

Title: What To Expect at Techtextil 2021

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Techtextil North America returns on August 23-25, 2021, hosted in Raleigh, North Carolina and will be the first major textile trade show since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The event will focus on a diverse set of topics within the textile industry, including research and development, the raw materials and production processes, and even covering the final stages of conversion, further treatment and recycling.

Techtextil 2021 Theme and Opportunities

The theme of this year's show is "Accelerating Technology" and will heavily focus on educating attendees on the most recent advancements in technology within the textile industry. The Symposium will offer seven presentations and panel-style discussions centered around the themes of post-pandemic supply chains and the lessons learned, adaptations made, and how insights gained from the pandemic may be applied towards the future. Content focused on sustainability will include discussions regarding a circular economy, reinventing supply chains, and fabric and material ID, just to name a few.

Attendees will have the opportunity to network, and discuss the pertinence of the quickly evolving textile industry as it relates to the field of sustainability, including education and business development. Furthermore, the event will allow the chance to source the most recent innovations being made within the industry, as well as supply chain solutions - a particularly hot topic as consumers demand greater transparency of supply chains from brands.

The three day event will also serve to highlight advancements of textile products which may range from high-tech fibers, functional apparel fabrics, and smart textiles of composites and nonwovens. One particular innovation which has recently been announced and stands out is the development of a biodegradable, carbon-capturing textile from algae. If scientists can create *this*, it offers exciting insight into what else may be presented as viable solutions towards solving the industries destruction of the environment.

Introducing Two New Categories

This year will also introduce two new product categories into the mix. The first category will be featured within the Texprocess Americas Pavilion, which is sponsored by The Sewn Products Equipment & Suppliers of the Americas (SPESA). The category focuses on those who manufacture and distribute machinery, equipment, parts, supplies, systems, technology, supply chain solutions, and any other products or services which may be used for the development of textiles. Exhibitors within this pavilion will be divided into one of four divisions, including: stitching, joining and fastening materials and technology; fabrics/materials; textile finishing; or product processing and finishing. For attendees, the intrigue lies within the opportunity to see first hand how such equipment performs and whether or not it is applicable to themselves.

SPESA will also be coordinating its Advancements in Manufacturing Technologies Conference with Techtextil North America, allowing participants to see an additional set of presentations and panel discussions from SPESA members. Topics of discussion include, and will not be limited to, the products SPESA makes, as well as the challenges that arise as they aim to improve efficiency, speed and accuracy within textil production.

The second new category featured at this year's Techtextil North America will be presented within the Textile Care Pavilion, which will be sponsored by The Clean Show. This section will focus on the newest products and technologies for the care category of textiles, ranging from treatment, to finishing, to after-market care.

The goal of introducing a category focused on the *care* of textiles is to encourage relationships between those who focus on this section of the industry with those who focus on the technical textile and nonwoven sectors of the industry. The result may lead to new exposures for those on either side, and will hopefully lead to new business relationships and further innovations within the industry.

This pavilion will aim to feature new products and services within the following five categories: washing and drying equipment; energy saving water technology and utilities; green product technology; cleaning, finishing and disinfecting textiles; and logistics and material flow.

Benefits of The Academy and The Student Research Poster Program

This year's event will also headline The Academy through a series of Tech Talks and Lab Sessions. These will include a lineup of mini-sessions, demonstrations, and panel-style discussions which will focus on covering groundbreaking technological advancements and the latest in textile testing for applications across industries.

The Student Research Poster Program is yet another exciting highlight of the event which will showcase the latest scientific developments made by students researching the textile and nonwovens industries. The thrill of this program lies in the fact that it invites students from around the globe who are involved in both undergraduate, as well graduate, level research on textile innovation. The Program offers students the opportunity to present their research with peers and potential employees or sponsors, furthering advancements and connections within the industry.

The schedule and full speaker lineup for the Techtextil North America event will be announced exclusively via the Techtextil North America 2021 mobile app, which will be available for download later this summer. ¹

¹ [Techtextil North America 2021 to Reunite the Textile Industry Post-Pandemic](#)