of customers worldwide in recycling and have deep inside knowledge on how to improve various processes within the mill. Our textile laboratory in Übach-Palenberg, Germany, is continuously proving consulting services to customers on how to improve efficiency and yarn quality for both ring- and rotor-spinning processes when spinning recycled fibres. Our pre-spinning portfolio also offers solutions for recycled fibres.
Eltex End-out detection for carpet and grass tufting

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Life-style and living standards have changed a lot over the recent years, also in the countries where carpets have always been an important part of the culture.

The move from basic houses on the countryside to apartments in the cities continues, and this has a big influence on the requirements in the rug market. In these basic homes without central heating, the thermal insulating properties of carpets are very important. Big and heavy rugs are required. But in the flats, with smaller rooms and PVC or laminated flooring, this kind of insulation is not required. The demand for rugs evolved to smaller sizes and lighter qualities. However, a rug remains an important decoration-piece. Fashionable, contemporary designs become more popular. People do not wish to keep such modern carpets for a very long time. They expect more economical carpets so that it becomes more affordable to change the rug with the fashion.

The quality of a rug is a combination of different elements:
- raw materials
- reed density, pile-row density, pile height
- weave structure

By eliminating picks and adapting the weave, it's possible to change the characteristics of a carpet and to produce the most suitable carpet structure for a certain quality.

A popular derivative structure is the 2/2V:

This 3-rapier/2-shot 2/2V-structure has quite some advantages over the 2-rapier/2-shot 1/2V. The design definition is much better because 2/2V does not contain any mixcontours as in the 1/2V-structure, and the number of double points is only half.

This means also that it is possible to make finer designs in ratio 1 because less corrections will be required. If necessary, the double points in the design can be eliminated by the VDW design rules. The pile in 2/2V stands straight up, while the 1/2V structure gives a direction to the pile. The pile lock of the structure is very good and the back-coating can easily reach the pile tufts. The 2/2V is a very strong carpet quality, with a nice and flat backside.

Weaving 2/2V, the incorporated pile is not moving and remains in a stationary position. This results in better running efficiencies. The incorporated yarns are more straight in the back of the carpet, which means less pile consumption. The center rapier inserts a weft alternately in top and bottom carpet and can insert a different yarn count to create different qualities.
This structure is a superior alternative to single shot 1/1V, because the pile lock in 1/1V is often a serious problem. In 1+2/3V, the back-coating can reach the inside pile-tuft easier because the stationary incorporated pile-yarns are one level deeper inside the carpet. This is a very good structure for heavy carpet up to 10 pile rows, up to 4 kg/sqm.

A 2/2V structure allows more pile-rows than a 2/3V: for example in reed 500, a 2/3V can go to 6 pile rows while a 2/2V can reach 8 pile rows. Going to higher pick-densities, the carpet will tend to curl. The Smart Frames on the loom can easily solve this problem by programming the heddle frames for longer ground-weaves.

For example ground-weave in report 8 in 2/2V:

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UYUM TEKSTİL, a specialist in producing parts of the jacquard carpet weaving machines

Interview with Mr. Tamer Firat – CEO of UYUM TEKSTİL in Turkey

UYUM TEKSTİL Company was established in 2005 in the Topkapi district of Istanbul. The company produces a variety of pulleys and parts for jacquard carpet machines, velvet weaving machines, label, and tape weaving machines, as well as staubli quick.

The parts produced in the company are as follows:
- Machine-made carpet weaving: Van de Wiel, CRX, CRP, HLX, SRX, CRT, CRM
- Velvet weaving: Gunne, Gusken, Van de Wiel
- Label weaving: Jakob Muller

Using the latest technologies has guaranteed the high quality of our parts. It also ensures the uniform dimensions and specifications and the machine’s best result during installation and use.

Are you also present in the Iranian market?
In addition to Turkey, our products are shipped to all parts of the world by intermediaries and sales representatives. Due to the many similarities between the Iranian textile market, especially the machine-made carpet sector, and the Turkish machine-made carpet industry, and the desire of Iranian machine-made carpet companies to buy high-quality parts for carpets from Turkey, we intend to enter the Iranian market with more power.

Currently, we have customers in Iran, and we offer our parts and services to the Iranian companies producing machine-made carpets.

What is your vision for the future?
Our strategy at UYUM TEKSTİL is to follow the latest developments and modifications in the textile and machine-made carpet industry, keep our technical knowledge up to date and expand our product range. In general, our goal is to achieve the highest level of customer satisfaction by pursuing all these concerns.

How is the quality of your products compared to the original European parts?
Our customers’ opinions perfectly prove the quality of our company’s products. According to our customers’ acknowledgement, our company’s parts are quite competitive in terms of quality, durability, lifespan, and price.

We offer the same quality as the original parts despite the reasonable price. Since 2005, when we entered the Turkish textile market after noticing its need, we have worked with a large number of Turkish carpet and textile companies, and we have great customers in the Turkish market.

How do you guarantee the quality of your products?
The raw materials used for our products are the best European raw materials, allowing our customers to use our items with confidence. The use of European high-quality raw materials provides high resistance to heat, wear, and depreciation as well as enhancing impact resistance and durability.
Iran exports $64mn worth of handwoven carpets

Head of Iran National Carpet Center said that the country exported $64 million worth of handwoven carpets to foreign countries in previous year in 1400 (from March 21, 2021 to March 20, 2022).

Iran's export of handwoven carpets overseas last year registered an 11 percent growth in terms of weight and also a 10 percent decline in terms of value, Farahnaz Rafe' stated.

She put the total value of handwoven carpets exported in the world in 2020 at $870 million, so that India stood at the first rank by exporting $278 million worth of carpets while the Islamic Republic of Iran stood at the second rank by exporting $72 million of handwoven carpet.

Islamic Republic of Iran still is ranked first in terms of export of handwoven carpets worldwide, the head of Iran National Carpet Center added.

Iranian carpet exports continued to decline over the calendar year to late March although a senior government official insists the country has still the dominant share of the international market of handwoven carpets.

Farahnaz Rafe' said restrictions on global trade because of the coronavirus pandemic and American sanctions on Iran had been to blame for the continued decline in carpet exports from the country.

The official said that carpet exports from India, the top supplier of handwoven rugs in 2020 with around $278 million worth of exports, included various types of traditional floor coverings that never matched the quality of carpets produced in Iran.

She said that production of hand-woven carpet in Iran had increased by nearly a third over the year to late March to reach 2.8 million square meters.

Rafe' said the figure is expected to increase to more than 3 million square meters in the calendar year to March 2023 as the government plans to create more than 50,000 new jobs in the sector.

UYUM TEKSTİL

FIRMAMIZ HALI JAKAR PALANGA, KADIFE JAKAR PALANGA, ETIKET JAKAR PALANGA ÜRETİMİ(VAN DE WIELE, GÜNNE, GÜSKEN, JAKOB MÜLLER) YAPMAKTADIR.
Vandewiele team is delighted to welcome its customers again on the next edition of the Domotex exhibition, in the capital of carpet, Gaziantep.

Apart from many traditionally woven carpets on the RCE+ carpet weaving machine, Vandewiele will also promote the digitally controlled RCF machine with Fast Creel, cut-loop machines, and specific machines for weaving light carpets. All will be illustrated by carpet samples.

The digital control of yarns allows the development of new qualities, a higher production efficiency and a closer follow-up of the machine park. Yarn waste is reduced at the highest production speed. Combinations of cut pile carpets with flatweave as well as sisal look carpets will be presented.

Naturally, also the highest carpet qualities in reed 1000 d/m 10 colours, 1200 d/m and 1500 d/m with up to 5,000,000 points/m² will be shown.

In tufting, the digital control of pile yarns (active yarn feed, also called IPD) has allowed Vandewiele the development of high definition Colortec 1/10” tufting carpet in 8 colours – or 1/7” gauge, competing with the traditional Axminster carpets. But also, solutions for plain carpets, artificial grass and our Myriad machines for tiles and other applications will be highlighted.

On Bejimac side, we will be delighted to present you in detail our new autonomous shearing machine, the ATSH. This machine is an example of how we develop new technologies to for fill the needs of our customers.

For the back coating the focus will be energy saving, an important topic nowadays.

Superba, already the leader in heat-setting with saturated steam under pressure thanks to their well-known TVP3, is now offering their hot-air heat-setting solution with the DHS3 line. This triple-layer heat-setting process provides an unequalled level of evenness and a highly homogenous fixation characteristic to the yarn, as well as stain resistance or enhanced bulk. The DHS3 line offers a high energy saving process in a reduced floor-space.

To complete their range, SUPERBA is also introducing their new B403 automatic winder. Expanding its area of application beyond the carpet yarn field, the B403 marks a real technological breakthrough with its individual spindle motorization drive; it enables a constant tension winding process, an accurate bobbin length measuring as well as a unique quality control for each yarn position.

Finally, with the BXE extrusion line from VANDEWIELE, the MF400 texturizing machine and the MCD3 space-dyeing machine as complementary processes before heat-setting, with SUPERBA lines, the carpet industry gets all the necessary equipment to produce innovative yarn types, allowing manufacturers to make the highest quality carpets at the most economic prices.

All the Vandewiele machines can be connected through cloud computing to the “TEXconnect” supervision system to comply with the Factory 4.0 concept.

Our customers have the capacities to develop designs and create real art. Therefore, we are also looking forward in exchanging ideas with them. Let this Domotex exhibition be a meeting point for everyone in the carpet business: weather active in weaving, tufting, yarn extrusion, heat setting or finishing.

Looking forward to meeting you all again over there!
Meet Stäubli in Gaziantep

Are you passionate about beautiful rugs or versatile wall-to-wall carpeting and searching for a better production solution? Then come to Domotex Turkey at the Middle East Exhibition Center (OFM) from May 14 – 17 and meet our experts at Booth C295 in Hall 2. You will learn all about the new ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL carpet weaving machine and see a wide variety of carpet samples woven on this versatile system. Our team will show you the vast possibilities the ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL can open for your mill.

Besides unequaled flexibility for carpets in low, mid-range and high-density applications, this compact weaving machine is easy to use and boasts smooth yarn handling.

Manufacturers need cost-effective and efficient machines to meet the demands in the market in carpet and rug production, where there are lots of different applications and designs. The ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL, incorporating new technologies, offers weavers a number of benefits that will boost productivity.

The ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL has a 5.3m weaving width, enabling the production of carpets in a great variety of sizes and designs tailored to market demands, like all the machines in the renowned ALPHA 500 series. Producers and designers take advantage of flexibility, with options such as cut-pile and flat fabrics, patterning on the ground, weft patterning, and reverse, sisal, and high pile.

**ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL**
The ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL carpet weaving machine has been developed for carpet manufacturers that weave a wide variety of carpet qualities, with different carpet sizes up to 5.3 m weaving width.

This weaving machine is Stäubli’s answer to today’s market requirements such as rapid design changes and sophisticated weave structures. Convenient yarn handling, compactness, and high operational reliability combined with long service life are decisive advantages of the ALPHA 560 UNIVERSAL carpet weaving system.

The extraordinary adaptability and productivity of the overall system will delight any carpet weaving mill searching for an efficient production solution.

**ADVANTAGES**
• Up to 92 colour combinations can be realized on an 8 frame machine due to the possible double and triple point technique.
• Depending on the reed density up to 16 colours are possible.
• Low, mid-range and high density carpets can be produced.
• Up to 33,792 pile threads by combining four Jacquard machines on the top
• The system offers exceptional operational reliability

**APPLICATIONS**
• Cut pile
• Cut pile and flat fabrics
• Patterning on the ground
• Weft patterning
• Reverse
• Sisal
• High pile
Iran's machine-made carpet industry and a bright future

Iran's machine-made carpet industry has a high potential that has not yet been identified and operationalized. Considering that Iran has a domestic market of 80 million people and the importance of carpets in Iranian culture, most Iranians have several machine-made carpets in their homes.

Hence, the Iranian domestic market has always been active and highly demanded. The volume of Iran's domestic market is about 65 million square meters. Every year, millions of square meters of carpets are produced more than the domestic market consumption, which needs to be exported to foreign countries.

Overproduction in the Iranian market has caused a lot of competition between manufacturers to take over the domestic market. Companies always try to offer higher quality and more innovative products with more recent designs and patterns. It can be said that the domestic market of Iranian machine-made carpets is almost saturated.

Iran's machine-made carpet industry is the country's Locomotive Export

Machine-made carpet is currently the strongest and most active sector of Iran's textile industry, accounting for about one-third of Iran's total textile exports. Iran's machine-made carpet industry supplies the domestic market of 80 million people (with an annual need of about 50 million square meters of various types of machine-made carpets). In addition, the export of Iranian machine-made carpets is valued at about $350 million.

At present, most of the Iranian machine-made carpets are exported to Iran's neighboring countries, such as Iraq and Afghanistan. Nevertheless, Iranian machine-made carpets can easily enter the markets of Europe, the United States, and other parts of the world due to their high quality and standards.

The only reason for Iran's absence in these markets is economic sanctions and the difficulty of money transfers. By removing economic sanctions, a bright future awaits the export of the Iranian machine-made carpet industry.

Machine-made carpets and variety in production

According to the vision document of Iran's machine-made carpet industry, by 2025, Iran's machine-made carpet exports will reach one billion dollars. 80% of carpets produced in Iran are made of acrylic fibers, and the rest are made of polypropylene and polyester.

There are several acrylic yarn spinning mills in Iran. Acrylic fibers in Iran are imported from countries including Germany, India, South Korea, Spain, China, Taiwan, etc. In the last decade, due to the increase in the production of products intended for export, the production of lightweight polyester carpets in the Iranian market has grown rapidly.

On the other hand, raw materials for polyester yarn production are abundant in Iran. This can be an advantage for exporting machine-made carpets to control the price of raw materials.

In the last decade, many old machines for the production of machine-made carpets in Iran have been replaced by modern machines with higher quality. Currently, the production of 500/700/1000/1200 and 1500 reeds carpets is prevalent in Iran. The old machines of 330 and 400 reeds are being transferred to neighboring countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

It can be boldly said that constantly the latest technologies in machine-made carpet weaving are installed and launched in Iran, which means that the technology of carpet weaving machines in Iran is at the level of developed countries such as Turkey and Belgium.
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Afghanistan exports 1 mln square meters of carpets last year: local media

Afghanistan has exported more than 1 million square meters of carpet over the past year, a local television channel reported Saturday.

Quoting the Union of Carpet Producers and Exporters of the country, Tolonews reported that "the number of carpet weavers increased over the past one year and the country produced and exported more than 1 million square meters of carpets in the year of 1400 (in Persian calendar ended on March 20).

"Production has increased by 20 percent," the media outlet quoted Mohammad Asef Yaghoubi, a member of the Carpet Producers and Exporters Union, as saying.

However, following the U.S. military withdrawal, Washington has slapped sanctions on the new Afghan administration, freezing Afghanistan's central bank assets worth more than 9 billion U.S. dollars and thus plunging the aid-dependent country into an economic crisis.

The U.S. sanctions have also led to the isolation of Afghanistan and restricted air connection between the war-torn country and other countries.

Some carpet exporters are concerned about the lack of flights and the closure of air corridors between Afghanistan and other countries, calling for facilitating the export of carpets, according to the media outlet.

"The air corridors are closed, we do not have visa facilities, and we have few exports through Pakistan," said Mohammad Rafi, a carpet seller.

Source: Xinhua Editor: huaxia
Turkish carpets unique to the Kula district of Manisa have been resurrected and are now being woven once again in a workshop set up in a historical mansion.

Kula Municipality restored the mansion of a Greek doctor named Aristi, who lived in the district about 300 years ago, and turned it into “Doctor Aristi Handicrafts Workshop.”

In the weaving looms set up in the mansion, where many handicraft workshops are located, 16 kinds of motifs unique to Kula and bearing traces of pre-Islamic Central Asian Turkish traditions are kept alive by carpet weavers.

The six women employed in the workshop both revive the forgotten carpet weaving in the district and contribute to their families’ income. Kula Mayor Huseyin Tosun told Anadolu Agency (AA) that they care about women’s employment in the district and said that the Doctor Aristi Handicrafts Workshop will be an important center in this sense.

Tosun said that they will keep the weaving of carpets and rugs, one of the forgotten handicrafts of the district, alive in the workshop.

“We will ensure the survival of Kula carpets and kilims with various activities here. At the same time, the carpets and kilims produced here will be exhibited and sold to tourists who come to visit Kula, and the women of our community will benefit economically. Our workshop, which started with the weaving of carpets by six women, will increase in number in the future and serve those who want to weave more. Thanks to this, the women who weave carpets, which is a special art, will contribute to their family income,” Tosun also said.

Tosun stated that the Doctor Aristi Handicrafts Workshop would be opened to students during the summer period when the schools are on holiday and would offer weaving, painting, recycling, wood and stone painting workshops.

Sultan Gencturk, one of the master trainers of the workshop, also explained that the interest in the workshop is increasing day by day.

“We especially weave with motifs woven in Anatolia and reflecting the culture of Central Asia. At the same time, our women weave 16 kinds of carpet motifs, which are identified with the Kula district, stitch by stitch.”

Source: BY ANADOLU AGENCY MANISA
Najet unravels an old pair of jeans, raw material for a designer carpet: traditional, eco-friendly crafts are being adapted for new markets thanks to a project born in the Tunisian desert.

“I learned to weave at a young age, from my mother,” said the 52-year-old from the oasis town of Nefta, 500km south of Tunis. Now, she is making a living from it. She is selling her Turkish-style kilim rugs via Shanti, a social enterprise that helps artisans from across the North African country reach buyers and bring vital revenue into some of its most marginalised communities.

Shanti is the brainchild of Najet’s Franco-Tunisian nephew Mehdi Baccouche.

“Unstitching old jumpers, tearing up old cotton garments, making rugs out of them, it’s a folk art found in all Tunisian homes,” he told AFP. While the skill “has been around forever”, reach-ing buyers is a challenge, he added.

Back in 2014, he had asked his aunt to weave carpets for his friends, soon moving to selling them via Facebook. Seeing the potential, two years later he created Shanti, which buys carpets and takes charge of getting them to consumers.

It also employs designers who work with artisans to improve their design skills and make their products more marketable.

“These are my creations, they come out of my imagination and Shanti approved them,” Najet said.

‘Recycle clothes’
Najet uses an eclectic array of old pullovers, socks and assorted pass-me-downs from the local flea market, giving them a new life as rugs.

She has little fear of running out of raw materials. Despite a lean patch, the Tunisian clothes industry still keeps 1,600 firms in business, providing 100 times that many jobs.

In Nefta, a town of some 22,000 people, Shanti has also set up a haberdashery where weavers have free access to balls of wool recycled from second-hand clothes.

The association’s local coordinator Fatima Al-hamal, Najet’s daughter, says the store makes “a huge difference”. Previously, “craftswomen had to go and find materials, which they had to pay for, then earned 12-15 euros (Dh47.50 to Dh59.50) for a kilim”.

Now Shanti pays them 40 euros apiece, up to a maximum of four a month each to avoid pressuring them into overwork. It then sells them in Tunisia and abroad. The association also helps the workers improve their work spaces, for example with air conditioning - a necessity in southern Tunisia’s blistering summer heat.

The work has changed the social standing of the women involved.

“People see them completely differently now,” Fatma said. Najet says she is happy to be making a living from home.

“I don’t have to go out for anything, I can cook and eat here, I can work comfortabably.”

Eco-friendly
Baccouche said at first people teased him for getting involved in “an old ladies’ craft”.

But the project fills a valuable niche in an area where women are disproportionately underemployed, and which has faced an ever-worsening economic crisis since before the revolt that sparked the Arab Spring uprisings of 2011.
"It was important to show that you can be an old woman who never went to school and doesn't know how to use the internet, but you can still do something and earn a living from it," he said. Yet the association also tries to avoid creating conflicts within families.

It pays the women not in cash but in post office accounts where their husbands can't see how much they are making - or use it to pay household bills. Using its system of ordering in advance, Shanti runs a boutique in the capital Tunis.

"L'Artisanerie" also acts as a space for coordinators who train artisans from other rural areas, making bamboo furniture, poetry and embroidery. In four years, more than 200 producers have been able to find a market for their work. Sixty work every day for L'Artisanerie.

"We're trying to show that you can make something 100 percent Tunisian, with Tunisian materials and skills, but with a design that fits current tastes," Baccouche said.

Some products, joint creations by artisans and Shanti designers, are sold to design-conscious Tunisians.

Others are exported or sold to bigger firms - such as Indigo, a manufacturer for Zara, or Mango, which recently bought 164 rugs made from recycled jeans.

For now, the system still relies on some support from non-profits such as Oxfam or on Danish development aid.

But Baccouche has big ambitions, with Shanti expanding into sustainable agriculture and eco-tourism.

"We're trying to set up an entire, eco-friendly production and logistics chain," he said.

Source: gulfnews

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**Turkish exporters lose nearly $140M in April as Ukraine war hits trade**

**BY DAILY SABAH**

Turkey's exports to Russia and Ukraine fell by nearly $140 million in April, as Moscow's invasion of its southern neighbor continues to disrupt shipments.

Sales to Turkey's two Black Sea neighbors fell to around $500 million last month, down from $638 million a year ago, according to data compiled from the Turkish Exporters Assembly (TIM).

Although exports were up from $293.1 million in March, they came in below $655.5 million in February. The 55.3% month-on-month fall in March demonstrated the biggest impact yet of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

January-April shipments to Russia dropped 5.5% year-over-year to $1.4 billion, while sales to Ukraine saw a much steeper fall, declining 21.7% to $542.1 million, the data showed.

In April alone, Turkey's exports to Ukraine plunged 49.3% to $105.2 million, down from $207.5 million a year ago.

It followed a nearly 80% and 81% fall on an annual and monthly basis in March to just $41.7 million.

Sales to Russia saw a more limited fall, dropping 8.2% year-over-year to $395 million. Exports in March were down nearly 40% to $252.4 million, from $419.8 million a year ago.

Turkey shares a maritime border with Ukraine and Russia in the Black Sea and has good relations with both.

While it has criticized Russia's offensive, Ankara is trying to balance its close ties and has positioned itself as a neutral party attempting to mediate between the warring sides.

Turkey's trade with both Russia and Ukraine reached a record high in 2021. The volume with Russia reached $34.7 billion, while the turnover with Ukraine jumped to $7.4 billion.

Russia ranked 10th among its biggest export markets last year and came in second when it comes to imports. Ukraine stood 20th in exports and 13th in imports.

Big loss for steel, automotive, cement

Nevertheless, Turkey managed to register the highest monthly exports ever in April, as sales surged 24.6% year-over-year last month to $23.4 billion, the TIM data showed.

It followed monthly records in the first three months of the year, a period marked by a widening trade deficit fueled by increasing energy costs.

The war in Ukraine has sent global commodity prices soaring, threatening to impact Turkey's new economic program that aims to record a current account surplus.

The trade deficit jumped 98% year-over-year in April to $6.1 billion, the data showed, for a total of $32.5 billion in the first four months of 2022.

Energy imports soared 134.1% year-over-year to $7.7 billion, slightly down from $8.4 billion in March, taking a total to $32.7 billion from January through April - equal to an annual rise of 173.1%.

Exports of cement, jewelry, automotive and steel sectors to Russia and Ukraine suffered the biggest losses, according to the data.

Sales of cement-glass-ceramics-soil products to Ukraine plunged 92.4% year-over-year to just $563,000 in April; exports of olives and olive oil also slid by 88.2% to around $11,900.

Jewelry exports were down 88.3% year-over-year to $80,000, automotive sector, which exported $20.1 million to Ukraine in April last year, suffered a 75.2% loss, with sales dropping to just $5 million.

Steel sales fell to $7.5 million, a 70.4% decline compared to a year ago.

As for Russia, the steel industry saw its exports fall 63.7% year-over-year to $7 million, indicating a $12.4 million loss compared to a year ago.
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New carpets welcome worshippers at Two Holy Mosques during Ramadan

0,000 new carpets meet all technical specifications to provide comfort to pilgrims

As part of its preparations for Ramadan, the General Presidency for the Affairs of the Two Holy Mosques covered the floors of both places of worship with 50,000 new carpets for the comfort and protection of worshippers throughout the year, especially during the month of fasting.

The carpets, which were made in Saudi Arabia, meet certain criteria and technical specifications to suit the spaces of the Two Holy Mosques and meet the needs of pilgrims and visitors.

The director of the carpet cleaning department at the Grand Mosque in Makkah, Jaber Ahmed Al-Wada’ani, said the new floor coverings took 11 months to manufacture.

They were high quality and luxurious so that worshippers could perform their prayers with “all reverence and tranquility,” he told Arab News.

The General Presidency for the Affairs of the Two Holy Mosques set up a specialist department 43 years ago to clean, disinfect, sanitize, and perfume carpets with the help of the latest and best technology.

“In the past, the carpets of the Makkah Grand Mosque used to be imported from Germany, Belgium, and Lebanon for so many years. From 1999 to 2000, carpet importing was stopped and the first batch of carpets was established in the Makkah factory,” Wada’ani said.

The first 14 batches of the Makkah carpets made in Saudi Arabia had the same technical specifications. However, they were made with a red tone. Later, green was adopted and this color became the standard hue for carpets across both mosques.

The head of external facilities at the Grand Mosque’s Carpets Department, Muhammed Al-Thibani, described the special details and prints applied to the carpets.

“The emblem of Saudi Arabia is marked in the middle of each rug, and the remaining area of the rug is decorated with woody and floral patterns and prints of various colors in yellow, beige, and navy, all undulating in an elegant and harmonious way,” said Al-Thibani.

The carpets of the Two Holy Mosques have technical specifications that make them different from ordinary or ever day ones. They are thicker, stronger, and more durable. They have softer threads, a higher pile, feel more plush underfoot, have better color stability, and are unaffected by repeat washing.

Al-Wada’ani said: “These carpets are made from 100 percent pure acrylic yarn. The pile weighs 400 grams, and its height reaches 14 millimeters. The total height of one carpet is 16 millimeters.”

With their distinctive moss green tone, the carpets go through several washing operations during the year as the laundry supplies the Grand Mosque with 2,000 clean carpets a week.

There is around-the-clock monitoring of cleaning and maintenance issues, and workers in the mosque regularly sweep, sanitize, and perfume all the carpets over a 24-hour cycle.

Al-Wada’ani gave a detailed explanation of the four main carpet-cleaning stages, adding that the lifespan of a carpet was between four and six years.

“The first stage of cleaning the carpet begins with automatic dirt and dust removal using high-quality technology. Then, the second stage is washing and sanitizing the carpet automatically with disinfectants, water, and special detergents, then rinsing it with water to remove the soap.

“Then comes the third stage, where washed carpets are laid into special tubes to dry them of water. In the fourth and final stage, carpets are raised on sawmills, under sunlight and fresh air, equipped with fans to speed up the drying process. Carpets are then swept with modern special brooms, then sanitized and perfumed with the famous Taif rose water. Then they go for packaging and storage.”

Source: ARABNEWS
WHY MENA CARPET NEWS?

REACH TO 32000 CARPET AND FLOORING ACTIVIST IN THE MENA REGION

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