

Textile Preview

with **Tech Focus** and **LA Resource Guide**

A CALIFORNIA APPAREL NEWS SPECIAL SECTION

FEBRUARY 2018

TEXTILE TRENDS

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- Feeling the Blues • Onyx and Slate
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TECHNOLOGY

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The Coolness of Cooling Fabrics

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Cooling Fabrics Are Becoming Really Cool

By John McCurry *Contributing Writer*

Companies involved in the development of fabrics that achieve a cooling effect are proliferating in the U.S. to meet demands by apparel makers and other manufacturers.

Some use unique construction to achieve cooling while others employ some kind of chemical additive. These products, most of which have been developed over the past few years, are advancing all along the supply chain, from fiber to chemical manufacturers to fabric developers.

Founded in 2014, **Brrr** is an Atlanta-based startup cooling-fabric company whose chemical-free technology is embedded into

constructed a fabric with hydrophilic yarns that hold just the right amount of sweat on your skin to experience prolonged evaporative cooling. The fabric also employs raised knit structures and highly breathable hydrophobic areas so you never get that clammy, sticky-shirt feeling."

Delta products became commercially available for Spring 2017. Brands that have adopted it include **Oiselle**, **Rhone**, **Outdoor Research** and **Fox Racing** in the U.S. These are specialists in running, cycling and training garments.

In the fiber category, Israel-based **Nilit** is among the cool-category pioneers with its **Breeze** technology. The nylon 6,6 fiber came



A fishing shirt made with Brrr fabric

garments at the nanotech level.

Cofounder and Chief Executive Mary-Cathryn Kolb said Brrr's technology is superior because it doesn't involve chemicals. She is one of the inventors of the technology, which came about from research done at the **University of Georgia**, the **University of Kentucky** and the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**.

Most cooling fabrics, she noted, are a lot of hype with the mechanics behind it being moisture wicking. Other ventures dip fabrics into chemicals, which are applied to the surface.

But Brrr's technology has an all-natural mineral compound that acts as the cooling agent. "In suits or sheets or blankets, we feel we can do better and make them more comfortable and more pleasing in our everyday life," Kolb said. "It's part of the DNA of the fibers. They never wash out and never diminish."

The company is currently producing fabric for men's suits, women's dresses, men's dress shirts, undershirts, socks, underwear and bedding.

Brrr's fabrics have achieved high ratings in tests conducted by the **Hohenstein Institute** in Germany, and the company was asked to be a charter member of **Advanced Functional Fabrics of America**, a nonprofit institute near the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a member of the **National Network of Manufacturing Innovation Institutes**, which is trying to bring back manufacturing to the United States.

Also in the cooling-fabric business is **Polartec**, the longtime company known for its **Delta** product. Karen Beattie, the product manager who drove Delta's development, said it is different because it helps provide real metabolic cooling for the life of the garment. She asserts that other technologies provide temporary or sensorial cooling or they can wash out over the life of a garment.

"It's based on science, but it's simple," Beattie said. "Use fiber choice and fabric construction to amplify what our bodies do naturally to provide cooling. Evaporative cooling is the single biggest way our bodies dump excess heat when we sweat. We've

to the market about four years ago.

Molly Kremidas, marketing manager at **Nilit North America**, said the goal with Breeze is to achieve comfort through moisture management. She said it is consistent with trends of lighter fabrics.

"We do create our own polymer with an additive inside the polymer that we can't disclose," Kremidas explained. "We developed this. We went to a laboratory in Belgium [**Centexbel Textile Research Center**] for testing. There's not really a true standard in the industry right now on how to measure cooling."

Breeze yarns feature a flat cross-section structure with a wide surface that transfers body heat. Kremidas said initial tests showed that Breeze resulted in a temperature change on the surface of 1 degree centigrade.

That was enough to impress two performance-apparel brands. Fast-forwarding a few years, **ExOfficio** launched a line using Breeze in both tops and bottoms. It's also used in **Adidas' Climachill** products, in **Puma** shoes and in **Playtex** intimate apparel. Kremidas notes that it has applications in knits, warp knits and wovens.

Coolcore, a company headquartered in Portsmouth, N.H., has been around a little longer, having been launched in 2011.

It is different in that its cooling effects are achieved by fabric construction rather than chemicals. Coolcore's first products were cooling towels and ice wraps for medical uses, but it has gradually moved into an array of fabrics used in performance apparel.

The technology dates back to 2008 and was discovered purely by accident, said Kevin McCarthy, the company's chief executive.

Coolcore's chief technology officer, while working at **Malden Mills** on sublimation fabric for printing, discovered that the fabric evaporated moisture and created a cooling effect. This technology eventually became the basis for Coolcore.

Coolcore has working arrangements with a couple of mills to produce fabrics to its specifications. Either Coolcore or the mills buy specific yarns, and the mills either knit or weave the fabrics. ●

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Mark Zunino Bridal 2017

Supima Cotton's Origin to Be Verified in New Program

In the world of cotton, it is an open secret that some products labeled 100 percent Egyptian or Pima cotton are not what they appear and are really cheaper cotton.

This is an issue that American Pima growers have been trying to address for the past decade. Now they have a solution.

Supima, the nonprofit marketing organization that represents American Pima growers, has partnered with **Oritain Global Ltd.** to provide testing to identify and verify the origin of Supima cotton, which is Pima cotton grown by licensed Supima-cotton companies. "We have been trying to find different solutions for the last 10 years," said Jason Thompson, brand development manager for Supima. "When a product bears the Supima trademark, we want to ensure the cotton is verified."

Oritain will use scientific technology to measure the naturally occurring elements that exist within the cotton fiber, which is based on the geographical production area where the cotton is grown.

"The unique fingerprint analysis identifies different levels of chemical attributes that are found in the product itself and enables the cotton to be verified against its claimed origin," said Grant Cochran, the chief executive of Oritain.

The identification process is done by mapping the geographical region where the cotton is grown and identifying the trace elements in the soil, the water and the air. "In California, you will find remnants of gold," Thompson said. "They are taking samples from every Pima farmer to build a database."

About 85 percent of the American Pima cotton grown in the United States comes from California with the rest cultivated in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. There are more than 500 American Pima growers in the United States whose extra-long-staple cotton sells for twice the amount as other U.S. cotton.

The advantage of the Oritain method is that it doesn't need to apply any identifiers or tracers during the manufacturing or processing phases, which makes it a simple solution that measures what is naturally found inside the fiber.

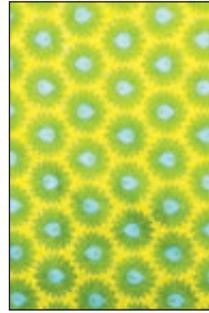
Oritain originally started working last year with California-based **J. G. Boswell Co.**, one of the largest growers of Supima cotton in the United States. From there, it has now expanded to all Supima cotton growers.—*Deborah Belgum*

Green With Envy

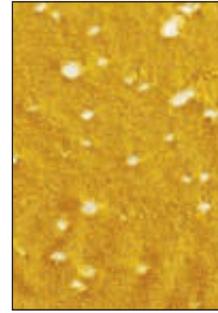
Green is everywhere. It's the most common color in the natural world and the second most favorite color. Green is associated with regeneration and vitality. Today, green is commonly used in textiles for all occasions.



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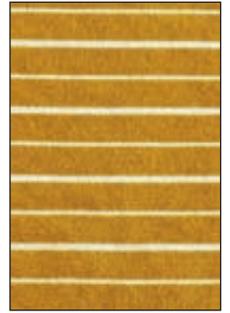
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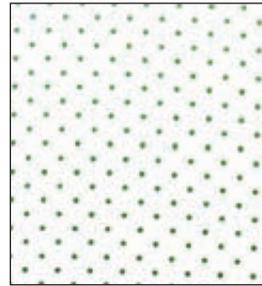
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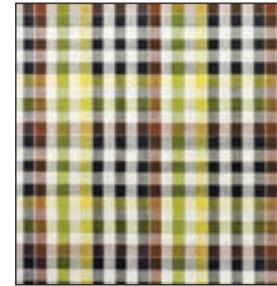
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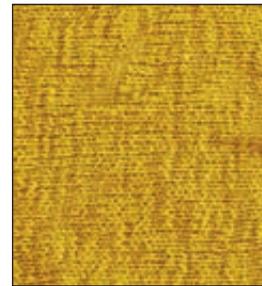
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Dungaree and Lace

Going back to the 17th century, dungaree fabric was a cheap, coarse and thick cotton worn by common people. Today, fashion designers are pairing it with lace fabrics to provide a contrast in color and texture. Together, dungaree and lace have become one of the hottest fashion trends.



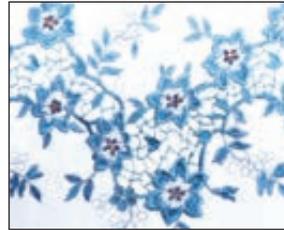
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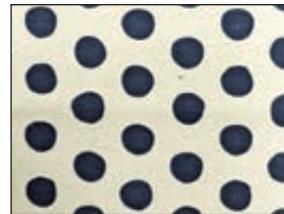
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Feeling the Blues

Blue, the favorite color of many people, was once the most expensive pigment, made of the semiprecious stone lapis lazuli. Associated with harmony, blue is the color of choice for flags around the world. Whether it's uniforms, business suits or high fashion, the color is widely used because it is very appealing to the human eye.



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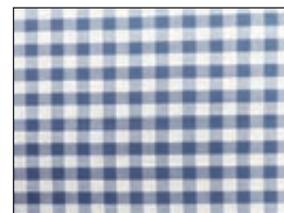
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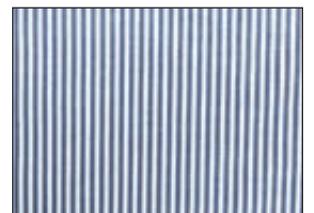
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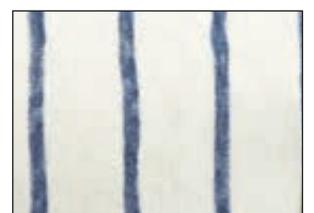
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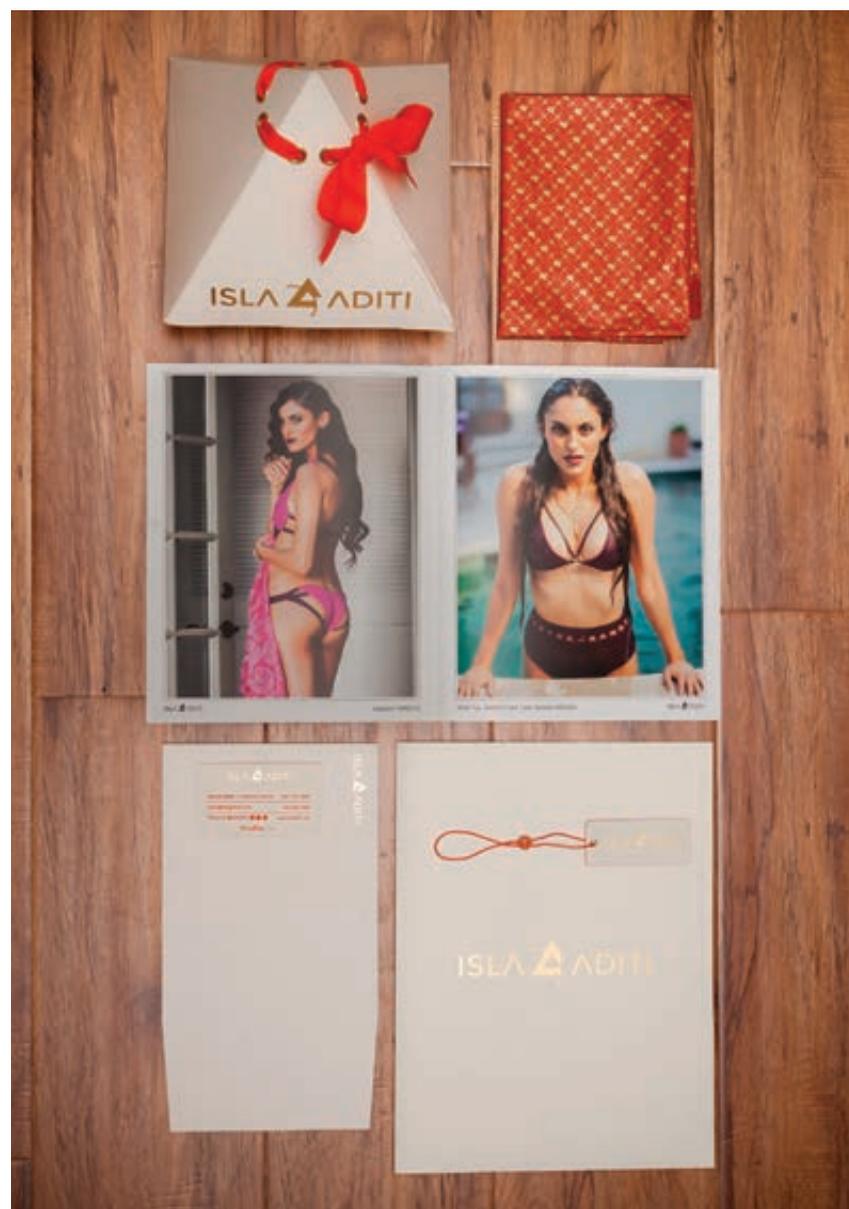


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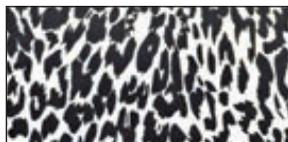
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Onyx and Slate

An achromatic color, black is literally a shade without hue. With many uses throughout the ages, it has been most associated with mourning. Gray is seen as an intermediate color between black and white. Both black and gray textiles are commonly used in all aspects of fashion.



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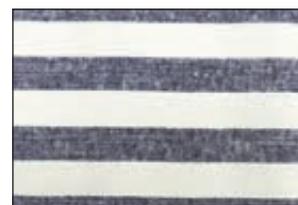
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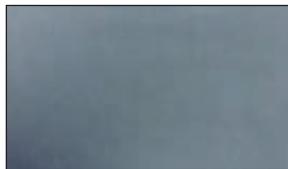
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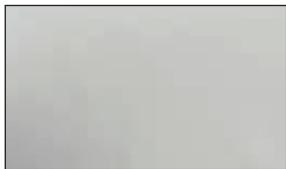
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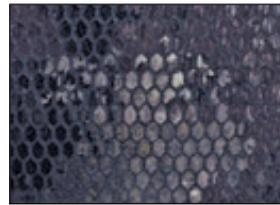
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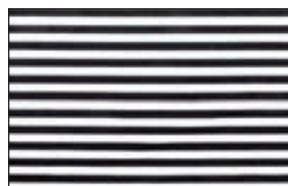
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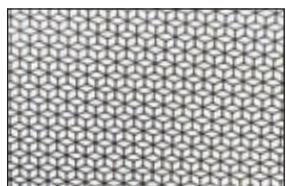
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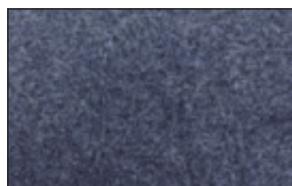
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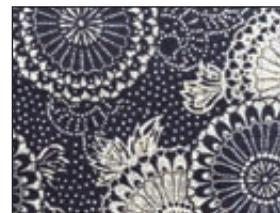
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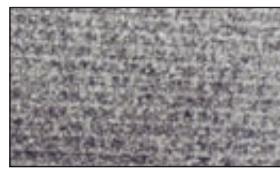
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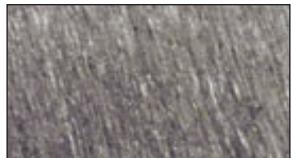
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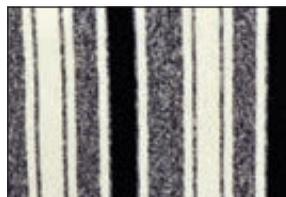
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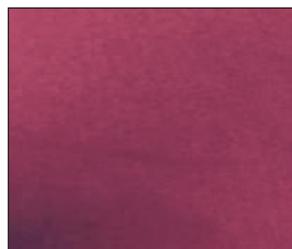
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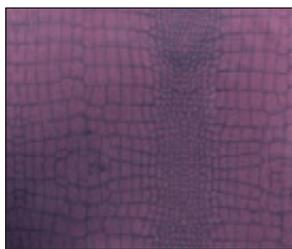
Once a color that represented power, red was very expensive to make and reserved for the wealthy. Red—and variations of red, such as burgundy and pink—is used to express a variety of moods from passion to sweetness. All have become popular textile colors.



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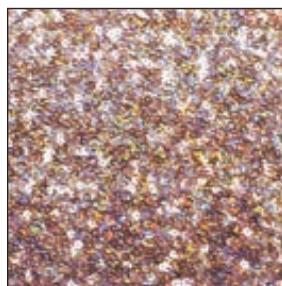
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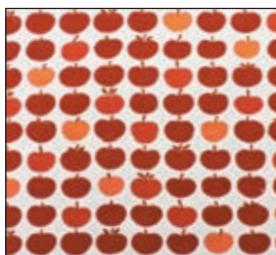
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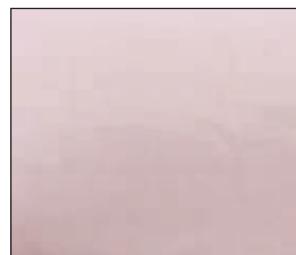
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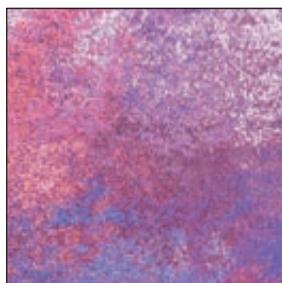
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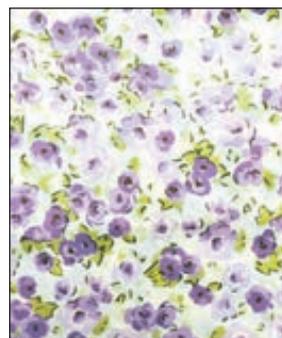
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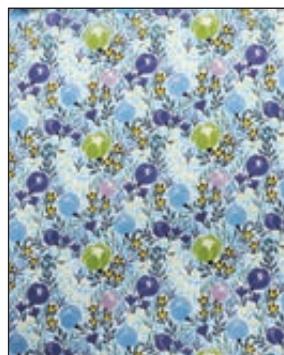
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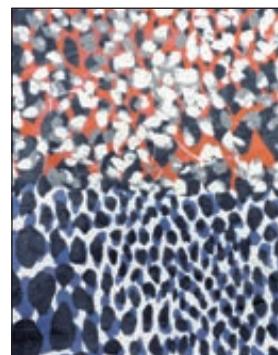
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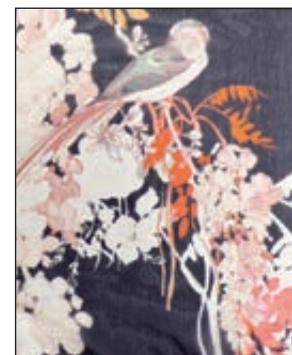
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Fashionably Fun

Conversation prints come in a wide variety of motifs, such as holiday prints, animal prints, everyday items, cars and many more. Very popular around the turn of the 20th century, they are widely sought today.



Malhia Kent #T107398



Malhia Kent #T108612



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Malhia Kent #T106390



Malhia Kent #T107160

Rusty Gold

Considered a valuable find, rusty gold is more than an object, it's a popular color. Whether it's yellow, orange, red, shiny or matte-finish gold, these hues evoke emotional responses. From passion to joy, enthusiasm to compassion, textile designers use these shades for all occasions.



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Asher Fabric Concepts #VCXD 28



Malhia Kent #T108544



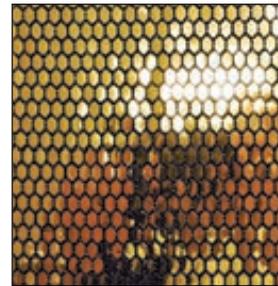
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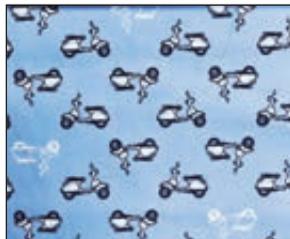
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Solid Stone Fabrics



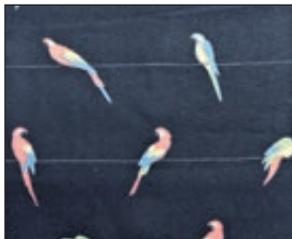
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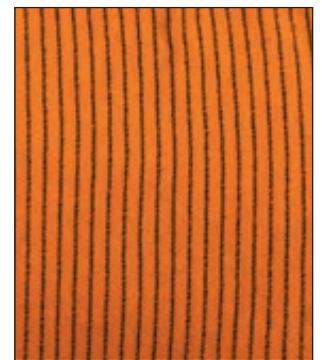
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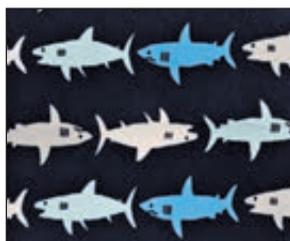
Solid Stone Fabrics



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Asher Fabric Concepts #MCC60-ST



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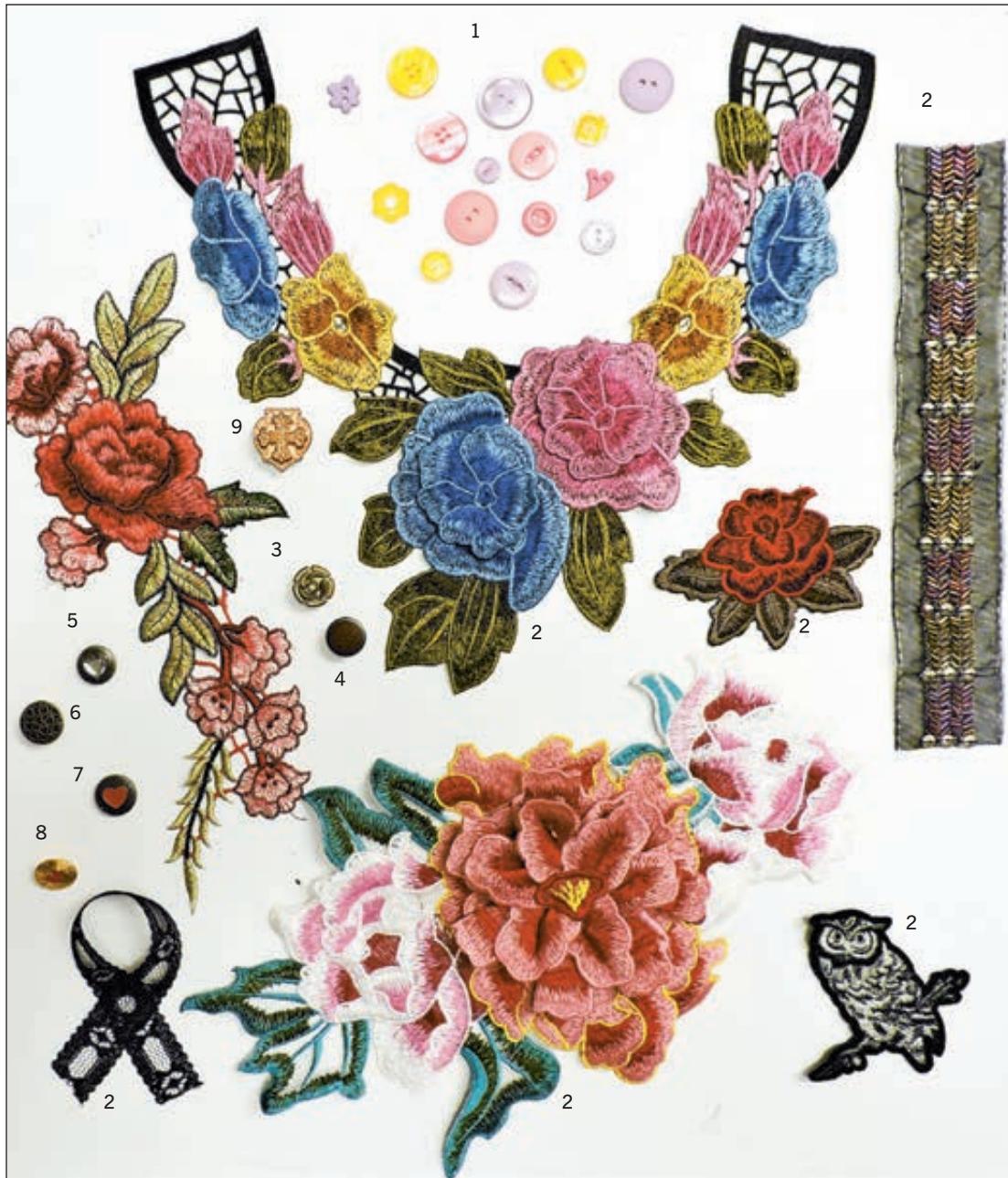
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www.asherconcepts.com

sales@asherconcepts.com

Products and Services: To address the need for innovative temperature-regulating knit fabrics in the activewear market, Asher is introducing Cool Sport, spun on Asher's new Santoni knitting machines, which create micro gauge knits for pure smoothness and compression. In 1991, Asher Fabric Concepts, based in Los Angeles, transformed the apparel industry by offering cutting-edge, high quality, "Made in U.S.A." knits for the contemporary fashion, athletic, and yoga markets. Since then, the company has become internationally known for its premium quality, knitted constructions with and without spandex, along with its creative print design and application. Asher Fabric Concepts provides fabric development, knitting, dyeing, and finishing in addition to fabric print design and printing capabilities based on each customer's needs. The company differentiates itself from the competition by offering proprietary textiles and by continually updating and innovating every aspect of textile design and production. With an in-house design team, new prints are constantly added to its collection, and color stories are updated seasonally.

Buhler Quality Yarns Corp.

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Los Angeles, CA 90061
(310) 523-5800
Fax: (310) 523-5858

Contact: Tasha

www.clp.global

info@californialabel.com

Products and Services: California Label Products has been servicing the apparel industry for 18 years. Our In-House Art Department can help develop your brand identity with an updated look or provide you with a quote on your existing items. Our product list not only consists of woven labels, printed labels, heat transfers, size tabs, RFID price tickets, and custom hangtags, but we also have a service bureau with quick turn time and great pricing. We are dedicated to setting the highest standard of excellence in our industry. Above all,

we value quality, consistency and creating solutions that work for you. Call or email us for more information.

Design Knit Inc.

1636 Staunton Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90021
(213) 742-1234

Fax: (213) 748-7110

www.designknit.com

shalat@designknit.com

Contact: Shala Tabassi

Products and Services: Design Knit, Inc. is a knit-to-order mill based in Los Angeles specializing in the development and production of high-quality, sheer to heavyweight knits for the designer and contemporary markets. They will be featuring new innovations including, but not limited to: cashmere, cotton, linen, silk, wool, rayon and Modal blends. ProModa, Tencel, MircoTencel, Supima blends including our luxe collection. Denim-inspired knits. Cut-and-sew sweater knits. Fashion-forward activewear/athleisure collection.

Fabric Selection Inc.

800 E. 14th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90021
(213) 747-6297

Fax: (213) 747-7006

www.fabricselection.com

info@fabricselection.com

Products and Services: Fabric Selection Inc. is a premier wholesale retailer, supplying the best quality fabrics and in-house designs to designers and manufacturers in the Los Angeles area and beyond. Whether you need the common fabrics that you rely on, such as wholesale polyester, spandex, rayon/spandex, novelty, solid, print, knit, woven or more unique fabrics to inspire your next great fashion creation, we can work with you to get a price that will fit with your bottom line. All of our print designs are copyrighted. Visit us the LA Textile trade show, CMC building, Booth #808-#814, March 5-7.

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Montreal (Quebec)
Canada H3B 4W5
(514) 448-2234
Fax: (514) 448-5101

info@jerianhangers.com

www.jerianhangers.com

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La Lame

www.lalame.com

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 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 Schmeer, Adrian Castens, or Joel Goldfarb at (212) 921-9770.

Philips-Boyne Corp.

135 Rome St.
Farmingdale, NY 11735
(631) 755-1230
Fax: (631) 755-1259

www.philipsboyne.com

sales@philipsboyne.com

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.

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Textile and Findings & Trimmings Resources

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Progressive Label

2545 Yates Ave.
Commerce, CA 90040
(323) 415-9770
Fax: (323) 415-9771
info@progressivelabel.com
www.progressivelabel.com

Products and Services: Progressive Label is dedicated to helping companies develop and showcase their brand identity. From logo labels and hangtags to care/content labels and price tickets, we will develop, produce, and distribute your trim items worldwide. We specialize in producing custom products that will meet your design and merchandising needs. We successfully launched production of RFID price tickets last year. This demand is being greatly driven by the big retailers such as Macy's and Target. Our growth and market dynamics have resulted in opening up a production center in Tijuana, Mexico. We have also added advanced die cutter technology in our Los Angeles production center to streamline our production efforts and to strengthen our packaging capabilities. A very important part of our business is FLASHTRAK, our online ordering system for price tickets, custom products and care labels. Our mission is to deliver high-quality products at competitive prices, wherever they are needed for production. We understand the rush nature of this industry and strive to meet the tight deadlines facing our customers.

R.C. International Fabrics Inc.

3001 S. Main St.
Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 744-0777
Fax: (213) 744-0940
ray@rcfab.net
www.rcfab.net
www.garmentdyefabrics.com

Products and Services: R.C. International Fabrics, Inc. has been inspiring the fashion industry since 1990. We are an importer and converter of domestic knit and woven fabrics, carrying novelties and basic items such as gauze, voile, lawn, poplin, twill, corduroy, denims, and much more. Fabrics in stock consist of solids, yarn dyes, textures and are available as stretch and non-stretch. We also specialize in PFD, prepared for garment dye fabrics. RCIF works close with design teams and mills to create the newest and most creative textures and novelty items. Divisions consist of Junior Line, managed by Cyrus Gabbay, and the Contemporary, Missy, and PFD lines (PFD Heaven), managed by "Ray" Gabbay. The company's direction has been leaning toward using more and more of organic, bamboo, modal, tencel, eco friendly fibers to create beautiful, soft, and comfortable fabrics. Visit us the LA Textile trade show, CMC building, 110 E. Ninth St., Booth #804/806, March 5-7.

Robert Kaufman Fabrics

129 West 132nd St.
Los Angeles, CA 90061
(800) 877-2066
Fax: (310) 538-9235
www.robertkaufman.com
info@robertkaufman.com

Products and Services: Robert Kaufman Co., Inc. is an importer and converter with national and international representation, stocking a wide variety of printed, yarn-dyed, and solid wovens and knits as well as denims. In business for over 70 years, Robert Kaufman Fabrics has been delivering the highest-quality service to manufacturing clients in the U.S. and around the world in a variety of markets, including childrenswear, womenswear, contemporary, juniors, men's sportswear, maternity, uniforms, special occasion, accessories, and home fashions. In addition to an extensive catalog of on-trend design collections released every quarter, we offer domestic in-stock programs with low

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Spirit Lace

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, tulle, 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 LA Textile show March 5-7, 2018, Booth #407-411.

swisstulle

Contact: Martina Callegari, Sales Director
+41 (0) 71 969 32 32
Fax: +41 (0) 71 969 32 33
m.callegari@swisstulle.ch
www.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. swisstulle has just developed the world's thinnest tulle, made of delicate fabric, so thin that from a distance it can be made to look like it's not a fabric at all, just a layer of color! Reach out and let us work with you on your next collection.

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Long Beach, CA 90810
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