Meet The Textile Recycling Leader Company in North Africa

Interview with Natalie Gautier – Marketing Manager @ SOFRIP Tunisia

Situated on the Mediterranean Coast, in Sfax City the main economic pole in Tunisia rich with its industries and port, SOFRIP Company recorded a considerable progress over the years to become the undisputed leader in its domain in Tunisia and North Africa.

With over 25 years of experience, SOFRIP is a Tunisian North African leader company in the textile recycling industry specializing in used clothing, shoes, wiping rags and fraying.

1. Please let us know more about SOFRIP company, history and its success story

With the increment in textile production and everyday fashion, the textile sector has created a serious problem for the plant, landfill has become full of textile waste which directly affects the environment.

The pioneering spirit that our manager Mr. KANNOU Hamdi possesses, and the experience he has acquired over the years, allow him to embrace a new perspective on treating used clothes as end-of-life waste, but a perspective that allowed us for shaping what we do around what the world needs, to optimize the working process and propose sustainable solutions for used textiles.

Indeed, it fully assumes its responsibility toward the environment.

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Oriental Weavers Carpet’s profits down 24% in Q1-22

The consolidated net profits of Oriental Weavers Carpet retreated by 24.22% year-on-year (YoY) to EGP 260.05 million in the first quarter (Q1) of 2022, compared to EGP 343.19 million.

The company’s revenues increased by 18.2%

The consolidated net profits of Oriental Weavers Carpet retreated by 24.22% year-on-year (YoY) to EGP 260.05 million in the first quarter (Q1) of 2022, compared to EGP 343.19 million.

The company’s revenues amounted to EGP 3.26 billion in Q1-22, up 18.2% from EGP 2.76 billion in the year-ago period, according to a bourse filing on Sunday.

As for the standalone businesses, the company’s net profits rose to EGP 644.06 million in the January-March period of 2022 from EGP 82.99 million in the same period of 2021.

It is noteworthy to mention that in 2021, the consolidated net profits of Oriental Weavers Carpet increased by 9% to EGP 1.21 billion, compared to EGP 1.11 billion in 2020, including minority shareholders’ rights.
ZIMMER AUSTRIA

digital printing systems

YOUR COMPETENT PARTNER FOR DIGITAL PRINTING NEEDS

Within five business segments Textile Prints, Floor Coverings, Narrow Fabrics, Technical Textile and Special Solutions, ZIMMER AUSTRIA can offer the widest range of printing solutions.

COLARIS-NF SINGLE

The single pass, one side inkjet printer with a maximum fabric width of up to 320 mm. Live demonstration throughout regular exhibition hours.

DIGITAL CAMOUFLAGE WITH IR-REFLECTANCE CONTROL

ZIMMER AUSTRIA offer a solution for digital prints incl. IR-reflectance control, perfectly matching requirements of military and paramilitary forces around the globe. Camouflage printing is not about existing patterns being reproduced digitally from traditional screen printing – digital camouflage printing can offer so much more.
MAGNOROLL
MULTIPURPOSE COATING MACHINE
Coating, Printing, Finishing
on Textiles, Technical Textiles, Glass Fiber, Nonwoven and Paper

ZIMMER AUSTRIA in Klagenfurt has a technology competence center for coating, printing, and finishing systems with decades of experience. ZIMMER AUSTRIA offers tailor-made solutions of perfectly designed coating lines that empowers clients to produce outstanding results with minimal energy consumption. The versatility of the MAGNOROLL multipurpose coating platform draws much interest across industries.

ZIMMER AUSTRIA MAGNOROLL coating machines are available in different executions and working widths from 500 mm (20 in.) to 5200 mm (205 in.). MAGNOROLL coating machines and complete coating lines can be used for universal applications with liquid, paste, and foam on textiles, technical textiles, glass fiber, paper, film, and other innovative materials. MAGNOROLL is the only true multi-purpose coating machine in the market.

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FLOORED BY NATURE

DOMOTEX 2023 focuses on a new awareness of values

The keynote theme of DOMOTEX 2023 focuses on the current issues of the day, such as scarcity of resources, sustainability and health, as well as new market opportunities in an ever-changing environment, and on a new awareness of values. In collaboration with exhibitors and partners of DOMOTEX, the central theme provides forward-looking perspectives on the world of carpets and floor coverings.

“FLOORED BY NATURE” means discovering new environmentally compatible possibilities and making optimum use of existing resources. The goal: to create healthy, sustainable and at the same time inspiring spaces,” says Sonia Wedell-Castellano, Global Director DOMOTEX, Deutsche Messe AG, explaining the 2023 keynote theme. “But serious raw material shortages, high transport costs and further rising energy prices are also creating major challenges for the industry.

DOMOTEX is also a showcase for these issues, highlighting potential, addressing opportunities and risks, and providing best practices,” continues Wedell-Castellano.

Three focus topics form the basis for the main theme: “Connecting Markets”, “Conscious Living” and “Colourful Nature”.

“Connecting Markets” highlights the need to adapt to changing conditions. Markets are in a constant state of transformation: constantly changing import and export relationships, supply relationships, supply bottlenecks, increased energy and production costs, digital services and new online trading platforms are changing the economy.

Digital technologies offer the possibility to launch new collections across sales floors and national borders and to connect with existing customers. Social media, in particular, has also become an important sales channel in the flooring industry alongside stationary retail.

The focus topic, “Conscious Living” implies the desire for healthy living and working, the commitment to environmentally friendly materials and manufacturing processes with the aim of creating balanced and at the same time trend-conscious living and well-being spaces. “Conscious Living” puts the implementation of innovative solutions and the circular use of materials - keyword circular economy - in the foreground.

With the third focus theme “Colourful Nature”, DOMOTEX is presenting nature as a new focal point as a source of inspiration for trendy designs, colour plays and patterns. Nature fascinates not only with its perfect recy-
cling systems and with measured use of resources, but also with its changing and surprising plays of colour, shapes, patterns and trendy designs - which find expression in perfect living and feel-good spaces.

These shapes and patterns can be seen on carpets and floors for demanding areas of use, for example, in the contract sector: carpets, wood and composite floors for outdoor living spaces and the merging of indoor and outdoor areas. This means that floor coverings can be seen both as decoration and as a unit with furniture and fabrics, and with their versatility they make a significant contribution to the atmosphere in a room.

As a global marketplace and source of inspiration, DOMOTEX 2023 will address the central themes of the carpet and floor coverings industry and provide answers to the questions that are currently on the minds of participants. The next edition will be a hybrid event from 12 to 15 January (Thursday to Sunday) at the Hannover Exhibition Center.

2022 Shaw Contract Design Awards

ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN!

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

It is our foundation to celebrate the optimism of design, and its ability to influence our everyday lives. Together, we continue to show up to create experiences that make a positive impact for people & the planet.

Now in its 17th year, the Shaw Contract Design Awards program is our chance to recognise the spaces that inspire new ways of living, working, learning, and healing through the design lens.

How the Program Works

Call For Entries

Entries are now open! Share your design with the world by submitting your project via our website before entries close on Friday 24 June 2022.

Phase 1. Best of Region

All projects entered will proceed to the first stage of judging; where an elite panel of design leaders will collaborate in each region to select the Best of Region winners. Regional Judging will include the following categories:

- Asia
- Australia & New Zealand
- Canada
- India
- Greater China
- Latin America
- Middle East & Africa
- UK & Continental Europe
- USA

Best of Region winners will be announced August 2022.

Phase 2. Best of Globe

Each Best of Region winner will proceed to the next stage of judging, where an international judging panel will award the very best; our Best of Globe winners.

Best of Globe winners will be announced October 2022.

Entry Criteria

Eligibility

Projects must have a completion date between 1st January 2020 and 24th June 2022, and include at least one Shaw Contract product in the project.

Cost

There is no cost to enter, and there is no limit on the number of entries allowed per firm.
Saurer Spinning Solutions at ITM Istanbul presents innovations in intelligent spinning

Saurer Spinning Solutions looks forward to welcoming visitors at Booth 310A in Hall 3 and will present the latest innovations in machinery, digitalisation, and components for pre-spinning as well as in-ring, rotor and air spinning. Spinning Solutions offers high-quality, technologically advanced, and customer-specific automated solutions for staple fibre processing from bale to yarn.

Saurer Autocard – create further value in the fibre preparation chain
The new Autocard's higher carding area means 18% higher output and even cleaner sliver. It also features LED lights for intelligent operator guidance. It was developed to create further value in the fibre preparation chain. It offers the right solutions to prepare all kinds of fibres for the subsequent processes in the textile value chain. The right combination of blow room and carding machinery ensures excellent fibre utilisation and sliver quality, thus increasing the efficiency of the spinning process and improving the quality of yarn.

Autocoro
The most popular rotor-spinning machine in Turkey.
Clever solutions for more productivity, flexibility, yarn quality and sustainability are the recipe for success for Saurer spinning machines. The automation solutions of the Autocoro rotor spinning machine and the Autoairo air spinning machine pave the way to more independence from the availability of personnel, more output and quality assurance and also reduce spinning and raw material costs.

The Autocoro has an outstanding market position. In just 10 years, Saurer installed one million of Autocoro spinning positions with individual drive technology. The Autocoro is the market and technology leader, revolutionised automatic rotor-spinning technology and opened the door to more productivity, flexibility and sustainability for numerous customers worldwide.

ZR 72XL and ZI 72XL
The global benchmarks for intelligent spinning ZR 72XL/ZI 72XL are two highly productive ring- and compact-spinning machines. They set the global benchmarks for intelligent spinning, low energy consumption, user-friendliness and flexible automation solutions. From the finest compact yarns for high-quality shirting fabrics to coarse denim effect yarns and recycled yarns – with their flexibility, the Saurer ring-spinning machines open up access to almost all applications.

Equipped with the proven Optisuction and Twinsuction energy-saving modules, the ZR 72XL/ZI 72XL additionally impress with highlights such as Impact FX, Draftbox, Spinnfinity and Optispeed.

ZR 72XL/ZI 72XL, two all-rounders which, linked with any package winding machine, prove their efficiency on a daily basis and reduce labour and space requirements to a minimum.

Service Unlimited offers life cycle partnerships for all Saurer machines
Profitable, durable and sustainable: Saurer offers customers a lifelong partnership for their rotor- and ring-spinning mills. The company has been present in Turkey for years with its own Customer Service Centre in Kahramanmaras. Saurer invites visitors to ITM to the Sun area at its booth: the company's service experts will show them the latest offers for upgrades and services, original parts and clever preventive services for their existing machinery.

Visitors will also discover how they can also make older Autocoro and BD machines fit for the demanding processing of recycled fibres with profitable conversions and software upgrades. Saurer also offers free test versions for many Autocoro software upgrades.

See the full picture with Senses
Senses is Saurer's IOT platform that allows customers to connect all Saurer and third-party machines in one system. The application increases overall product quality and productivity through detailed and transparent data monitoring across various production processes along the textile chain. In addition, Senses supports the user with important information to quickly find problem-solving solutions. Senses reduce textile mills' labour costs by automatically collecting and analysing data – even for future use without loss of data.

Senses Elements are modular extensions of Senses to manage customers' mill and widen the function range in the areas that are particularly important depending on a customer's individual needs. Customers can easily purchase the Senses Elements via the Saurer Senses Software Shop.

Texparts
Introducing the new E-shape spindle with 17.5 mm wharve diameter
Eshape has a reduced wharve diameter. The double elastic spindle is based on CS 1 S, which has proven its worth over many decades. Outstanding running properties up to 30,000 rpm and about 4% energy saving are the key performance factors.

Eshape combined with the best system for spinning without underwinding, Spinnfinity, is the perfect fit for automated and efficient ring spinning. Dust-resistant, durable and lightweight – these are the qualities that enable Spinnfinity to reduce costs, increase productivity and improve ergonomics.
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
A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXPORT TARGET OF THE CARPET INDUSTRY FOR 2022 FROM DOMOTEX TURKEY

DOMOTEX Turkey, an event bringing the companies and professionals from the carpet and flooring industries together after 3 years of break, took place at Gaziantep Middle East Exhibition Center with the participation of 216 companies at approximately 25,000 sqm stand area. 18,250 visitors from 103 countries in total visited the exhibition, where 3,130 of them were international. 25% visitor increase occurred compared to the previous edition before pandemic.

The Trade Fair, which enjoyed a huge interest, provided a perfect environment for the promotion of the latest products and technologies, from machine-made carpets and rugs to textile floorings, from laminated flooring materials to hand-made carpets and rugs.

Being the center of carpet and flooring industries exhibition in Turkey and the Middle East, DOMOTEX Turkey hosted 168 companies from Turkey, as well as 48 foreign companies from 14 countries, including Germany, Belgium, United Kingdom, Iran, Egypt, Oman and Jordan. The companies showcased new designs and technologies in the carpet and flooring industries.

DOMOTEX Turkey provided, at the same time, many opportunities for many occasions in respect of making business contacts with a growing number of foreign participants at an international level.

"B2B Meetings and New Generation Online Matchmaking System Featured at the Fair"

Organized with the support of Turkish Republic of Ministry of Trade and Southeast Anatolian Exporters Association, DOMOTEX Turkey welcomed buyers from countries including Bulgaria, Czechia and India within the scope of the Buyer Delegation Program. The international buyers met the exhibitors of DOMOTEX Turkey on 15th of May at the fairground. In total 30 meetings were held during the B2B Meetings.

In addition, online B2B Matchmaking was also another first at DOMOTEX Turkey and over 70 fruitful meetings were held between the visitors and exhibitors.

"Designs stood out that year’s edition"

Being a visual show this year, carpets from abstract to futuristic designs stood out during the exhibition. Materials to designs, DOMOTEX Turkey has been a great inspiration for the design and carpet world.

Carpets impressed from Dali or Picasso paintings, containing the design of the stone of peace and positive energy, Amethyst; carpets produced from the waste materials as well as other machine-made carpets attracted a great attention.

“Sustainability is essential for all of us”

Annika Klar, General Manager of Hannover Fairs Turkey, said:

“We have proudly carried out a quite successful trade fair for the carpet sector after 3 years of..."
break. DOMOTEX Turkey has already become an influential player thanks to its contribution to the growth in this sector. DOMOTEX Turkey made great contribution to the export target of the carpet sector in 2022 which is 4 billion dollars.

Pointing out that sustainable, eco-friendly, and green production outputs have attracted huge interest at this year’s exhibition, Ms. Klar added:

"Sustainability is essential for all of us. It is of vital importance for our world and all of us that any products and services produced and supplied must be eco-friendly and sustainable. And most of the products exhibited this year, turned out to be new-generation and recycled ones. Similarly, stand designs were in the same fashion, as well. We witnessed that carpets produced using environmentally-friendly technologies as well as with recycled materials have all enjoyed a huge interest from the visitors. It gives us the pride to see that DOMOTEX Turkey has made a significant contribution on this quite important aspect."

Gaziantep, a province of Turkey that is considered to be the capital city of machine-made carpets, and which is capable of weaving 58% of all machine-made carpets produced in Turkey, alone, DOMOTEX Turkey stands out as the most prominent trade fair of the region every year.

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**Eltex continues to Invest in Future**

One of our main goals is to supply our global customers with the high-quality products they have come to expect. With a flexible and efficient manufacturing process, that simultaneously lowers the environmental footprint, we can do just that.

The ever-changing world market creates a necessity to be one step ahead all the time and by investing in new technology, we are future-proofing our production line with our new Mycronic MY300LX pick and place machine for electronic printed circuit board manufacturing.

We have stayed with Mycronic for a long time and the reason is simple. With the huge variety, and in many cases small quantities, of PCBs that we build compared to other electronic assembly manufacturers, they can provide us the flexibility, quality and ease of use that we demand.

**Capacity of component placements up to 16000 /hour**

With this new pick and place machine we can increase our capacity of component placements from 5000/hour to 16000/hour. And where the earlier machine made the centering of components mechanically, this is now done optically.

To further reduce the possibility of failures in production, components entering into the machine are also continuously measured both mechanically and electrically.

Other welcomed improvements are the modular feeder system, designed for accuracy and convenience, with the possibility of replenishment during machine operation. This prevents the necessity to stop production when running out of components.

By continually investing in new technology we ensure our products are of the highest possible quality, this is what our customers demand and we deliver.
The global recycled textiles market size was valued at $5.6 billion in 2019 and is anticipated to generate $7.6 billion by 2027. The market is projected to experience growth at a CAGR of 3.6% from 2020 to 2027.

SOFRIP assures the safety of all products by complete and hard quality control during sorting process based on human potential and metal detection equipment technologically advanced. Today SOFRIP is considered a major player in the field of industrial wiping rags suitable for any use or application.

RECYCLING
SOFRIP develops mechanical methods and techniques with the aim that used clothing is recycled safely. Based on a unique know-how SOFRIP integrates a fraying unit with a high-level industry process control system that complies with international standards and requirements thanks to the use of high-performance equipment strengthened by an inhalation system assuring a very small rate of dust.

The fraying technique allows used clothing which is not suitable for reuse to be transformed into the first quality of raw materials for high-tech sectors such as automobiles, furnishing, and geo-textile.

Thanks to these efforts, we were able to reduce waste and put our ‘ZERO WASTE’ philosophy into practice.

8. Why customers should select SOFRIP products in the international market?
With an experience of more than 25 years in sorting and recycling, we reach a high level of customer understanding in terms of packaging and quality
Hence, we pay attention to specifics points that are crucial when it comes to choosing a company from another:

- **Personalized services**: after discussing all the details and understanding the customer’s needs we do our best to align our products to the customer’s requirements for a fruitful partnership for both of us
- **Sustainable quality** is proven by our customer tribute, testimonials, and certification
- **Innovation**: SOFRIP always seeks for innovating new ways and manners to improve its products taking into consideration customer’s requirements, environmental issues and sustainable development

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**From Page 1**


**2. SOFRIP is a leader company in recycling textile products, please let us know more about your range of products and their usage. Which kind of textiles you recycle in SOFRIP?**

Used clothes: giving those clothes a second life to be re-worn and re-use
Wiping rags are useful for cleaning and absorbing different kinds of liquids like oil and water... with a soft touch without putting a trace.

Recycled fibers: AKA shoddy
Can be used in many sectors like automotive, building, and mattresses... depending on the textile component we use for production (denim, acrylic, polyester...). Basically, in SOFRIP we recycle all types of textiles.

**3. Why our planet and future needs biodegradable, organic and recycled textile products? Why we should pay attention to sustainability?**

Over the years the industry has been growing disruptively which creates a big problem in terms of pollution in the sea, land, and air. We all know that many textiles components are petroleum derivatives like the polyester and acrylic, as well the cotton needs a lot of water to grow. So just to make a pair of jeans it needs gallons of water and child labour epically in Asia.

Recycling old clothes and textile waste avoids the pollution and the emission of CO2 that could be caused by other old methods of eliminating those wastes such as incineration, burial To solve those problems by 2030 as the UN set an agenda for SDGs.

Though, sustainability is the essence that drives us to shape what we do around what the world needs with saving enough resources for the next generation so sustainability keeps the world in balance a strategy should be put into each action we take to make the world a better place for us and the next generation.

**4. How do you evaluate Tunisia’s textile industry in terms of production and infrastructure?**
The textile sector in Tunisian is growing so fast in terms of infrastructure and innovation as a prove Tunisia is exporting 69.4% of jeans to the USA with a growth of 8.77% in just one year (2021)

Many businessmen have opened their businesses of textile in Tunisia as it is a land of opportunities for them in the textile sector as the law and the labours experience is playing a major role in the success of such projects

**5. How do you collect textiles and apparel for recy-**
End-out detection for carpet and grass tufting

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Vandewiele shows innovations in various fields at ITM 2022

The Vandewiele Turkey team is delighted to welcome its customers again on the next edition of the ITM International Textile Machinery Exhibition, the first biggest organization where textile technology leaders will come together after 4 years. ITM will be held at Istanbul Tuyap Fair and Congress Center on 14-18 June 2022.

Vandewiele, expert in weaving

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.

The Most flexible Tufting systems on the market.

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 the Myriad machines for tiles and other applications will be highlighted.

Vandewiele, expert in jacquards

During ITM VANDEWIELE will show its newest addition to the highly successful Bonas JI range of jacquards: the JIL. The JIL represents the logical extension of the JI range allowing the customers higher hook capacities within the same range of machines. Hook capacities up to 11520 are now possible within the JI range. If even bigger capacities are required, Vandewiele offers the SI machine going up to more than 31000 hooks in a single machine.

The JI has been a tremendous success since the introduction. In many textile countries Vandewiele strengthened or gained its market leader position thanks to the introduction of the new 96 hook capacities used in all the jacquard machines today. Extending the range from a maximum of 5760 to a new maximum hook capacity of 11520 will make the JI the preferred choice for most customers.

The Bonas JIL at ITM will be shown at the Vandewiele booth on a Picanol Optimax 190cm loom using Vandewiele’s special superstructure resulting in a very compact installation with a required roof height much lower than classical gantry installations. This allows the machines to be installed in all weaving halls. The company will show a 9600 hook JIL weaving furnishing fabric with a full repeat design.

The new very user friendly and practical controller software can be seen next to the loom. Full compatibility and production follow up combined with on loom design change possibilities.

Vandewiele, expert in finishing

On Bejimac side, the Vandewiele people will be delighted to present in detail their new autonomous shearing machine, the ATSH. This machine is an example of how Vandewiele develops new technologies to for fill the needs of the customers.

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

Vandewiele, expert in yarns

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 unequaled level of evenness and a highly homo-
genous 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 measur-
ing as well as a unique quality control for each yarn position.

Finally, with the BXE extrusion line from VAN-
DEWIELE, 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.

The customers have the capacities to develop designs and create real art. Therefore, Vandewiele is also looking forward in exchanging ideas with them. Let this ITM 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!

Four giant Persian carpets measuring 2,000 Sq meters exported to UAE

Four giant Persian carpets measuring 2,000 Sq meters have recently been exported to the UAE, a customs spokesman said on Saturday.

The handwoven carpets took seven years to be completed, Seyyed Ruhollah Latifi said.

The carpets consist of two pieces each covering 600 square meters (20 meters by 30 meters), and two carpets measuring 400 square meters (20 meters by 20 meters), the official explained.

Persian carpets are sought after internationally for their delicate designs and their good quality. Among Persian carpets, particularly those of the classic period, the medallion may represent an open lotus blossom with 16 petals as seen from above, a complex star form, or a quatrefoil with pointed lobes. A medallion carpet is any floor covering on which the decoration is dominated by a single symmetrical centerpiece, such as a star-shaped, circular, quatrefoil, or octagonal figure. The name, however, is sometimes also given to a carpet on which the decoration consists of several forms of this kind or even of rows of medallion figures.
van’s Carpet-Kilim Museum, where historical carpets and rugs, or kilim, woven with motifs reflecting the love, feelings and thoughts of the women in the region are exhibited, takes its visitors on a journey through time.

In the museum, which was established within the scope of Van Yuzuncu Yil University Turkish Handicrafts Research and Application Center, the carpet and rug weaving culture, one of the most important handicrafts of the region, is presented in its original form to keep the art from being forgotten.

The visitors who come to the museum, where 293 carpets and rugs woven by women with different motifs in the past, are exhibited, are informed by the officials about the artifacts bearing the traces of civilizations that existed in the region.

Center director and lecturer Sibel Leventoglu told Anadolu Agency (AA) that since 1990, rug and Siirt blanket production workshops have been operating actively. Historical carpets and the tradition of making rugs are transferred to future generations in the museum in eastern Van.

Noting that there are two exhibition halls in the museum featuring 158 rugs belonging to the Van and Hakkari regions, Leventoglu explained: “Our carpets are also very old. We have 100-year-old carpets in the museum. Some 135 carpets are exhibited. Our carpets were brought to us from many places, but some of the rugs are our production. Our carpets are exhibited here in their current form. We ventilate them outside in the summer. We use mothballs at certain times. We take the necessary precautions to prevent the carpets from being damaged. Since 1990, our
carpets and rugs have not been damaged. We dote upon them.”

“Sometimes it is made by analogy with other motifs, but sometimes they weave it in knots with their feelings and thoughts. Rugs have meanings and purposes for touching. All of them embody memory and emotion. That’s why our rugs are as old as the history of humanity. They reflect the period they are in. Therefore, all of these have the characteristics of historical documents and historical artifacts. We can say that it is one of the most beautiful products that have ever been produced by human hands,”

Explaining that the motifs in the rugs are very important and that they reflect the feelings and thoughts of the women weaving, Leventoglu said: “We aim to keep this art, which is on the verge of extinction, alive and to pass it on to future generations. It is very difficult to find a master who weaves rugs nowadays. Turning it into production is one of the most important requirements of the technology of our age. For this, we want to produce our rugs and pass them on to future generations, as well as to provide financial support to our craftsmen. We welcome our people here. They can visit us and get to know our art closely.”
As Ankara and Riyadh move to mend ties, the Turkish carpet makers are hoping a new era will help them lift their sales that all but dried over the last couple of years.

Saudi businesspeople have signaled an intention to rev up purchases of goods from Turkey in the coming period, paving the way for exports to the kingdom to rapidly return to normal.

Exports to one of the top Turkish carpet buyers came in at just $565,000 (TL 8.6 million) in 2021, according to data compiled from the Southeastern Anatolia Exporters Associations (GAIB).

They amounted to only $68,000 in the first four months of this year, out of the total carpet sales of $666 million, the data showed.

In contrast, sales to Saudi Arabia had totaled as much as $342.16 million in 2019, before falling to $263.98 million a year later.

The kingdom had been the industry’s second-biggest customer just after the U.S., said Mehmet Türer, the chair of Gaziantep Chamber of Carpet Makers.

The southeastern Gaziantep province indirectly accounts for 85% of Turkey’s foreign carpet sales.

Saudi Arabia’s imports from Turkey sank to a historic low last year after a monthslong informal boycott by the kingdom.

“Since we were not able to export directly to Saudi Arabia, this country has been replaced by Europe. As carpet makers, we export to almost 150 countries,” Türer told Anadolu Agency (AA).

Ankara and Riyadh have in recent months attempted to repair some diplomatic damage after a decade of tension, especially after the 2018 murder of dissident Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Saudi Arabia’s Istanbul Consulate.

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan late last month paid the first high-level visit to Saudi Arabia in years, after which he said the two countries have a common will to “reactivate a great economic potential.”

Erdoğan said his visit is an example of a common will to start a new period with Riyadh and potentially the start of a new era in political, military, economic and cultural cooperation.

After the trip, Erdoğan said Ankara and Riyadh agreed on the need to bring together the business circles and investors of the two countries.

Türer said curbs were implemented against Turkish goods in Saudi Arabia over the recent two years, which hit trade.

Erdoğan’s visit, however, has injected optimism for the coming period, he noted.

“Our expectation is the old era. If our relations with Saudi Arabia improve, I expect Saudi Arabia to be our number one market. Our exports will increase by at least 25%,” he noted.

“Turkish goods are valuable in Saudi Arabia. The people of Saudi Arabia used to prefer Turkish goods, and the goods of other countries were not in great demand. Some 95% of carpets imported to Saudi Arabia used to be exported from Gaziantep,” Türer said.

“We believe that there will be a positive result in trade with Saudi Arabia. I hope that the customs issue will be resolved in a very short time, and we will continue our direct sales as before.”
Your Gateway to Textile

Nobeltex experience goes back to more than 60 years in the field of machinery for spinning, weaving, dyeing, embroidery, twisting, doubling and rewinding, as well as humidification, ventilation and waste removal systems. In addition, we supply, install and maintain fire protection systems.

For many years, we have been capable of providing comprehensive and integrated services as we have the greatest experience and the biggest team, as well as being the exclusive agents in Egypt for the best machine manufacturer.

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Leila El Gammal & Nayla El Towil

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Waterless printing without pre and post treatment revolutionizes textiles

Nirvana Belt, the world’s first and only waterless textile printing solution without pre and post-treatment developed by Optimum Digital, contributes to the protection of rapidly decreasing clean water resources and manages to reduce the production costs of the printers.

The new technology eliminates the need for pre-treatment (paste) and post-printing processes required by traditional textile applications, thus completely avoiding the intensive chemical use and water consumption during these processes.

This sustainable textile printing solution from Optimum Digital reduces the overall cost by 50% and energy and chemical costs by 80% in addition to conserving natural resources and preventing wastewater generation. Nirvana Belt provides effective and quality printing on all fabrics with zero water consumption and also responds strongly to new market demands for design freedom, customized fabrics, short print runs and faster reorder.

The negative effects of the great leap in industrial production in the last 50 years on the environment and natural resources have been getting more evident each day. 83% of freshwater species populations and a third of wetlands have disappeared since 1970 and nearly two billion people today live in areas at risk of severe water scarcity.

The textile industry, which is responsible for 20 percent of the world’s water pollution and consumes high amounts of clean water in dyeing and traditional printing processes, also plays a critical role in creating a sustainable world. According to researches, enough water (93 billion m³) to meet the consumption needs of 5 billion people is used for textile/apparel production every year.

Optimum Digital has been operating in digital printing and developing innovative technologies since 1994, offering an ambitious solution to the intensive water consumption and pollution problem of traditional textile printing applications.

The period of waterless pigment printing without pre and post treatment (without paste) in textile printing technology

While reactive printing, one of the methods used in traditional textile printing applications, enables printing only on cellulosic fabrics, machines that can print on both cellulosic and polyester fabrics are more preferred today.

However, in traditional methods, the fabric has to go through a series of chemical processes before printing and different processes such as steam, water and fixation after printing.

Today, approximately 95 to 400 litres of water are required to produce one kilogram of textile products, while textile wastewater containing high levels of organic and inorganic contaminants seriously endangers human and environmental health. In addition, this brings with it legal obligations such as the installation of treatment systems and high operating and investment costs.

The waterless pigment printing without pre and post treatment innovation, developed by Optimum Digital, offers an effective solution to this problem and enables textile printing with zero water consumption. It eliminates the wastewater, chemical contaminants and high energy consumption of traditional printing.

Optimum Digital has introduced Nirvana Belt, a new way to produce high-quality textiles without the need for pre and post treatment or water

Another disadvantage of traditional textile printing technologies is the need for extra machinery caused by pre-treatment and post-printing processes, and generating additional costs because of the chemicals used in this process for the manufacturer.

Nirvana Belt textile printer eliminates the use of extra machinery for processes such as drying, washing and steaming before and after printing, and avoids spending extra energy, time and cost to produce environmentally friendly high-quality fashion prints with its innovative technology. In this way, waterless printing technology without pre and post treatment provides a lower cost per m² production opportunity for printing, cutting the costs by half while reducing energy and chemical costs by 80%. In addition, there is more working place in the facility thanks to the use of less machinery in the printing area.

Eco-friendly innovation that effaces tradition
Nirvana Belt offers manufacturers the advantage of environmentally certified and reliable printing within the scope of Greenguard, Gots, Oeko-tex and Green to Wear standards, bringing a new power to mass production with waterless printing without pre and post treatment. It makes it possible to print on polyester, cotton, synthetic cotton and all other fabrics in the same machine; it is used in lots of different application areas such as tablecloths, sportswear, curtains, bed covers, flags and upholstery fabrics in addition to elastic and non-elastic apparel.

Nirvana Belt enables manufacturers to obtain any print pattern with excellent fastness, accurate colours and soft touch with a choice of up to 8 colours per row for vibrant and colourful prints. Optimum Digital also offers colour expertise for a customized colour profile.

Nirvana Belt fulfills all the requirements of traditional printing in full-length textile printing while minimizing its environmental footprint. Equipped with 32 print heads and capable of printing up to 800 m2 per hour, this pigment printer turns into a real printing solution for numerous different applications with its 2050 mm printing width. Nirvana Belt textile printer has a smart automatic head cleaning system. It also eliminates dirt build up with its integrated spiral brushes.

The printer includes an industrial drying unit and a closed design system for safe operation and reduced noise, and it also features an easy-to-use practical washing unit designed to reduce downtime. Nirvana Belt with a waterless printing technology without pre and post treatment, enables printing processes to be carried out quickly and easily with its user-friendly design, as well as all its environmental and investment-based advantages.

**Zero Water Consumption’ for a livable world**

The Nirvana Belt innovation series is developed as a result of detailed studies to meet the needs of the textile printing industry such as high efficiency and environmentally friendly production, revealing the company’s claim in textiles.

Optimum Digital CEO Taner Guven stated that they have carried out intensive R&D studies on digital printers and that they will continue these innovations without slowing down. Guven underlined that these were developed with a strong infrastructure that also allows version updates for future sectoral needs and said; “This innovation is a technology that is open to development and will facilitate taking steps towards the future”.

Guven emphasized the importance of innovations in terms of sustainability in the textile printing sector, which has a high environmental impact and expressed the following: “We must rapidly create a circular value chain for a sustainable world. Today's traditional textile printing methods do not allow environmentally friendly production due to the excessive use of water and wastewater containing contaminated chemicals.

We have made a revolutionary innovation both to contribute to the transformation of the textile industry towards sustainable production and to respond to the changing demands of the market as a brand that has made numerous innovations with our half-century experience in digital printing.

The waterless printing technology without pre and post treatment we have developed eliminates the need for litres of water required to produce printed textiles with zero water consumption, and also prevents the use of contaminated chemicals. Therefore, I can easily say that Nirvana Belt, produced with a technology that respects nature, brings a new breath to the sustainability-oriented textile printing industry in the new era. We know that every drop of water we protect cleanly and save is our future. We are proud to be the first company in the world to achieve it”.

The accelerating digital printing industry offers new opportunities

While the value of print services was 3.16 billion euros in 2020, it increased to 3.82 billion euros in 2021, and the figures that decreased in 2020 with the effect of the pandemic which changed the balances all over the world are expected to increase until 2022.

The volume of inkjet printed fabrics is estimated to increase about 2 times its size from 2.89 billion square metres in this period to 5.53 billion square metres in 2026 according to the estimates, and the data shows that the share of inkjet printing in the total printed textile market has increased from 6% to 10%. This growth presents an important opportunity for textile printing suppliers to grow and recover their losses after the pandemic.

Optimum Digital stands by textile printers as a reliable partner with low-environmental and high-quality printing solutions for all textile products in this process with Nirvana Belt having waterless technology without pre and post treatment. Nirvana Belt textile printer represents an important step forward by Optimum Digital in sustainable and environmentally friendly printing.
The Australian Wool Production Forecasting Committee (AWPFC) has updated its forecast of shorn wool production for the 2021/22 season. This fourth forecast is for production of 314 million kilograms (Mkg) greasy, a 6.5% increase on the 2020/21 estimated shorn wool production of 294 Mkg greasy.

Incoming AWPFC Chairman, Stephen Hill said that "abundant summer feed in many major wool producing regions together with an early break to the season continues to favour sheep and wool production. Average cut per head is expected to increase by 3.2% to 4.54 kg greasy". Most AWTA key test data (Table 3) continue their increase reflecting changes in seasonal conditions.

Australian sheep producers are continuing to rebuild the flock with an expected 3.1% increase in the number of sheep shorn to 69.0 million head during 2021/22. New South Wales continues to have the largest sheep flock with 22.35 million sheep shorn resulting in a state production of 103.9 Mkg greasy. Interstate transfers and sheep slaughter from Western Australia have returned to normal levels, indicating a rebuild in their sheep flock.

AWTA wool test volumes to the end of March 2022 were up by 8.5% on a year-on-year basis.

First-hand offered wool at auction to the end of March 2022 (week 39) was up by 11.1%.

The AWPFC's first forecast of shorn wool production for the 2022/23 season is 321 Mkg greasy, a 2.9% increase on the 2021/22 forecast because of modest increases in the number of sheep shorn (up 2.8%). The number of sheep expected to be shorn, 70.9 million head, remains low (20th percentile) and will continue to place a ceiling on further increases in shorn wool production. The low sheep numbers continue to be offset by the average cut per head (4.54 kg) which is at historically high levels (83rd percentile).

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Stephen Hill commences as Chair of the Australian Wool Production Forecasting Committee from April 2022 replacing outgoing Chair Russell Pattinson who has chosen to retire from the role. The AWPFC thanks and acknowledges Russell’s contribution to the Committee over the past 15 years.

Stephen Hill has over 30 years’ experience in the global wool industry having worked across the entire supply chain - from the family farm in the Southern Highlands producing superfine wool, through to internationally based sales and business development roles. He has strong relationships throughout the Australian wool industry's

### Table 1: Summary of Australian wool production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>2020/21</th>
<th>2021/22 Fourth Forecast</th>
<th>2021/22 Fourth Forecast Change y-o-y (%)</th>
<th>2022/23 First Forecast</th>
<th>2022/23 First Forecast Change y-o-y (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheep numbers shorn</td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>69.0</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(million head)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average cut per head</td>
<td>4.40</td>
<td>4.54</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>4.54</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(kg/head)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorn wool production</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mkg greasy)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.
domestic and international customer base with exporters, early-stage processors and vertically integrated mills. His proven business acumen, industry knowledge and reputation place him well to Chair the AWPFCC.

The National Committee drew on advice from the six State Committees, each of which includes growers, brokers, private treaty merchants, sheep pregnancy scanners, representatives from State Departments of Agriculture and the Australian Wool Testing Authority. Data and input were also drawn from AWEX, wool exporters, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, ABARES, and Meat and Livestock Australia.

The state and national Committees will next meet in early September 2022.

Table 2: Total shorn wool production by state (million kg)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>NSW</th>
<th>VIC</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>TAS</th>
<th>QLD</th>
<th>Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>59.6</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>70.7</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>51.5</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change y-o-y (%)</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>-5.5%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>-4.0%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: AWTA key test data for 2020/21 and 2021/22 July to March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020/21</th>
<th>2021/22</th>
<th>Change y-o-y</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean fibre diameter (μm)</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>+0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staple length (mm)</td>
<td>89.0</td>
<td>88.6</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staple strength (N/ktex)</td>
<td>33.8</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>+0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield (%)</td>
<td>64.2</td>
<td>65.3</td>
<td>+1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable Matter (%)</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>+0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Saurer Technologies – Twisting Solutions will be present at the ikiler Tekstil Booth 311B in Hall 3 and will be happy to provide information about the CarpetCabler/CarpetTwister and CompactTwister machines.

Making its mark on the carpet industry

For over 35 years, our CarpetCablers and CarpetTwisters have been producing high-quality yarns for sophisticated carpets and other textiles. Innovative developments, use of the latest technology at all times and the readiness to go one step further with and for our customers have been a common thread over the decades. This product portfolio covers with conventional and computer-controlled machines all requirements.

Leader in the production of twisted staple fibre yarns

The CompactTwister has been established in the market for over 25 years. The latest generation, the series 8, once again sets new standards for the quality of twisted yarn, flexibility, energy consumption, robustness, lower space requirement and ease of maintenance.

Automation technologies boost processes in the mill

The above machines can be used in conjunction with tailored transport automation from Saurer Automation Solutions including the Robot AGV and Palletiser. Integrating these solutions into the textile plant allows for substantial time and cost savings.

Saurer Twisting Solutions looks forward to welcoming visitors at the ikiler Tekstil Booth 311B in Hall 3 from 14 to 18 June 2022.
MEERA BAH
Continuous Bulk and Heat Setting Machine for Carpet Yarn
Polyester | PP | PA | PET | Acrylic | Wool

For Supersoft High Bulk Polyester Yarn
For Carpets & Bathmats

Lowest Energy And Steam Consumption

High Bulk Yarn Manufacturing Process

Dope Dyed Textured Yarn
Cabling
Bulking & Heat Setting
Supersoft High Bulk Polyester Yarn

MEERA INDUSTRIES LIMITED
Cristina Celestino Designer of The Year

At each edition, Maison&Objet* names a Designer of the Year, celebrating the work of the most outstanding talents on the international design and decoration scene.

Following on from Franklin Azzi’s eclectic architecture, the September 2022 edition is set to shine a light on the erudite sophistication of designer and interior designer Cristina Celestino, who is currently one of the Italian design world’s standout talents. This discrete designer, who exudes exquisite and dazzling creative flair, is set to throw open the doors of her “Exotic Palace” for the duration of the trade fair, momentarily whisking us off into another reality.

Born in Pordenone (Italy) in 1980, Cristina Celestino initially studied architecture at the University of Venice (IUAV). In 2005, she embarked on collaborations with various design studios, focusing her attention on interior design and design. In 2011, she founded the Attico Design brand, and then went on to set up her own studio in Milan in 2013. Today, the Cristina Celestino Studio focuses on exclusive projects, handling both the art direction and design work for private and corporate clients alike, ranging from the residential sector to the hospitality sphere.

Sociability and sharing

Cristina Celestino has been attracted to pastry shop windows ever since she was a child, not simply for the alluring appearance of all the cakes and chocolates, but above all for the meticulous and geometric way in which these delights are displayed. That attraction has sparked a deep-rooted love for all things sweet and for the aesthetics of the places in which they are made and enjoyed.

It is a fascination she continues to draw on today when working for the hospitality and retail sectors, creating sociable and engaging spaces whose increasingly malleable designs stimulate sharing and make people feel at home, encouraging interaction, work or relaxation. Her yearning for sociability notably transpires through the inclusion of an abundance of seats, settees, footstools and sofas, all designed by Celestino herself.

“Sofas are one kind of product that I'm extremely comfortable designing and that I thoroughly enjoy exploring. They bring people together and provide somewhere to sit down for a chat. Plus, they can adopt so many different looks and feels that I've explored extensively in my work. For me, sofas are so much more than just a piece of furniture.”
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