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Italian mills Candiani and Gruppo Albini joined forces to showcase innovation in Italian denim design at the Candiani Los Angeles Design Center in downtown Los Angeles. For more from the event, see page 6.

True Religion Files for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection

By Deborah Belgum Senior Editor

True Religion, once a high-flying premium-denim brand so popular its blue jeans were constantly being knocked off by counterfeiters, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on July 5 in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Delaware.

The Los Angeles clothing company said it had \$483 million in outstanding debt. In a restructuring support agreement with lenders, True Religion said it will reduce its debt by \$350 million by converting loans into equity. The company expects to emerge from bankruptcy in 90 to 120 days and return to normal operations.

Meanwhile, the company will continue to operate without

interruption with the help of a loan from Citizens Bank N.A. for up to \$60 million.

"By dramatically improving our capital structure 24 months in advance of our term-loan maturity, we will continue business operations as usual and provide our employees and business partners the long-term stability they need," said John Ermatinger, president and chief executive of True Religion, in a statement. True Religion has 621 full-time employees and 1,084 part-time employees.

True Religion is just one of the latest apparel and retail ventures struggling to make it in a world where shoppers are

➡ True Religion page 2

MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REVIEW

Solid Economic Growth Pushes Online Sales With Traditional Stores Revamping Their Fleet

By Deborah Belgum Senior Editor

Retail sales are inching forward this year with a strong nudge by online purchases fueled by millennials who prefer shopping on their smartphones and computers.

According to Kiplinger, a publisher of business forecasts and personal finance advice, e-commerce sales are expected to mushroom 15 percent this year, compared with 13 percent in 2016.

On the bricks-and-mortar side, in-store sales are only expected to rise at a 2 percent rate. Most challenged will Finance page 3

Fashion Business Inc. Shutters After Nearly 20 Years

By Alison A. Nieder Executive Editor

After helping startup and growing apparel companies for nearly two decades, Fashion Business Inc. will shutter operations at the end of August.

The news came as a shock to many in the apparel industry, who heard about the closure shortly after founder Frances Harder informed the nonprofit organization's board of directors on July 2.

Harder started the organization in 1999 after a career spent teaching fashion design at the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, California Design College and Otis College of Art and Design as well as creating her own designs for the likes of Priscilla Presley and the Sultan of Brunei.

After running into stumbling blocks with her own designs,

FBI page 4

BedHead Wakes Up With a New Owner

By Deborah Belgum Senior Editor

BedHead Pajamas, the nearly 20-year-old Los Angeles sleepwear company, has been acquired by Komar for an undisclosed price.

Komar—a New Jersey company started in 1908 that makes intimate wear, sleepwear and childrenswear-said BedHead will continue to operate as a distinct business unit and remain in Los Angeles while still manufacturing in the United States.

"Komar has the vision to help us to continue to build the BedHead brand while remaining true to the identity that we've worked so hard to build," said BedHead founder and owner Renee Claire in a statement. "We are excited about the possibilities and could not imagine a better home for Bed-

Claire, who grew up in Canada, moved to Los Angeles in 1981 after graduating from college with the idea of starting a dress company. For five years, she designed and made the

Renee Claire dress line until dresses started to go out of style in the late 1990s.

She was delivering what she thought was her last collection of dresses to a local retailer when she saw a pair of pajamas in the window of a boutique and thought she could design a better pair of PJs.

Quickly she learned to make her own colored and patterned cotton textiles and BedHead was born.

According to the pajama company, in three years it was producing more than 50,000 pairs of pajamas a year that were locally cut and sewn.

BedHead pajamas frequently have been seen on the large and small screen, including in TV shows such as "How I Met Your Mother," "Sex and the City," "The New Adventures of Old Christine" and "2 Broke Girls."

BedHead has a flagship store at 8663 W. Third St. in Los Angeles and is sold at more than 1,500 boutiques and department stores including Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom.



www.apparelnews.net



Home Shopping Network Is Being Acquired by QVC

Two big television shopping cable networks will now be one.

QVC has agreed to acquire **HSN** and its various home and apparel lifestyle brands for \$2.1 billion.

QVC parent Liberty Interactive already owns 38 percent of HSN shares and is acquiring the other 62 percent.

Competition is getting steeper for homeshopping programs on cable TV as more people gravitate to their mobile phones to shop for their favorite items—from jewelry and clothing to BBQ grills and patio tents. HSN and QVC also have e-commerce sites.

HSN, based in St. Petersburg, Fla., broadcasts to 95 million households in the United States via cable as well as online streaming. It also sells home and apparel brands through its **Cornerstone** business, which markets products through catalogs, branded e-commerce websites and 14 retail and outlet stores. The Cornerstone brands include **Ballard Designs**, **Frontgate**, **Garnet Hill**, **Grandin Road** and **Improvements**.

On the Home Shopping Network, electronics and home goods made up 53.5 percent of sales, beauty and health products were 23.3 percent of sales, fashion and accessories were 15.3 percent of sales, and jewelry accounted for 7.9 percent of sales.

HSN reported \$3.56 billion in revenues in 2016, a 3 percent decline over the previous year. HSN's headquarters will remain in St. Petersburg and be overseen by QVC Presi-





QVC Chief Executive Officer Mike George, left, at last year's opening of the company's first West Coast distribution center in Ontario, Calif., pictured right

dent and Chief Executive Mike George.

"HSN founded the industry 40 years ago and helped it grow with exciting initiatives like **Shop By Remote** and media integrations with leading content producers. By creating the leader in discovery-based shopping, we will enhance the customer experience, accelerate innovation, leverage our resources and talents to further strengthen our brands, and redeploy savings for innovation and growth," George said in a statement. "As the prominent global video commerce retailer and North America's third largest mobile and e-commerce retailer, the combined company will be well-positioned to help shape the next generation of retailing."

QVC expects the merger to increase QVC's competitive edge; create cost reductions and revenue-growth opportunities;

boost more development in e-commerce and mobile and Internet platforms; optimize programming across five U.S. networks; cross market to better engage existing and potential customers; and improve financial options due to HSN's lower debt level.

The deal should close during the fourth quarter of this year.

Last year, QVC opened its first West Coast distribution center in Ontario, Calif. Scheduled to be at full capacity by 2020, the new D.C.—spread across 1 million square feet of space—is anticipated to handle more than 20 percent of QVC's total shipments. Eventually, the Ontario distribution center will employ 1,000 people. The Ontario D.C. will join a networks of distribution centers in Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and South Carolina.—Deborah Belgum



QVC started as a direct-to-consumer cable channel in 1986. The company has grown to also include programing across the world in places such as the United Kingdom, Germany, China and Japan as well as e-commerce operations and mobile shopping.

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True Religion Continued from page 1

perusing the Internet for clothing rather than hitting the shopping malls.

For years, much of True Religion's expansion came from its own stores. At the time of its bankruptcy filing, True Religion had 128 stores—73 are full-price stores, 53 are outlet locations and two are **Last Stitch** stores. Another 11 stores are outside the United States. Its collections are also sold at nearly 500 locations in the United States, Mexico and South America, including **Nordstrom**, **Bloomingdale's**, **Saks Fifth Avenue** and ecommerce sites.

For its fiscal year ending Jan. 28, 2017, the company's direct-to-consumer sales netted \$273 million, or nearly 74 percent of revenues. Its wholesale business in the Americas brought in \$54 million, or nearly 15 percent of revenue.

The premium-denim trend was just starting to soar in 2000 when **7 For All Mankind** was launched in Vernon, Calif., by Peter Koral, Jerome Dahan and Michael Glasser. The brand name was one of the hottest labels around and was worn by several celebrities such as Victoria Beckham, Katie Holmes and Jessica Biel. It was not unusual to see price tags of up to \$300 for a pair of blue jeans.

In 2007, 7 For All Mankind was sold to **VF Corp.** for \$775 million. Under VF Corp.'s ownership, revenues at the label gradually declined. Last year, VF Corp. sold the premium-denim label and two other contemporary brands to **Delta Galil**, an Israeli-based clothing company, for \$120 million.

Another premium blue-jeans label born in Los Angeles was **J Brand**, launched in 2004 by Jeff Rudes and Susie Crippen. The blue-jeans label quickly soared to popularity and was even a favorite of Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge, who is married to the future King of England.

In 2012, a majority share of J Brand was sold for about \$290 million to **Fast Retailing**, the Japanese venture that is the parent company of retailer **Uniqlo**.

In court documents, True Religion said

things were going fine until 2013, the year revenues hit \$490 million. The company began experiencing declining sales caused by the general trend of consumers veering away from traditional retail to online shopping.

"The volume of retailers either going out of business, over-inventoried or closing a significant number of physical locations has created a highly competitive promotional environment," causing the denim company to resort to big sales to drive traffic, bankruptcy filings said.

Also, denim entered a down cycle in 2013, the company said, caused in part by the growth of the "athleisure" trend.

Competition also increased from emerging and established fast-fashion and low-priced apparel retailers, which put pressure on blue-jeans prices. When the company was at its peak several years ago, its blue jeans were selling for \$150 to \$250.

Also, the company said it tried to launch new product designs, but they didn't resonate with shoppers.

In 2015, the company hired several new executives. True Religion brought in John Ermatinger to take over as CEO and president. The company also hired a new chief marketing officer and a new vice president of sourcing, who shifted more production from the United States to offshore locations.

A big push was made to reduce costs by cutting back on travel expenses, sample spending and other measures. But in 2016, True Religion saw another reduction in customer traffic and business, which prompted it to close 20 unprofitable True Religion stores. The company has reduced by 25 percent the number of employees who work at the company's headquarters and has worked to streamline and reduce the time between design and product arriving on store shelves.

True Religion was cofounded in 2002 by Jeff Lubell, who aggressively grew the company. In 2013, he sold True Religion to TowerBrook Capital Partners for \$835 million. TowerBrook has made investments in companies such as Jimmy Choo, Odlo, BevMo! and Phase Eight.

RETAIL RETAIL SALES

Aussie Brand Gorman Opens in West Hollywood

After 18 years selling contemporary women's fashion in Australia and New Zealand, the **Gorman** brand opened its first U.S. store in West Hollywood, Calif., recently.

Located at 8483 Melrose Ave., the new Gorman shop is located near the stylish corner of Melrose and La Cienega Boulevard in the neighborhood of Melrose Place, which is the address of high-end boutiques Marc Jacobs, The Row, Marni, Isabel Marant and Monique Lhuillier.

Melbourne resident Lisa Gorman cultivated a reputation for making colorful, art-inspired clothes that are environmentally friendly. The company's website (www.gormanshop.com.au) offers styles such as colorful leggings, leather miniskirts and skirts leopard-print jackets, cardigans, pantsuits, and footwear. Price points are \$30 to \$700

The brand also has produced collections with artists such as Dana Kinter of Adelaide, Australia. "Print and color have always been at the forefront of the brand, teamed with a unique assortment of collaborations with local and international artists," Lisa Gorman said in a statement.

The 3,480-square-foot shop features



some of the tile work of the previous tenants. The space also features brick walls, an exposed wood ceiling and natural light coming from the roof's skylights.

One reason why Gorman opened its first U.S. store in Southern California is because the region has similar weather and culture to Australia, she said. "In terms of collections, there won't be a huge contrast compared with what we have available in Australia. We may have opposite seasons, but it's important to us that we remain authentic in our worldwide approach and collection availability with the brand, regardless of the hemisphere and location," Gorman said.

—Andrew Asch

June Sales Sunny for Some Retailers

Some retailers saw June gloom. Some experienced a positively sunny June.

Traditionally a month to clear out inventory before the Back-to-School season starts, some retailers posted gains or beat forecasts. Others experienced declines.

Zumiez Inc., a mall-based action-sports

retailer, led the pack by posting solid gains of a 5.3 percent increase in same-store sales. It beat forecasts of a 1.1 percent increase predicted by the **Retail Metrics** market-research firm. The good comps rested on the strength of men's and juniors categories, said Adrienne Yih, an analyst for **Wolfe Research**. But the retailer's sales for hard goods, accessories and footwear

dipped, according to Yih's July 5 research note on Zumiez.

The Buckle Inc. reported a same-store-sales decline of 5.8 percent. It beat Retail Metrics' forecast of an 8.3 percent decline. The mall-based denim retailer is currently suffering through two years of same-store-sales declines. However, Ken Perkins of Retail Metrics noted that the Buckle's June 2017 results represent its second-lowest decline in 18 months.

June was tough for L Brands, the parent brand of Victoria's Secret, Pink, Henri

Bendel and Bath & Body Works. It reported a same-store-sales decline of 9 percent. A company statement noted that L Brand's exit of swim and apparel categories hobbled the company's June performance. The exit from the categories pushed the month's sales performance down 7 percent-

June Retail Sales			
change		% Change from yr. ago	Same-store sales %
The Buckle	\$73.60	-5.9%	-5.8%
Cato Corp.	\$73.60 \$74.70	-5.9% -15.0%	-5.6% -16.0%
L Brands Inc.	\$1,213.00	-6.0%	-9.0%
Zumiez Inc.	\$72.20	+8.4%	+5.3%
Information from company reports			

age points.

Specialty retailer **Cato Corp.** announced that its same-store sales declined 16 percent in June. John Cato, the chairman, president and chief executive officer of the Charlotte, N.C.-based retailer, forecast turbulence for Cato.

"Our negative sales trends persisted in June and the decline in sales continues to put severe pressure on merchandise margins and profitability. Second quarter and full year earnings will be significantly below last year," Cato said.—*A.A.*

MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REVIEW

Finance Continued from page 1

be department stores, whose sales are sliding as they shutter some of their underperforming emporiums, which have become relics from the past.

One of those is **Macy's**, which last year announced it would be closing 15 percent of its store fleet—or 100 stores. Some 68 of those stores are scheduled to be shuttered this year, including the Macy's at **Irvine Spectrum** in Irvine,

Looking to its real-estate holdings to generate money, Macy's is also planning to sell a portion of its large Chicago flagship with the hope of garnering \$100 million in revenue. By the end of this year, Macy's will have 600 outposts in its lineup compared with 800 in 2014.

Even though more people are working and salaries are up, shoppers are still being shy. "It is amazing when you look at how many dollars consumers are trying not to spend," said

Britt Beemer, a retail expert who surveys thousands of shoppers every week for his **America's Research Group**. "They are still very cautious. They have a great view of the long-term future, but they are pessimistic about the short-term future."

Recent reports by the U.S. Commerce Dept. show that personal income rose 0.4 percent in May, up from 0.3 percent in April. But consumer spending rose just 0.1 percent in May after climbing 0.4 percent in both March and April.

The gap between the May increase in income and the increase in spending

drove the U.S. savings rate to 5.5 percent, the highest since last September.

Even auto sales have downshifted. In June, for the fourth straight month, automakers reported lower new car sales. The U.S. auto industry hit record sales in 2016 with 17.55 million new vehicles sold. But industry experts are expecting that this year new car sales will total 16.6 million.

There are some bright spots. The National Retail Fed-

eration is reporting there has been strong activity at building-materials stores, which saw a 14.2 percent jump in sales in April compared to the previous year. Also showing robust movement were furniture and home-furnishing stores, which saw sales rise 6.7 percent during the same period. Clothing and accessories stores saw a 2.1 percent increase while sporting-goods stores were hit hard and saw a 2.9 percent decline in April sales over last year.

Moving forward

May 2017 May 2016

38,900

5,600

26,900

48,900

7,500

40,500

35,100

4,900

26,900

44,000

6,900

39,600

APPAREL AND

TEXTILE EMPLOYMENT

Los Angeles County

Textile mills

California

Textile mills

Wholesale trade

Wholesale trade

Apparel manufacturing

Apparel manufacturing

Source: California Employment Development Department

Economists are still trying to estimate how fast the U.S. economy will expand this year. Most are expecting modest gross domestic product growth in the range of about 2 percent, which is on par with the last seven years.

President Donald Trump previously forecasted a 3 percent GDP jump, but that seems unlikely. "The difference between 2 percent GDP growth and more optimistic

numbers is that a lot of people were banking on more things coming out of Washington, D.C., that would pump up the growth rate, but that hasn't come to pass," said Robert Kleinhenz, executive director of research at Beacon Economics. "But in 2017, we expect strong business investment spending. The last few years, business investment spending was pulled down by what was happening in the energy extraction/drilling sector. With lower prices for energy, there was less interest in doing new drilling, which was weighing

down business investment. That drag is not as pronounced this year, and that is helping GDP growth as well as investment in the housing industry."

This could be a banner year for business at the **Port of Los Angeles**, which is on track to process more cargo containers than ever. "Over the last couple of years, there was some economic weakness with our trading partners. That is less severe now. Even though they are not hitting on all cyl-

inders, at least they are doing better," Kleinhenz said.

The port last year handled 8.8 million 20-foot cargo containers, the most since the last banner year of 2006. This year, cargo-container traffic already is up 8.5 percent over last year.

At the same time, with the U.S. economy moving forward, imports are rising. In April, apparel and textile imports climbed 5.8 percent over last year. Nearly half of that came from China.

With the national unemployment rate at a 16-year low of 4.3 percent and the California unemployment rate slightly higher at 4.7 percent, economists wonder what effect this will have on salaries.

Many predict wages will rise to attract employees. In Los Angeles, wages have already increased with the minimum wage going up July 1 from \$10.50 an hour to \$12 an hour for companies that employ 26 or more workers. "Restaurants and hotels that employ minimum-wage workers are not going to pick up and move. They will have to make adjustments like raising their prices," Kleinhenz said. "Or they will adjust their staffing if they can't raise their prices."

The minimum-wage increase could lead some apparel companies to consider moving out of state or relocating to areas outside of Los Angeles County, Kleinhenz added.

Over the next few years, housing prices are expected to climb in California and across the country as demand outweighs supply.

Economist David Shulman of the UCLA Anderson Forecast noted that U.S. housing prices have rebounded since their low point in 2011. They are now up 44 percent and only 5 percent below the prior peak in 2006.

With more people staying longer in their homes, existing U.S. home sales remain well below their peak of 7 million units in 2005 compared to an estimated 5.5 million units this year.

While single-family housing starts are slow, construction of new apartment buildings is booming, Shulman noted. During the depths of the recession, only 112,000 apartment units were started in 2009. Last year that surged to 392,000 units. Now that retail-centric real estate is seeing higher vacancy rates due to online shopping, more investors are putting their money into apartments and condominiums.

Over the next three years, economists are expecting developers to add 400,000 units a year to the U.S. apartment community. Apartments have been popular because it is harder to get credit to buy a home, millennials prefer living in urban areas, and they are also delaying getting married and having children. •

FBI Continued from page 1

Harder said she saw a need for business education for fashion-industry professionals.

"I realized there's so much more to this than design," she

She taught continuing education courses and wrote the book "Fashion For Profit" and then teamed up with a partner who had connections with the city of Los Angeles. The first FBI of-

fice opened at **The New Mart**. After holding its first fashion show at the **Los Angeles Athletic Club**, FBI landed a \$250,000 grant from the **Los Angeles Department of Water and Power**.

Over the years, FBI received other government grants, but Harder said it's been challenging to get financial support from the city.

"It's a changing and challenging time," she said. "The unfortunate thing is, the city doesn't embrace an industry which is the largest employment sector in the world."

In addition to its business-to-business seminars and later B2B webinars, FBI also hosted runway shows and other networking events, including its annual **All Aboard Fashion Fundraiser** at **Union Station** in downtown Los Angeles.

Apparel-industry consultant Rob Greenspan has been a supporter and adviser for FBI and its members since the beginning.

"Over the past 19 years it has been my pleasure to support, help and advise FBI and its members," said Greenspan, who is the chief executive officer of **Greenspan Consult Inc.** "FBI has been unique in that it provided consultation services and education programs to help grow and support the apparel

industry. From startup companies, helping displaced workers in the industry, branded companies, and, of course, our famous fashion shows FBI has been always there for its members. It has been a pleasure working with Frances Harder to support, develop and promote FBI. FBI helped out many people and companies in our industry."

Harder plans to continue to host B2B seminars at trade shows such as **Sourcing at MAGIC** and the **Los Angeles International Textile Show**. She will also continue to provide expert witness testimony for apparel-related lawsuits and will continue to act as an apparel-industry consultant for the

United Nations and private clients.

Many FBI members credit FBI with helping them launch and grow their apparel businesses.

Irvine, Calif.—based professional underwater photographer Bruce Elliott Rasner first encountered FBI when he was looking to create a swimwear line featuring imagery from his underwater photography. Harder and FBI Executive Director Trish Concannon suggested Rasner instead begin with scarves, which would better showcase his images. Rasner spent 20 years



FBI President Frances Harder with FBI Executive Chair Rob Greenspan and FBI Executive Director Trish Concannon at the All Aboard....LA's Fashion Platform event in 2014.

showing his photos in fine-art exhibitions but is now in the process of launching **Bruce Elliot Fashions**, which features his dramatic photography on silk and cashmere scarves, followed by apparel items such as tunics and caftans.

"Although I have talked to many people along the way, it wasn't really until Fashion Business Inc.—primarily Frances and Trish—who put me on the straight and narrow path," Rasner said. "They were terrific. They put on webinars that really educated me. When I had a question, I could always pick up the phone. They are just two great women and I think their business is going to be sorely missed by a lot of people. I'm very sad to

see them go."

Kathy D. Woods and her husband, Dana Michael Woods Sr., have been FBI members since 2012 and credit the organization with helping them build their **KWD** collection, a clothing line for little people.

"Because I'm not a designer by trade, [FBI] provided me with the tools and skills that I needed to launch, profit and maintain success," Kathy D. Woods said.

As a first-time fashion designer, Woods said she encountered a lot of unethical people looking to overcharge for their services.

"Because I was a novice in the fashion industry and I was the first 'Little Person Designer' to create a fashion line for little people, I had been ripped off so many times on my fashion-venture journey," she said. "After meeting Frances Harder, she and the organization became a safe haven for me."

Shazad Malik, co-owner of **Plush Cashmere**, said it was difficult to express the level of gratitude and appreciation he has for FBI.

"When you try to build a structure, FBI will guide you and make you well aware of all the materials, labor and services to ensure you have a strong platform to build upon. That's exactly what they have provided Plush Cashmere—a platform," he said. "They had an open-door policy for all emerging designers, including Plush, while constantly providing [encouragement] to attend educational, social media, industry speaker events for our benefit while introducing [us to] other brands and prospective clients."

Malik said his business partner in Nepal first met Harder at a United Nations event to assist Nepalese cashmere producers tap into the U.S. market.

Plush Cashmere originally launched in 2011 as a cashmere scarf collection but has since expanded to become a women's apparel collection. These days, Malik said, Plush Cashmere is doing a lot of pieces featuring digital printing on cashmere fabrics.

As an FBI member, Malik said he took advantage of FBI's webinars and networking opportunities, where members could exchange ideas and stories and look for opportunities to work together. The collection also participated in FBI runway shows, including the All Aboard show at Union Station.

"Frances and Trish are a great team," he said. "They have given us a lot of insight and exposure."

Everlane and Margaret O'Leary to Headline Dress for Success Gala in S.F.

To celebrate 12 years helping Bay Area women enter and succeed in the workforce, **Dress for Success San Francisco** has enlisted San Francisco brands **Everlane** and **Margaret O'Leary** for the nonprofit organization's annual gala fashion show.

The July 19 event, dubbed "Success: You Wear It Well," will be held at the **San Francisco War Memorial Green Room**.

In addition to designs by Margaret O'Leary and Everlane, the runway show will feature Dress for Success clients who have benefited from the organization's career programs. There will also be cocktails and tastings of food by top chefs-including Nightbird's Kim Alter, The Alembic's Rachel Aronow, Bluestem Brasserie's Lori Baker, Black Cat's Alicia Jenish-McCarron, E&O Kitchen and Bar's Sharon Nahm, Mestiza's Sophina Uong and Dandelion Chocolate's Lisa Vega. There will be hors d'oeuvres and small plates as well as music by DJ Page Hodel, two auctions—one silent and one live—and "stories of triumph." Benefit Cosmetics will style the models in the fashion show.

"We are very excited to celebrate the accomplishments of our local affiliate and are thrilled Dress for Success San Francisco has helped over 6,000 women since inception in 2006," said Renée Surcouf, executive director of Dress for Success San Francisco. "We look forward to providing career services to more women within our local community. Our annual event is a celebration of our clients, our community and our future."

Funds from the event support several programs, including Dress for Success San

Francisco's Suiting Program, the Job Search Program, the Professional Women's Group and the Career Center.

"Dress for Success San Francisco empowers women to secure employment, advance their career and change their lives and the lives of their families," Surcouf said. "Our organization provides a continuum of services so that we can address the needs of every woman at every stage of her career. Our annual event is an evening of inspiration and transformation as we celebrate our greatest achievements, the success stories of the women we serve and the lives we change as a result of our career programming."

Sponsors include KPMG, Robert Half International, Capital One and DocuSign.

Admission prices range from \$175 for Basic Black tickets up to \$250 for VIP tickets, which includes a gift and gift bag. The Success Sponsorship package is \$2,500 and includes eight tickets and all VIP benefits. For tickets and sponsorship information, visit http://sanfrancisco.dressforsuccess.org/get-involved/events/annual-gala-fashion-show.

Dress for Success San Francisco is a local affiliate of **Dress for Success Worldwide**, the international organization that assists working women. Dress for Success San Francisco works to "empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life."

For more information about the group, visit https://sanfrancisco.dressforsuccess.org.—Alison A. Nieder

Calendar

July 10

Hong Kong Fashion Week Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre Hong Kong Through July 13

<u>July 11</u>

Swim Collective Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach, Calif. Through July 12

<u>July 11</u>

Milano Unica Shirt Avenue Milan, Italy Through July 13

July 13

Agenda Long Beach Convention Center Long Beach, Calif. Through July 14 July 16
Project
The Tents

Project Sole Vanguard Gallery Javits Center New York

Through July 18

July 17

Texworld USA Apparel Sourcing Hometextiles Sourcing Avanprint Javits Center

New York Through July 19

Active Collective Hyatt Resort & Spa Huntington Beach, Calif. Through July 18

Liberty FairsJavits Center
New York
Through July 19

Capsule Javits Center New York Through July 18

July 18

Premiere Vision Pier 94 New York Through July 19

July 19 DG Expo

Penn Pavilion New York Through July 20



For calendar details and contact information, visit ApparelNews. net/calendar.

Submissions to the calendar should be faxed to the Calendar Editor at (213) 623-5707. Please include the event's name, date, time, location, admission price and contact information. The deadline for calendar submissions is the Tuesday prior to Friday publication. Inclusion in the calendar is subject to available space and the judgment of the editorial staff.

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Candiani, Albiate 1830 and Matias Showcase Italian-Denim Innovation in LA

Albiate 1830, the denim division of Bergamo, Italy-based Italian mill **Gruppo Albini**, and Italian denim mill **Candiani** joined forces to create **FineFusions**, a collection that showcases "top Italian heritage, cutting-edge thinking and a virtuous spirit."

The Italian mills turned to Los Angeles design-

er Matias Sandoval, owner of **Matias Denim**, to create a collection using fabrics from both companies.

The results were on display at the Candiani Los Angeles Design Center in downtown Los Angeles on June 30, where a group of local denim heads gathered to check out the collection, drop in on denim wash demonstrations and do a little DIY denim finishing of their own on special caps created using Candiani and Albiate 1830 fabrics. Party guests distressed their own caps before heading to the Jeanologia laser-finishing station to have custom messages etched into the final product.

LA denim brands make up a sizable percentage of business for Candiani, which has a similar Design Center at its headquarters in Robecchetto con Induno, Italy. Last year, Candiani opened the Los Angeles space to serve as an R&D center for U.S. denim

labels to work with Candiani technicians on new wash techniques using equipment such as the Jeanologia laser-finishing machine, a spraying booth and stations for hand-finish-













ITALIAN-MADE, LA-DESIGNED: Fashions made by LA-based Matias Denim and featuring fabric by Candiani and Albiate 1830 were displayed throughout the Candiani Los Angeles Design Center in downtown Los Angeles. Guests had the opportunity to hand-sand denim caps made from Candiani and Albiate 1830 fabrics and then take the caps over to the Jeanologia laser-finishing station to have the caps etched with custom messages.

ing jeans. According to the company, the Candiani Design Center uses less water than the standard dry cleaner.

—Alison A. Nieder



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Latitude 10 Finds 'In-Between' Niche

There is a time in a woman's life where she wants to wear juniors styles and trends but she is looking for silhouettes and clothes that an adult woman would wear, said Leslie Gardner, a career designer.

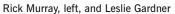
She serves as creative director for **Latitude** 10, a recently launched Los Angeles—based brand that plans to serve that in-between niche.

The new brand's tops and dresses offer details such as tassels along with a style that Gardner described as a "trendy, free-spirited, California look." It offers on-trend style touches such as off-shoulder tops but with more fabric covering the body. The brand intends to keep prices relatively low. Wholesale price points currently range from \$8 to \$19,











said Rick Murray, the brand's founder and chief executive officer. Murray and Gardner met when they both worked at Los Angeles—headquartered fashion company **One World Apparel**. Latitude 10 is named after an area in Central America on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica. It's a favorite for surfers such as Murray.

The brand's offices are located in the neighborhood of juniors brand **Stony Apparel Corp.** Dominating the skyline in their

neighborhood is the landmark **Sears** art-deco building in Los Angeles' Boyle Heights neighborhood.

Latitude 10 made its official debut during the June fashion markets in New York City. The debut collection offers 120 pieces. Many items in the collection use prints made by Francis Spitta, who has spent a career designing prints and also teaches at the **Otis College** of **Art and Design**. Spitta's prints appear in tops and dresses in colorways Gardner described as "desert pastels" and "Palm Beach brights."

Other pieces use knits and woven fabrics. Sublimation prints, crochets and embroideries will appear in the line later this year, Gardner said. Comfort is an important consideration for Gardner. She intends to make clothes in which women can look svelte, breathe easy but still be trend-right. If it sounds like a bal-

ancing act, Gardner guarantees that all of the competing considerations can find a happy harmony. "We keep the lines contemporary, but we make styles that feel like what is going on now," she said. "Every time I design a dress, I'm shopping for that piece."

Fabrics are sourced from India and China. The line is manufactured overseas. For more information, email *debra@latitude10.net*.

—Andrew Asch



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Dock & Bay Dives Into Active With Eco-Friendly Collection

Lightweight, microfiber towel maker **Dock** & Bay has a new collection with a sustainable story behind it.

The company's Active Collection is made from a fabric that contains 30 percent recycled content made from plastic bottles. The new collection still features high-performance quick-dry features and follows the

London-based company's clean, preppy aesthetic. Towels come in three sizes: small (40"x20"), large (63"x31") and extra large (78"x35"). Colors include rain-forest green, lagoon blue, mountain gray, dune orange and volcano red. Retail prices range from \$19 to \$30.

"We wanted to create a range of towels where the design really fit into the simplistic but high-end world of contemporary ac-





tivewear," said Andy Jefferies, Dock & Bay cofounder. "Our goal was to reinvent towels that people commonly use during workouts with a clean design and luscious feel while doing our bit for the world by offering a more sustainable product."

Founded in 2015, Dock & Bay makes compact microfiber towels for water sports, outdoor activities and the active lifestyle.

For more information, please visit www. dockandbay.com.—Alison A. Nieder



Patagonia's Bikinis, Boardshorts Hit the Fair-Trade Trail

Patagonia, the California outdoor-apparel company known as one of the first U.S. clothing companies to embrace the environment, is taking bikini and boardshorts production to a new level.

Starting with its Spring collections, the Ventura, Calif.—based venture is making all 48 styles of its bikinis and men's, women's and children's boardshorts in Fair Trade Certified factories, which is part of Patagonia's effort to support workers, elevate communities and do work in an equitable

way.

"For a long time now, there's been too little transparency in the garment industry. When we buy clothing, we're often oblivious to the reality of how it was made—not to mention the true human and ecological costs of the manufacturing process," said Dave Rastovich, global surf activist at Patagonia. "The factories we rely on aren't just full of machines; they're also full of people with families, histories and futures who have been overlooked by the industry for far too long. Fair Trade extends a sense

of value, acknowledgment and respect to members of the human family who are often pushed to the margins."

Fair Trade Certified factories are required to adhere to Fair Trade USA's strict standards for safe working conditions and environmental responsibility. Fair Trade USA is a nonprofit that promotes sustainable livelihoods for farmers and workers and protects the environment.

For every product made at a Fair Trade Certified factory, Patagonia is paying a premium so that workers can elevate their living standards. Premiums from Patagonia purchases have been used to fund childcare programs and vouchers for medicine and household goods. At a factory in Los Angeles, workers voted for a dividend that equaled up to a week's pay.

In addition, Patagonia's surf and swim products incorporate recycled nylon or recycled polyester fabrics. The women's swimsuits and bikinis are printed using a laser process that minimizes fabric scraps and waste.—Deborah Belgum

Action Sports Vet Smith Joins Boardriders

Nate Smith was named president of the Americas region for Boardriders Inc., the Huntington Beach, Calif., parent company of Quiksilver, Roxy and DC Shoes.

Boardriders is the corporate name Quiksilver Inc. took after it emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy in 2016 and went private. Los Angeles-headquartered private equity firm Oaktree Capital Management was the majority stakeholder after Quiksilver emerged from bankruptcy.

Pierre Agnes, Boardriders' chief executive officer, said that Smith will help make the action sportswear company stronger. "Nate is a seasoned industry executive who will lead the company's business in the Americas toward accelerated growth. His distinctive leadership skills, strong business acumen and deep experience at leading

apparel and footwear companies is the right combination to drive Boardriders' transformation into its next phase," Agnes said.

Smith served as executive for action sports and action sportsfriendly companies such as Oakley, iPath and Patagonia. He also earned an MBA from the University of Chicago and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy.

Smith replaces Greg Healy. Healy will return to his native Australia to run Boardriders' Asia Pacific region. Healy started his U.S. stint two years ago, around the time Quiksilver declared bankruptcy.

'Greg made a huge sacrifice to uproot his family from Australia and move during a time of turmoil for the company. His leadership was critical to stabilizing the business and returning it to growth, Agnes said.—Andrew Asch

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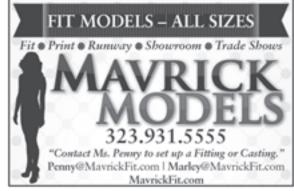


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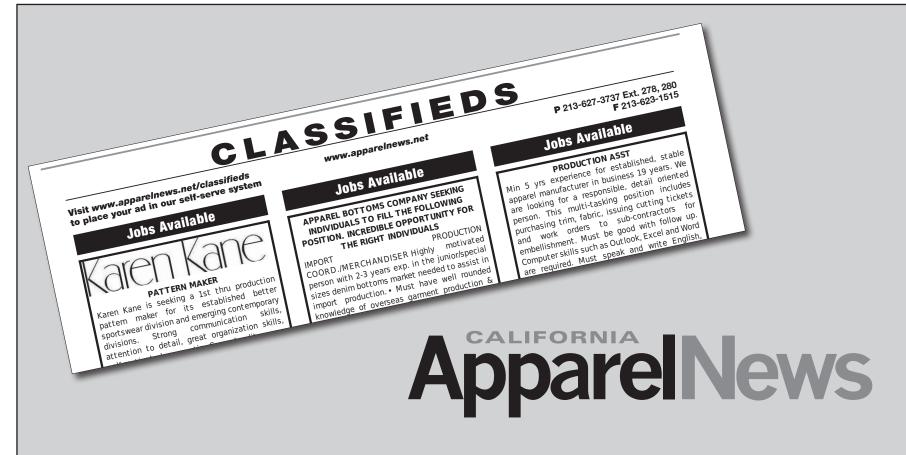
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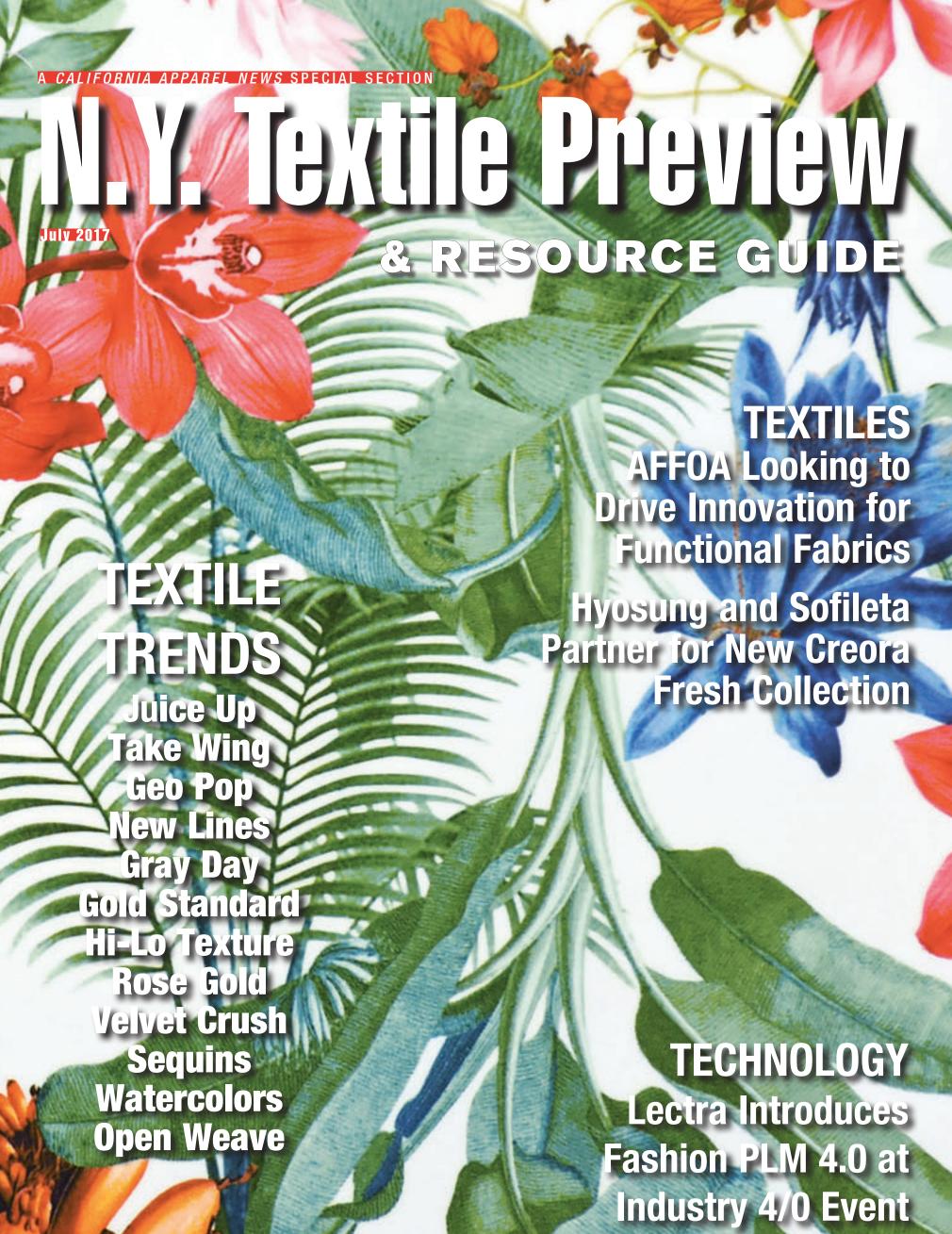




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AFFOA Looking to Drive Innovation for Functional Fabrics

By John McCurry Contributing Writer

Advanced Functional Fabrics of America, commonly known as AFFOA, marked its one-year anniversary in April. The institute—which is based at MIT and has nearly 100 members from a diverse group of manufacturers, startups and institutes of higher learning—is leading a \$317 million private-public effort to drive innovation in textile and fiber manufacturing.

AFFOA members say the institute has already produced a major benefit in helping to bridge the information gap between universities and manufacturers. New networking opportunities have been created that have potential to drive innovation.

Many AFFOA members have either submitted project proposals or are working on proposals based on

current research that they hope will meet AFFOA's approval for funding. AF-FOA opened a new headquarters facility on June 19 in Cambridge, Mass., near MIT. It includes a fabric discovery center that will provide a base for prototyping ranging from fiber design to new textile products. Other centers will open later this year in Georgia, North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

The Fabric Discovery Centers will serve as regional incubators and accelerators for start-up companies in advanced fabrics, provide rapid prototyping facilities and house training facilities for educational outreach and workforce development.

"Apparel will become the new platform from which the

digital world will be operating," said Eric Spackey, AFFOA's chief marketing officer and the chief executive officer of **Bluewater Defense**, a Puerto Rico—based manufacturer of uniforms for the U.S. military. "Clothing will be able to interact with the outside world. It's an exciting time. We are about to create a new industry. This was a fantastic idea by the Obama Administration."

Spackey believes that a decade from now, AFFOA will have secured an important place in the history of textiles and apparel by rapidly deploying and funding existing research and turning it into innovation and jobs. It's all about taking the technology that's already in labs.

Following is a look at a few of the efforts to convert ongoing research into new products.

Brrr is an Atlanta-based startup apparel company that incorporated in 2014. Co-founder and CEO Mary-Cathryn Kolb said her company was asked to be a charter AF-FOA member to provide an entrepreneurial voice. She says the projects that AFFOA will eventually bring to the market will have potential to bring manufacturing back stateside. Brrr's chemical-free technology is em-

bedded into garments at the nanotech level.

Kolb, which is partnering with the University of Georgia, the University of Kentucky and MIT, has two patent-pending projects that it is working on with AFFOA.

PVH Corp., sometimes known as Phillips-Van Heusen, is one of the largest global apparel companies with more than \$8 billion in annual revenues. It owns some of the world's best-known brands, including Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger, Van Heusen, Izod, Speedo and Arrow.

In early 2016, PVH came to the conclusion that it needed to put more attention and resources into research and development. It was part of a realization that the apparel sector trails other industries in terms of investing in R&D. As a result, it created its **Innovation Next** division. Barry McGeough, group vice

president, likens it to the Eureka Innovation Lab at Levi Strauss, Nike's Innovation Kitchen and Under Armour's Lighthouse, all created over the past few years.

"The apparel industry is new to the innovation game," McGeough said. "We realized we had to start investing in R&D."

So Innovation Next was created to see how PVH could do things better across all of its different brands and regions. This involved listening to brands to solicit ideas with the goal of developing a competitive edge.

"We took ideas from the defense industry and other industries, and we are looking everywhere and finding amazing stuff," explained McGeough. "Here's my thinking. Your

car and everything in your world is smart and connected. What will your expectations be? Will you accept living in a smart world where everything is smart but your clothes? We know that people will expect their clothes to do something, and that's for brands to figure out."

Another apparel firm participating in AFFOA is Miami-headquartered **Intradeco**. The company operates a factory in El Salvador and sources products from other manufacturers. It is a major supplier to **Walmart** and also has licenses to manufacture products for such brands as **Fruit of the Loom**, **Jockey**, **Russell** and **Geoffery Beene**.

Eduardo Siman, Intradeco's IT director, said one of the key areas his company is interested in is physiological monitoring, which he says is important to the company and is also has military applications. Intradeco is partnering with universities and startups, acting in an advisory capacity on manufacturing and merchandising.

"We are big in the activewear space," he said. "Monitoring from a garment will help us to understand measurements of sweat, temperature and pressure. If it can be done from a garment, it's a lot more convenient."





AFFOA MEMBER: Brrr is an Atlanta-based startup apparel company that makes garments embedded with chemical-free nanotechnology. The company is a charter AFFOA member. Brrr Cofounder and CEO Mary-Cathryn Kolb said the projects that AFFOA will eventually bring to the market will have potential to bring manufacturing back stateside.





Juice Up

Textiles are awash in fresh shades of orange, persimmon and mango.



Asher Fabric Concepts #WW2729 Dobby Open Cotton Stripes Garment Dye

Asher Fabric Concepts #WW2628 Cotton/Viscose Slub Open Weave Garment Dye



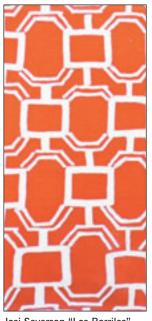
Cinergy Textiles Inc. #LVP-2009-1289 Printed Liverpool



Josi Severson "Fieldwork"



Kalimo #910769D/T33



Josi Severson "Los Barriles"



A Plus Fabrics Inc. "Needles"



Cinergy Textiles Inc. #HMC-LGS1607-324 Printed Chiffon



Cinergy Textiles Inc. #LVRCR-FL3258 Liverpool Crepe Print



A Plus Fabrics Inc. #LC-NM01 Chili Pepper



Cinergy Textiles Inc. #Jacquard-1297 Jacquard Paisley Knit



Cinergy Textiles Inc. #HB322 Stripe Knit Mesh



Cinergy Textiles Inc. #HMC-MX3517G Hi Multi Chiffon Print





Geo Pop

Pop Art motifs and bright colors mix with geometric design for a fresh take on geo patterns.



Confetti Fabrics #17745







Kalimo #912381D/T117



Sweater knits, mélange patterns and twill weaves and prints showcase an extra

A Plus Fabrics Inc. #HC293 Poly/Rayon Sweater Knit



A Plus Fabrics Inc. #723G Granny Sweater Knit



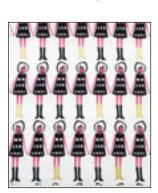
Pine Crest Fabrics "Dr. Seuss'





Pine Crest Fabrics #BTP091C1





Robert Kaufman Fabrics



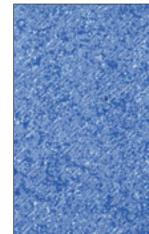
Hi-Lo Texture

dimension of textile texture.

Asher Fabric Concepts #NPC300 Nylon/Poly Blend Crepe



Asher Fabric Concepts #NPX175 Nylon/Polyester/ Spandex Interlock



Cinergy Textiles Inc. #LVRPL-6418-1289 Denim Look Liverpool Knit



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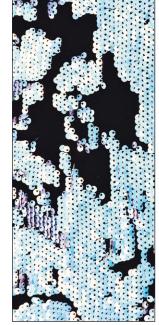
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Sequins

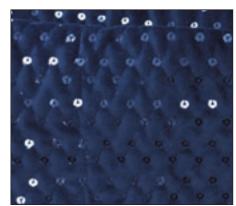
Sequined designs—and printed variations—add a touch of glamor and sparkle to swim fabrics, nets and velvet.











NK Textile #DHE-2017-030

Gold Standard

Designers go for the gold offering a gilded take on laces and knits.



Spirit Lace Enterprise #16119CO



Solstiss #497614.G



Tiss et Teint #66.5188



Fabric Selection Inc. #KNT3803



Friedmans Ltd. #TS1413



Solstiss #477N44.SB



Asher Fabric Concepts #PVO18-N Poly Viscose Vintage Ottoman

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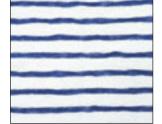
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New Lines

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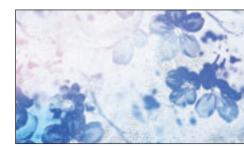
Asher Fabric Concepts #VPJR120-BL Poly Viscose Jersey Stripe



Asher Fabric Concepts #CRX22-ST Heavy Cotton Rib Stripe



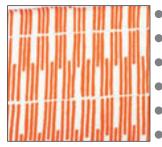
Robert Kaufman Fabrics #AMD-17231-111

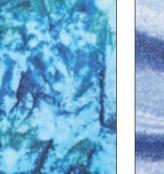


Friedmans Ltd. #TS1431 "Mimosa"









Robert Kaufman Fabrics #AMDX-17223-64



NK Textile #NK53186



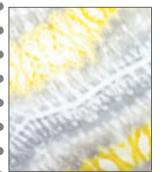
Friedmans Ltd. #TS1452 "Stipple Flare"



Kalimo #912451D/9096



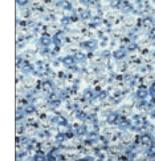




Pine Crest Fabrics #TFX810-



Pine Crest Fabrics #TFX808-52



Robert Kaufman Fabrics #SRKX-17228-67



Tricots Liesse Inc. #54856

Take

Textile designs find inspiration in butterfly, bird

and delicate laces.



Pine Crest Fabrics #TFX805-



Pine Crest Fabrics

#FTH1163C1

Confetti Fabrics #17670

Open Weave

Open-weave patterns, mesh, fishnets and loose-woven and knit designs offer a breezy take on textiles.

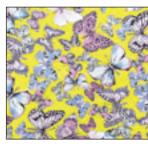


A Plus Fabrics Inc. #F-257K Douli Yarn Knit



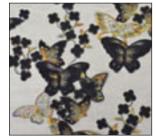
and feather motifs for prints

Texollini #78MD1 06249N



Tiss et Teint #66.7623

Lyma International s.r.l.



NK Textile #SW18861



A Plus Fabrics Inc. **#PSLACE10**



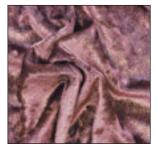
A Plus Fabrics Inc. #FN62



A Plus Fabrics Inc. #FN2045

Rose Gold

Textile designers give pink a glamorous makeover in metallic rose gold.



NK Textile #WFG5950



NK Textile #MH170105

Fabric Selection Inc. #KNT3848



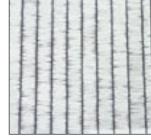
Fabric Selection Inc. #KNT3803



Asher Fabric Concepts #VCSL103-BK Cotton Slub Viscose Sweater



Asher Fabric Concepts #WW2678 Open Cotton Weave Checks 903/804v



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Velvet Crush

Textile designers bring the luxe look of velvet to prints, quilted designs and burnout patterns.



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Fabric Selection Inc. #KNT3734-SE60837



Fabric Selection Inc. # KNT3734-SE61172

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Lectra Introduces Fashion PLM 4.0 at Industry 4/0 Event

French equipment and software maker **Lectra** recently introduced its latest product lifecycle management software at an industry event at the Paris-based company's technology center in Bordeaux.

More than 100 industry professionals, including representatives from brands and manufacturers such as Swedish fast-fashion house **H&M** and Shanghai-based **Dayang Group**, gathered at the two-day conference to examine "how Industry 4.0 is shaping and transforming the global fashion and apparel business."



Industry 4.0 is a manufacturing concept that encompasses automation and data exchange. Some call it the "smart factory." Lectra referred to it as the "fourth industrial revolution." Industry 4.0 includes the Internet of things (including Internet-enabled devices and equipment) as well as cloud computing and cyber-physical systems that allow equipment and humans to communicate and cooperate in real time.

"Industry 4.0 is not only revolutionizing how manufacturers operate but also how

brands and retailers need to function," said Lectra Chief Sales Officer Edouard Macquin. "Lectra's goal is to provide its customers with the technology and support they need to thrive and succeed in this new digital marketplace."

Workshop and presentation topics at Lectra's event included innovative new retail models and the advantages of a digitalized supply chain.

The technology company also introduced its **Lectra Fashion PLM 4.0**, a modular PLM solution that "acts as a connected,

intelligent nerve center for today's digital supply chain." The solution allows users from across the supply chain—from development to design to production—to work together in a system that can be adapted to different business models and allows companies "to jump on trends quickly."

"What interests us as a vertical manufacturer is connecting our physical supply chain with our virtual supply chain—our software, ERP [enterprise]

resource planning]," said Fred Walck, director, project management, for Mexico-based clothing supplier **Grupo Kaltex**. "For us, Lectra offers the most comprehensive solution: an end-to-end system designed specifically for fashion and apparel."

Lectra provides solutions designed for industries using fabrics, leather, technical textiles, and composite materials to manufacture its products. The company has more than 1,500 employees and customers in more than 100 countries.—Alison A. Nieder

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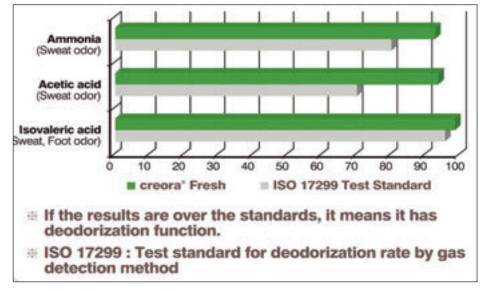
Hyosung and Sofileta Partner for New Creora Fresh Collection

French textile mill **Sofileta** is working with South Korean fiber company **Hyosung** on a new collection featuring Hyosung's **Creora Fresh** fiber.

Sofileta, which is known for its performance and technical textiles, has developed a collection featuring the Creora Fresh permanent antimicrobial technology, which works through a proprietary process that creates a chemical bond with the **Creora** spandex fiber.

"We are committed to leveraging our technical capabilities to service the needs of customers for performance plus fashion. Our expertise is to customize the fabrics for the needs of the specific end-use application," said Dominique Heuillard, Sofileta innovation manager, in a company statement. "Creora Fresh allows us to add another element of performance for intimates and sportswear."

Based in Seoul, Hyosung has a global network of more than 36 subsidiaries and international offices around the world. This year, the company is celebrating the 25th anniversary of Creora, which Hyosung produces in facilities around the world, including Korea, China, Vietnam, Turkey and Brazil.—A.A.N.





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DG Expo Fabric & Trim Show

www.dgexpo.ne

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w.latextiletradeshow.com

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Products and Services: We at La Lame have captured the attention of a fabulous Italian digital printer and source for very exclusive prints and "FOIL" solids for use in swimwear, sportswear, dresses and intimate loungewear. Our "Beat Goes On" is the French assortment of woven/stretch. This collection is unique in its attraction of yarn dye fabrics that apply to many apparel lines. Also, we are proud to claim our post-surgical fabrics with great compression and recovery are performing very well with leading medical garments, some with copper yarn that enhances their performance. We are now linked with a major knitting and finishing company in the domestic USA that is the source for all apparel companies that must have a $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MADE}}$ IN THE USA label. We also supply beautiful lace fabrics from the finest mills in Europe. Visit the new La Lame showrooms at 215 W. 40th St. by calling Glen Schneer, Adrian Castens and Joel Goldfarb

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Products and Services: Philips-Boyne Corp. offers high-quality shirtings and fabric. The majority of the line consists of long-staple Egyptian cotton that is woven and finished in Japan. Styles range from classic stripes, checks, and solids to novelties, Oxfords, dobbies, voiles, Swiss dots, seersuckers, ginghams, flannels, and more. Exclusive broadcloth qualities: Ultimo, Corona, and Superba. Knowledgeable customer-service team, immediate shipping, and highest-quality textiles. Philips-Boyne serves everyone from at-home sewers and custom shirt-makers to couture designers and branded corporations

SOLSTISS

561 Seventh Ave. 21st floor New York, NY 10018 (212) 719-9194 www solstiss com juliette@solstiss.com Contact: Juliette

110 E. Ninth St. Suite B703 Los Angeles, CA 90079 (213) 688-9797 Fax: (213) 688-9796 www.solstiss.com chloe@solstiss.com Contact: Chloe

Products and Services: French lace mill Solstiss welcomes lace lovers in their Los Angeles and New York showrooms. You can find an assortment of couture textiles — Chantilly lace, guipures, trims, appliques, embellishments, jacquard velvets, high-end knits and jersey. Solstiss lace is made in France on Leavers looms, woven according to traditional techniques, which has made French lace famous all over the world for over a century.

Spirit Lace Enterprise

110 E. Ninth St., Suite A761-A763 Los Angeles, CA 90079 (213) 689-1999 info@spiritlace.com www.spiritlace.com

Products and Services: Our fabrics and textiles are carefully chosen from around the world, mainly European and Oriental regions. We carry different types of laces and embroideries such as Chantilly lace. Alencon lace. Venice lace, all over embroideries with or without beads, embroidered fabric with 3-dimensional appliques, handmade appliques, tulles, trims, etc. We work with bridal designers and haute couture fashion brands across the country. Most of our articles are in stock at the California Market Center. In-stock items require no delivery turn time. We help customers to arrange either p/u or delivery; others might vary from three weeks to nine weeks (not including shipping time). Our collection is updated according to forecasting trends every season. More than 20 years of experience. View our latest collection at DG Expo in New York, Booth# E103, July 19-20.

swisstulle

Contact: Martina Callegari, Sales Director +41 (0) 71 969 32 32 Fax: +41 (0) 71 969 32 33 m.callegari@swisstulle.ch httn://swisstulle.ch

Products and Services: Founded in 1912. We are one of the leading warp knit Tulle and Bobbinet Tulle manufacturers, producing in Switzerland and England. Our expertise is rigid and elastic warp knits for fashion categories such as bridal, haute couture, and lingerie as well as the embroidery markets, including technical applications that excel in performance and quality. We have the latest machinery with a staff that guarantees quality standards. We cover the whole range of widths with special focus on large widths, resulting in exclusive wide seamless fabrics. Integrated dyeing and finishing is an essential part of our quality and service strategy.

The Button/ Accessory Connection, Inc.

152 West Pico Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 747-8442 (877) 747-8442 (Outside California) www.tbacinc.com

Products and Services: The Button / Accessory Connection (tb/ ac) has been a trim supplier to some of fashion's household names for over 30 years. But in 2016, tb/ac has taken action on a plan to not only offer even more valuable services to customers but also strengthen the local community with jobs by starting a garment program at their downtown LA facility. tb/ac offers full-service development, cut and sew and private-label manufacturing—for brands who need flexible order quantities at honest costs, with guaranteed quality. The factory is equipped with a wide range of sewing machines. Along with a dedicated finishing department with boilers, trim machines, heat press, packing space and distribution ware-house. tb/ac production and QC managers facilitate additional screen printing, embroidery, fabric dying, and all operations with necessary outside contractors. From development to delivery, plus trim supply, tb/ac is prepared to be the reliable supply chain resource for your brand's garment production.

Texollini

2575 El Presidio St. Long Beach, CA 90810 (310) 537-3400 www.texollini.com

Products and Services: We at Texollini use state-of-the-art technology to supply the fashion and garment industries with innovative and nd-driven fabrics. Speed-to-market, trend insights, and quality control have been the cornerstones of our Los Angeles-based facility for over 25 years. Our in-house vertical capabilities include knitting, dyeing, finishing, and printing, and our development and design teams are unparalleled. Contact us to find out how our quality-driven products will enhance your brand.

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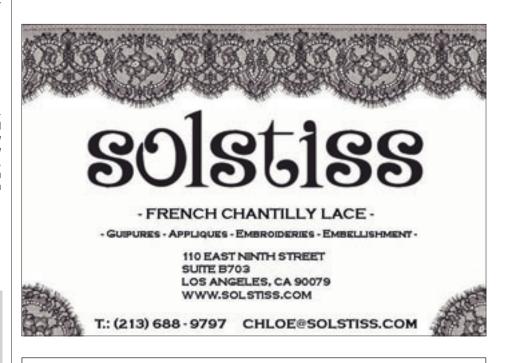
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