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Mr. Alex Zucchi, President of ACIMIT



1) Present Status of Italian Textile Machinery?

2022 is a year with several critical factors for the textile machinery industry. The cost of energy and some important raw materials has risen enormously in recent months. After the first half of the year, which was still characterised by growing production and exports, the second half of the year observed a slowdown in growth, as shown by the orders intake of the Italian companies. Indeed, in the third quarter growth was only 2% compared to the previous quarter.

2) Italian Textile Machinery strategy in case of sustainability?

The issue of sustainability involves the entire textile chain. We know how polluting the textile and clothing industry is. Today, all companies in the sector are implementing more environmentally friendly behaviour. Italian textile machinery manufacturers have been making their contribution for years. ACIMIT, with its member companies, launched the Sustainable Technologies project over ten years ago. The Green Label, at the heart of the project, testifies the commitment of Italian manufacturers in order to reduce consumption of energy, water and chemicals and make the production of their machinery more sustainable.

3) How do you see future trends in case of Innovation?

Innovation in the textile machinery sector is currently developing in two directions: sustainability and digitisation. Increasingly in the future, we will need technologies that are highly interconnected with each other and with the ERP and MES systems of textile companies, and machinery that can make textile production increasingly competitive. This means that innovation will focus on savings in production costs and less impact on the environment.

4) What growth have you seen in the Indian Market?

India is one of the main markets for textile machinery. Especially for Italian manufacturers, the Indian market is in the top 5. In 2021 we exported over 104 million euro and in the first half of 2022 Italian sales already exceeded 80 million euro (+73% over the same period in 2021). India will certainly remain a reference market for our companies in the coming years.

5) Italian Textile Machinery Message regarding ITMA 2023?

2023 will be the year when ITMA will be held in Milan, from 8 to 14 June. It will be an opportunity for Indian textile entrepreneurs to come to Italy and visit the Italian exhibitors. They will be able to personally verify the high technological level achieved by Italian machinery and the innovations proposed by Italian manufacturers.