

Techtextil and Texprocess look ahead to the city of the future

By 2050, almost 70% of the world's population will be living in urban regions, metropolises and megacities, according to the United Nations. This poses new challenges for construction, mobility concepts and health services, as well as for smart fashion and functional clothing. With the special event "Urban Living – City of the Future" from 14-17 May 2019, Techtextil and Texprocess are dedicating a separate themed area to life in the city of the future.

Held from 14 - 17 May 2019, "Urban Living – City of the Future" will be the key theme of Techtextil and Texprocess 2019 in Frankfurt am Main, the leading international trade fairs for technical textiles and nonwovens, and the processing of textile and flexible materials. Taking centre stage this time are the Netherlands: supported by Creative Holland, an initiative of the Dutch creative industries, a special presentation area will examine the role that textiles and textile composites can play in the future of cities and highlight an array of outstanding examples of urban textile innovations from the Netherlands.

"With "Urban Living – City of the Future" as the guiding theme, Techtextil

and Texprocess are creating a shared interaction space that brings the application areas of Techtextil and Texprocess even closer together. "After embarking on a journey into outer space and into the future for the previous edition of Techtextil and Texprocess, with Urban Living we're now coming back down to earth and into the here and now," explains Olaf Schmidt, Vice President of Textiles & Textile Technologies at Messe Frankfurt. "And with the Dutch creative industries, we have been able to bring the ideal partner on board to do this: on the one hand, textiles are firmly anchored in the history and national DNA of the Netherlands. And on the other, the country is practically its own metropolitan region. The design orientation of the Dutch creative industries and the innovative, forward-looking and sustainable ingenuity that sets our neighbouring country apart are perfectly in line with the positioning of Techtextil and Texprocess."

On an area of more than 500 m² in the foyer of Hall 4.2, which is being shared by Techtextil and Texprocess for the first time, selected examples will show how textile innovations can already improve the way people live together in

urban surroundings today. They will refer in particular to Techtextil's spectrum of textile solutions that are of great relevance within the context of the urbanisation megatrend: architecture Page 2 Techtextil Texprocess Frankfurt am Main, 14-17 May 2019 & construction, mobility, medicine and clothing. Selected innovations will be shown in a disruptive architectonic landscape. The inspiring exhibition area will be accompanied by a Material Gallery showing related solutions from exhibitors and the presentation area of the Techtextil student competition, Textile Structures for New Building.

Curated by the Stijlinstituut Amsterdam and structurally implemented by Dutch architect firm Refunc, "Urban Living – City of the Future" is proving the Netherlands' expertise in providing answers to current, social and global challenges associated with the urbanisation megatrend. Awaiting the visitors are exhibits from, amongst others, the textile upcycling pioneers DenimX, research institutes like the Hyperloop team from Delft Technical University (TU Delft), contributions from the Next Nature Network as well as independent representatives of the Dutch creative scene like textile architect Samira Boon. ♦