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Interview with Alessandro Zucchi, President of ACIMIT for International Textile Market

1) Present Status Of Italian Textile Machinery Industry ?

2017 was a positive year for our sector. Indeed, Italian production of textile machinery rose 4%, amounting to just under 2.9 billion euros. Overall, exports grew by 3%, for a value of 2.4 billion euros, and our primary export markets were China, Turkey, India and Bangladesh.

2) How International Textile Industry Can Benefits From Italian Textile Machinery Industry?

Italian technology is appreciated for its reliability, versatility and excellent value for money. Today, our machinery manufacturers are above all targeting sustainability across their range of products, through an ongoing commitment to energy saving measures, as well as cost cutting in terms of raw materials and chemicals, in order help make their customers increasingly competitive.

3) Industry 4.0 And How Italian Textile Machinery Industry Is Going To Re-define the Textile Machinery Market?

The textile industry is undergoing a profound digital transformation at a global level. Greater speed in production processes is demanded by new trends for enhanced autonomy on the part of consumers in buying processes, with a constant need for innovation linked to a phenomenon of fast fashion and widespread low-cost trends. The digitalization of production processes in the textile and garments sector is necessary in order to speed up time-to-market schemes and just-in-time production process. The contributions that Italian technology can provide in these transformation processes are essential, thanks to the efforts being put forward by our machinery manufacturers to implement Industry 4.0 technologies, including additive manufacturing, predictive maintenance, 3D printing, etc.

4) Which Are the Most Promising Present And Future Markets? What Are Yours Future Plans For Asian, African And South American Market?

Beyond consolidated realities such as China, India and Bangladesh, other markets are emerging in South East Asia, such as Vietnam and Cambodia. And let's not forget Iran, in spite of the political strain that exists with the United States. Africa is currently experiencing a recovery in historic markets such as Egypt, along with the growth of others, including Ethiopia. Generally speaking, our upcoming initiatives will focus on promoting Italian textile technology in Countries where a growing demand is expected in the coming years.

