

Press release

14 Mai 2019

The winners of the Techtexsil Innovation Awards 2019

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Seven award winners, seven new textile solutions for e-mobility, occupational safety and greater sustainability. The Techtexsil Innovation Awards 2019 were presented today.

During the opening ceremony of Techtexsil, International Trade Fair for Technical Textiles and Nonwovens, seven companies were presented with the renowned Techtexsil Innovation Awards for textile products distinguished by a particularly high level of innovation. New this year, Techtexsil honoured two award winners in the 'Sustainability' category. All award-winning projects will be on show in a special exhibition at Techtexsil until Friday, 17 May.



The products selected for the Techtexsil Innovation Award will once again be shown in a special exhibition during the fair

Two awards in the 'Sustainability' category for the first time

In the 'Sustainability' category, a Techtexsil Innovation Award went to a working group comprising Comfil (Denmark), Chemosvit Fibrochem (Slovakia), the Fraunhofer Institute for Chemical Technology ICT (Germany), the Technical University of Denmark and Centexbel (Belgium) for BIO4SELF, fully bio-based, self-reinforced polymer composites based on PLA fibres. These composites can be used in the fields of automobile manufacturing, the sports industry and medical technology. Moreover, they contribute to the sustainable development goals defined by the United Nations by promoting the transition to an inclusive green economy.

Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH
Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage 1
60327 Frankfurt am Main

The second award in the sustainability category went to PICASSO, a joint venture of Portuguese project partners for the development of a coloration and functionalization process for garments based on natural extracts from residues and/or species of mushrooms and plants, as well as enzymes. The project partners are the Centre for Nanotechnology and Smart Materials (CeNTI), the Tintex sustainable textiles company, spice and herb producer Ervital, biotech company Bioin vitro Biotecnologia and the CITEVE textile technology centre.

Award winners in the ‘New Technology’ category

The international jury was particularly impressed by two projects in the ‘New Technology’ category: Robert Bosch GmbH and H. Stoll AG were presented with the Techtexil Innovation Award for a knitted sensor glove. The seamless, 3D flat-knitted glove is made of sensor yarn and offers the wearer sensory and control functions on all fingers, e.g., for operating interfaces in man-machine interaction, for movement control in relation to augmented and virtual-reality applications or rehabilitation purposes in a medical setting. The glove provides the same level of wearing comfort as a conventional glove.

The second award in this category went to Germany’s Northwest Textile Research Centre for its ‘Textile Mining’ project, a functional textile that enables, for example, companies from the metal industry to recycle and recover noble metals, such as gold, platinum and palladium, from industrial waste water. Against the background of a growing shortage of raw materials, industrial waste water is, alongside electrical waste, an important source of noble metals and, therefore, ‘urban mining’, i.e., separating and recovering raw materials from existing resources in urban settings. Other project partners: Kayser Filtertech, Setex-Textilveredlung, Cornelsen Umwelttechnologie, Unimicron Germany and Wieland Edelmetalle (all from Germany).

Award winners in the ‘New Application’ category

In the ‘New Application’ category, the awards went to the German Institutes for Textile and Fibre Research Denkendorf (DITF) and Beira Interior University (DCTT) in Portugal. DITF have developed a space-saving inductive charging coil for hybrid and electric vehicles. Due to a lack of space under most vehicles, it has been very difficult to install inductive charging coils to permit linear scaling of the coil area and thus maintain the equal power density necessary for charging larger batteries. DITF use high-tech knitting technology to meet this challenge. Partnering DITF in this project is Robert Bosch GmbH.

The second award in this category went to the E-Caption 2.0 smart and safe coat developed by the Beira Interior University in Portugal. The coat is primarily designed to protect workers from excess radio-frequency signals while climbing antennas, the number of which is growing worldwide with the increasing spread of mobile telephony and the internet. Protection is given by a textile system that harvests energy and is connected to LEDs that indicate when the radiation level exceeds that recommended by the European Union. The project partner is the Aveiro Institute for Telecommunication.

Techttextil
Leading international trade fair for
technical textiles and nonwovens
Frankfurt am Main, 14 to 17 May 2019

Award winners in the 'New Material' category

In the 'New Material' category, the Techtexsil Innovation Award 2019 went to Portugal's Sedacor cork processing company for CORK-A-TEX, a new yarn made of cork. Previously, cork-based textiles for apparel or home textiles have been relatively stiff. The new cork yarn is a flexible product made of a natural material and thus offers additional design opportunities for the fashion industry and interior furnishing.

The jury:

- Prof Fernando Carrillo Navarrete, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain
- Braz Costa, CITEVE, Centro Tecnológico das Indústrias Têxtil e do Vestuário, Portugal
- Johannes Diebel, Forschungskuratorium Textil e. V., Deutschland
- Sabine Gimpel, TITV Greiz Textilforschungsinstitut Thüringen-Vogtland e.V., Germany
- Dr Jan Laperre (Chairman of the jury), Centexbel, Belgium
- EMPA – Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology, Switzerland
- Dr Thomas Stegmaier, ITV Institute for Textile and Process Technology Denkendorf, Germany
- Dr Hartmut Strese, VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH, Germany
- Prof Henry Yi Li, Manchester University, UK

This is the 15th time that the Techtexsil Innovation Awards have been presented for new developments in the field of technical textiles and textile production. The winning products can be seen at a special exhibition in Hall 4.2 throughout the fair. The concurrent Texprocess, Leading International Trade Fair for Processing Textile and Flexible Materials, honoured new technological developments with the Texprocess Innovation Award for the fifth time.

Press releases and images

<https://techtexsil.messefrankfurt.com/frankfurt/de/press.html>

On the internet

www.facebook.com/techtexsil

www.twitter.com/techtexsil

www.linkedin.com/showcase/techtexsil

www.techtexsil-blog.com

www.instagram.com/techtexsil_texprocess

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

Messe Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organiser with its own exhibition grounds. With more than 2,500* employees at 30 locations, the company generates annual sales of around €715* million. Thanks to its far-reaching ties with the relevant sectors and to its international sales network, the Group looks after the business interests of its customers effectively. A comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organising and running their events. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. With its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt

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(60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent).

For more information, please visit our website at: www.messefrankfurt.com

*preliminary figures 2018

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