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Hall 2, Stand 215B

Manufacturing woven fabrics: Exceptionally versatile in design and function DORNIER will demonstrate weaving machine solutions for clothing, home and technical textiles aimed at the Turkish and Central Asian market at the ITM

DORNIER will be represented at the ITM textile machinery trade fair from April 14 - 17 in Istanbul. Besides denim, wool and carpets, in Turkey the machine builder's weaving machines are also used to produce technical textiles.

"Clothing and home textiles are produced in Turkey on weaving machines from DORNIER by tradition", says Wolfgang Schöffl, Head of Business Unit Weaving Machines at Lindauer DORNIER GmbH (LiDO). The machines are used to make fabrics for furnishings, curtains and hand towels, for example. But recently technical textiles have also begun to make an appearance in the product portfolios of Turkish weaving houses. The volume is still modest, but it is growing. Technical textiles as a market of the future for Turkish weavers? "It will happen", Schöffl is convinced, as he sees the classic local textile industry responding to cheaper competition from India and China.

Technical textiles are generally considered to be growth market with enormous potential. Powerful industries such as aerospace, the automobile industry, wind energy and medicine all drive a steadily increasing demand. This has also been confirmed in a study conducted by the Swiss business consultancy Gherzi and commissioned by the European Apparel and Textile Confederation Euratex at the request of the EU Commission: The study found that the global market for technical textiles (including non-wovens) will experience annual growth rates of 5 - 6 percent and will reach a volume of almost 200 billion dollars US by 2020 (2014: 147 billion dollars).

Weaving flexibly and reliably in volatile markets

But the initial obstacles for weavers who want to break into the technical textiles market – often while still producing home and garment fabrics – are formidable. The standards of design and aesthetics are replaced almost entirely by function and quality. Companies intending to manufacture airbags, parachutes, filters or tirecord must have weaving machines that satisfy the highest quality standards. "Either the material is flawless – or it is useless; there is no second-quality category in technical weaving", says Schöffl. And this is precisely why every weaving machine built by the technology leader DORNIER conforms to all major manufacturing criteria such as lowest warp and filling thread breakage rates, processing of various materials, high machine speeds and reproducible machine settings with consistent weaving quality.

"With our rapier and air-jet weaving machines, we intend to make it possible for the weaver to achieve the highest possible production reliability for technical weaving as well", explains Schöffl. For example, with the positively controlled filling insertion function, the versatile rapier weaving machines from DORNIER can be used to process not only delicate effect yarns for women's jackets, for example, but also coarse yarns for conveyor belt fabrics and the like. The LiDO head of business unit explains that the purpose of this is to enable weavers to produce for the promising technical textiles market as reliably and safely as they do the household and clothing textiles in the face of increasing market volatility. "An investment in flexibility is an investment in the future."

Technical fabrics from Turkey for Europe

European companies might also benefit from technical fabrics produced in Turkey. The country astride the Bosphorus is already a well-established textile manufacturing partner for the EU, and offers the further advantages of duty-free exchange of goods and short trade routes. Goods sent from Turkey are delivered to any destination in Europe in a few days by truck, not after weeks aboard a container ship. DORNIER has been represented in Turkey by DORNIER Makina Ltd. Sti. located in Istanbul for over ten years. This is the business hub for commissioning, repairs and shipping of original spare parts for the whole of this Euroasian country.

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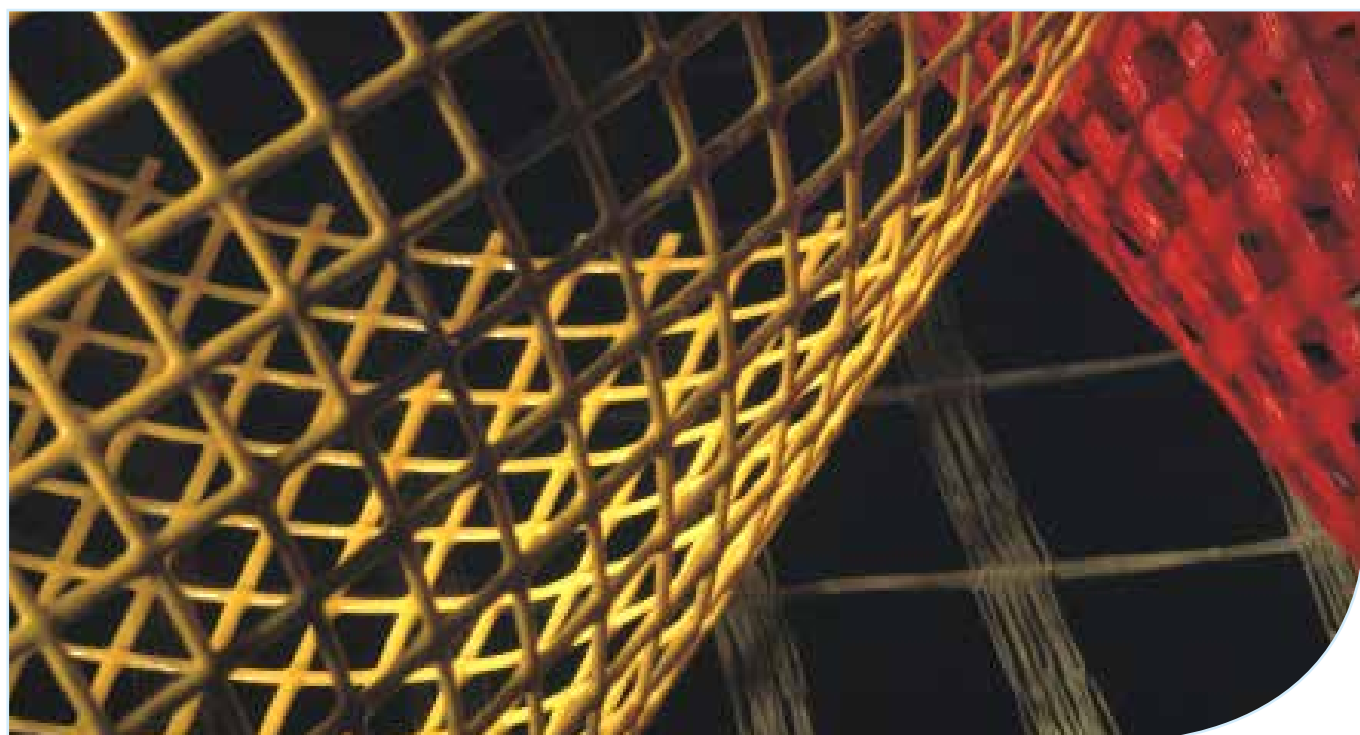
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Background information about Lindauer DORNIER GmbH:

Lindauer DORNIER GmbH and its Weaving Machine, Specialty Machinery and Composite Systems® divisions has earned its place as a global technology leader. In 2017, the family-owned German company with about 1,000 employees (including 63 trainees) recorded incoming orders totaling about 280 million euro. The weaving machines from DORNIER meet all of the requirements that are essential for modern fabric production: flexible, gentle material insertion, an exceptionally broad spectrum of material and pattern capabilities, absolute functional reliability, flawless goods and short standstill times. The DORNIER system family, consisting of rapier and air-jet weaving machines, is the contemporary answer to the unforgiving catalog of specifications demanded by today's market. The machines are manufactured in the production workshops at Lindau in Germany. 90% of the machines produced are exported.



Traditional textile production in Turkey: In this country bridging Europe and Asia, terry hand towels and similar products are produced on the DORNIER ServoTerry® air-jet weaving machine (Image: "Hand towel weaving machine"; Source: DORNIER)



Technical textiles as market of the future: Technical wovens for aircraft, cars and the building industry may soon be in large-scale production in Turkey (Image: "Technical wovens"; Source: DORNIER)