

JUKI Corporation and YKK Corporation announce Joint-Development Agreement

JUKI Corporation and YKK Corporation have entered into a Joint Development Agreement on January 24, 2017, to leverage their fastening products and their sewing technologies and expertise to develop solution products focused on resolving various challenges experienced by sewing factories their common customer base.

Outline of the Joint Development Agreement

Jointly develop sewing machines for attaching zippers onto products with distinctive technologies that generate new value for customers in relevant markets

JUKI and YKK are in possession of hard-won development and manufacturing expertise JUKI in sewing facilities and YKK in fastening products. Because sewing machines are the primary vehicle for the attachment of zippers in both the apparel and non-apparel sectors, JUKI and YKK can leverage each other's strengths and jointly develop proprietary

sewing technologies for fastening products.

Attaching zippers is one of the most challenging and time-consuming processes of product making, requiring a high level of skill from its operators. The two industry leaders aspire to develop automated, simplified sewing machines for attaching zippers onto products as well as improved fastening products, achieving both a significant improvement in productivity and an advanced manufacturing process that requires much less experience and fewer skills.

JUKI and YKK plan to complete and put on the market their first jointly developed sewing machines for attaching zippers onto products by the end of the fiscal year 2017.

Generate synergy, enhancing their capability for proposing solutions for their common customers

JUKI and YKK have common customers because zippers are mostly sewn onto products using sewing machines. Their sales channels all over



Akira Kiyohara,
President JUKI
Corporation.

Masayuki Sarumaru,
President YKK
Corporation.

the world and their proprietary sewing machines for attaching zippers onto products will allow JUKI and YKK to offer more wide-ranging and in-depth solutions to customers. JUKI's extensive knowledge of garment factories throughout the world and YKK's network of brand holders will give this collaboration a strong competitive edge.

The amalgamation of their technological and service offering capabilities is sure to generate this synergy and support the strengthening and expansion of respective businesses, as well as contribute to the further development of the garment industry. ♦

Book Review

Trendbook Technical Textiles 2016/2017

Effect of Demographic Change on the Technical Textiles Market.

Claudia van Bonn (Ed.), 4th edition 2016, 296 pages, Euro 149.

Deutscher Fachverlag GmbH, Frankfurt/Germany, ISBN: 978-3-86641-878-3.

Technical textiles continue to be a high-tech success story, and in Europe stand for an important part of the total turnover of the textile market. Now in the 4th edition, the Trendbook Technical Textiles 2016/2017 highlights trend reports from internationally renowned experts about the current situation in the basic areas of fibers, nonwovens and the finishing of technical textiles, and provide market forecasts for the next 1-2 years.

This edition concerns itself with the various aspects of global demographic change and its importance for the production of technical textiles and its associated industries, looking at the age structure of the population, the quantitative relationship between men and women, the birth and

mortality rates, etc., and its implications for the technical textiles producers and their partner sectors.

Further main topics are the Megatrends Female Shift and Innovation Management, as these will have increasing relevance for the SMEs in the B-2-B area of the textile industry in the coming years. This time, Africa is highlighted as a market of special interest for technical textiles.

A European market overview (over 100 pages) gives detailed company information split into the areas of fibers/chemicals/textile auxiliaries, textile machinery and technical textiles. Additionally, various companies



present their product and service portfolios and their individual success stories in exclusively designed company profiles.

This comprehensively researched, multi-part reference book will support the activities of companies active in the technical textile production and their suppliers in this exciting and expansive market with detailed information and data. ♦