

Press release



Huge success of the mission to Israel by the European Advanced Textile Materials' cluster EU-TEXTILE2030

EU-TEXTILE 2030, the European Advanced Textile Materials' Cluster, has been in Israel from March 25th to 28th in its third business mission.

Six European technical textiles' clusters have directly participated at the mission: AEI Tèxtils (Catalonia), ATEVAL (Valencia), Techtera (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes), coordinator of the mission, Up-tex/Clubtex (Hauts-de-France), Clutex (Czech Republic) and PoInTex (Piedmont). Along with the cluster's representatives, 10 companies and research centres have participated at the mission.

The Spanish participants were: COTOBLAU, MLS TEXTILES 1992, TEJIDOS ROYO and PRIMLAB from ATEVAL and MARINA TEXTIL, LEITAT and the Polytechnic University of Catalonia from AEI TÈXTILS.

On the first day of the mission, in the morning, the group visited the Technological Institute TECHNION. In the afternoon, they visited the facilities of the polyamide yarn manufacturer NILIT and the company SOURCE, specialist in tactical gear.



Participants at the mission in TECHNION

The second day began with a visit to the largest University of Israel, BAR ILAN, and to the start-up NANOTEXTILE, specialized in textile nanocoating to provide antibacterial properties to fabrics in the medical field.



The participants at the mission together with Prof. Em. Aharon Gedanken, at Bar-Ilan University

In the afternoon, the group met with the Israeli Association – Textile and Fashion Industry. Several Israeli companies from the sector participated at the meeting and the company TECSOLUT made a presentation of its new product development services, specializing in nonwovens, polymers, plastics, packaging, coatings and chemical industries.

During the meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between EU-TEXTILE2030 and the Israeli association, with the aim of promoting joint actions of interest for the members of both organizations.



Bruno Mougín, Project Manager at Techtera, Maya Herscovitz, Director of the Israeli Textile Association and Cándid Penalba, President of ATEVAL, signing the MoU

The third day of the mission, the group travelled to Jerusalem to visit ARGAMAN TECHNOLOGIES; a company which has developed a pioneering technology by using the energy of sound waves to treat cotton during the standard spinning process and provide it with antibacterial properties, among others.



Jeff Gabbay, President of ARGAMAN, explaining their technology

The day continued with a visit to the company DELTA GALIL, manufacturer of underwear, and to the start-up TWINE, which has developed a new digital dyeing system for yarns.



The participants at the mission in DELTA GALIL

The last day of the mission was focused on visiting the SHENKAR COLLEGE in Tel Aviv. Again, the group travelled to Jerusalem to visit the HEBREW UNIVERSITY. The mission ended with a visit to the company KORNIT DIGITAL, which offers innovative solutions in digital printing to the textile industry.

EU-TEXTILE2030 assesses the mission as highly fruitful. It has enabled the participating organizations the exploration of the Israeli market with a focus on the final applications of advanced textile materials.

The contacts made will allow to open new business opportunities for the participating SMEs and to build strategic alliances with the main Israeli stakeholders in the textile and final applications' sectors.

EU-TEXTILE2030 is co-funded by COSME – Clusters go International program from the European Commission and it has the following objectives:

- *To consolidate the European cluster of Advanced Textile Materials*
- *To develop a cooperative internationalization strategy*
- *To securing, strengthening and extending the competitiveness of European SMEs in the sector at international level.*

AEI Tèxtils is partner of the project, being ATEVAL the project coordinator. Additionally, 5 European technical textiles' clusters participate in the project: CLUTEX from Czech Republic, POINTEX from Italy, UP-TEX and TECHTERA from France and SACHSEN! TEXTIL EV from Germany.

EU-TEXTILE2030 continues the lines of TEXTILE2020 project, implemented from 2012 to 2014 with the same consortium, where a world-class-cluster in the field of advanced textile materials was developed to coordinate activities of the value chain of this sector at European level. Additionally, a common strategy was also defined as a key framework to accelerate technological developments and to facilitate access to market in third countries. During TEXTILE2020 several internationalization activities were carried out as a pilot program: four internationalization trips to Brazil, Japan and South Korea, Tunisia and Canada; joint participation in several international trade fairs and a market study of the personal protective equipment market in Brazil, among others.

EU-TEXTILE2030, which will last until November 2019, has foreseen the following activities where clusters' members will be able to benefit from:

- *Business missions to: Israel, Colombia, Japan-Korea-Taiwan and South Africa.*
- *Market study preparation for each target country.*
- *Joint participation at 2 international trade fairs in Colombia and Taiwan under the umbrella of EU-TEXTILE2030 European Cluster.*
- *Official establishment of the European association which represents the Advanced Textile Materials European Cluster EU-TEXTILE2030 with headquarters in Brussels along with the development of short and mid-term strategy.*

The EU-TEXTILE2030 European cluster will represent, initially, more than 900 European companies of the sector and it is anticipated that more partners will join the association increasing its scope.

Beyond the partners who are members of the consortium, the project also has six associated organizations which will provide support to the different activities of the project: the European Textile Technology Platform; the technical textile cluster from UK, NWTEXNET; the Portuguese textile cluster Cluster Têxtil: Tecnologia e Moda; the German textile business association IVGT and the Italian TEXCLUBTEC, in addition to Messe Frankfurt, the main trade fair organizer in terms of technical textiles worldwide.

For more information:

www.eu-textile2030.eu