

## Passion for Cotton!

**35<sup>th</sup> International Cotton Conference Bremen from 25 to 27 March 2020**

## Circular Economy –The Future

The “Circular Economy” will be one of the most widely discussed industry subjects at the upcoming International Cotton Conference in Bremen. In essence, the conference deals with the lifecycle of the natural, renewable raw material cotton in the sense of a circular economy. Following a "cradle to cradle" process, the cycle begins with its natural origin and runs through various processing stations before it is then returned to its biological origin.



© Bremen Cotton Exchange

As a result of its growing economic and social importance, the subject will be given its own separate, dedicated programme item with the headline 'Circular Economy - The Future' on Thursday 26 March.

## Panel discussion with top-class participants

There will be a two-hour central panel discussion of the conference led by **Simon Ferrigno** from Derby, UK. Simon Ferrigno is a well-known specialist in sustainable and organic production systems, author and contributor to various specialist publications.

His discussion partners include **Rainer Hengstmann**, owner of the consultancy firm Go4More Global from Erlangen, Germany. He believes that any business activity will perform poorly if it disregards the principles of transparency and sustainability. This is

### GOLD SPONSORS



OEKO-TEX®  
INSPIRING CONFIDENCE



### SILVER SPONSORS



### BRONZE SPONSORS



ASSEKURANZMAKLER

### CONTACT:

Elke Hortmeyer | Bremen Cotton Exchange | Wachtstraße 17-24 | D-28195 Bremen  
Phone +49 421 33970-16 | hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de | www.baumwollboerse.de

due to the high level of market networking and changing regulatory scenarios. From this perspective, it is time to rethink existing business models.

**Kjersti Kviseth**, Jar, Norway, is the owner of the 2025 design agency. She specialises in lifecycle design and has developed principles for circular design. Here, issues such as upcycling and recycling play a major role. In 2019, she won the Ispo EcoAward for her work.

**Rolf Heimann** is Chairman of the Hessnatur Foundation, Berlin, Germany and has been active in textile ecology for more than 20 years. He has developed environmentally friendly and biodegradable dyeing systems and coatings for textiles. The mail order and retail company Hessnatur has been one of the pioneers in the market for sustainable cotton and woollen textiles since it was founded in 1976.

**Mary Ankeny** is Vice President, Product Development & Implementation Operation at Cotton Incorporated, Cary NC, USA. Among other things, Cotton Incorporated deals with research questions concerning the biodegradability of cotton and other fibres, as well as with the subject of 'cotton's next life' outside of the classic clothing supply chain.

**Ernst Grimmelt** is Managing Partner of spinner and weaver Velener Textil in Velen, Germany. Two years ago, his company developed a product branded as 'Wecycled', in which processed production residues from the spinning and weaving mill are converted back into individual fibres. With the addition of fresh cotton, they can be turned into high quality yarns and fabrics. The result is that leftovers are no longer disposed of unused but processed into new products.

**GOLD SPONSORS**



**SILVER SPONSORS**



**BRONZE SPONSORS**



ASSEKURANZMAKLER

**CONTACT:**

Elke Hortmeyer | Bremen Cotton Exchange | Wachtstraße 17-24 | D-28195 Bremen  
Phone +49 421 33970-16 | hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de | www.baumwollboerse.de

## **Ecological and economic benefits put to the test**

The aim of the panel discussion is to draw a picture of the current situation of the circular economy. In addition to the ecological benefits, it will also question the economic viability of processes. Advantages and disadvantages should become clear. In the context of recycling, chemical and mechanical processes for the production of new products and questions about the biodegradability of fibres and textile products will be discussed. Here, it remains to be stated that cotton, like all cellulose fibres, can be added to the biological cycle without any difficulty due to its rapid biodegradability.

## **About the International Cotton Conference**

The International Cotton Conference Bremen begins for trade visitors on Wednesday, 25 March 2020. The opening keynotes from qualified speakers will deal with the status quo and the challenges of the industry. The subsequent, thematically structured sessions are characterised by top class lectures on industry-related questions along the supply chain. The topic of circular economy and the consideration of the life cycle of cotton, viewed from different perspectives, is a thread running through the programme.

Up to 500 participants from all continents are expected to attend the Cotton Conference, with research and practice equally represented. The 35<sup>th</sup> International Cotton Conference forms the core of the Bremen Cotton Week. This includes meetings of the various cotton and textile trade associations, as well as the “Sustain” conference, which is taking place in cooperation with the newspaper “Weser-Kurier”. This year “Sustain” will focus on future issues of the retail trade and its importance for the vitality of inner cities.

### **GOLD SPONSORS**



**OEKO-TEX®**  
INSPIRING CONFIDENCE



### **SILVER SPONSORS**



### **BRONZE SPONSORS**



ASSEKURANZMAKLER

### **CONTACT:**

Elke Hortmeyer | Bremen Cotton Exchange | Wachtstraße 17-24 | D-28195 Bremen  
Phone +49 421 33970-16 | hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de | www.baumwollboerse.de

We will keep you informed about the additional key content of the Cotton Week and the Cotton Conference in future press releases. The current conference news and programme details can also be viewed on the conference website.

We look forward to active reporting and journalists are invited to attend the conference. Registration can be made at any time via the conference homepage (<https://cotton-conference-bremen.de/press/>).

**For further information, contact and interview requests please contact:**

Bremen Cotton Exchange

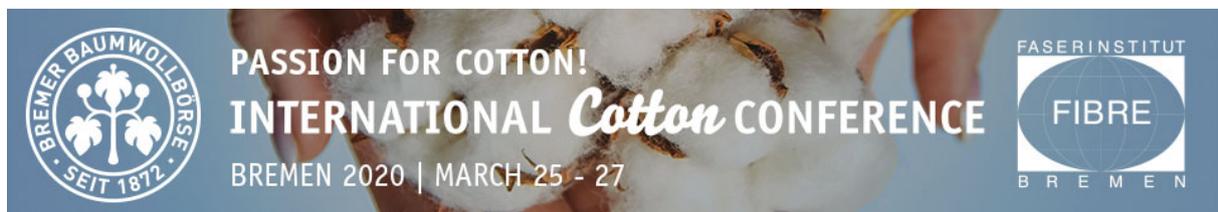
Elke Hortmeyer, Director of Communications and International Relations

Tel.: +49 421 3397016

Email: [hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de](mailto:hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de)

[www.cotton-conference-bremen.de](http://www.cotton-conference-bremen.de)

[www.baumwollboerse.de](http://www.baumwollboerse.de)



**GOLD SPONSORS**



**SILVER SPONSORS**



**BRONZE SPONSORS**



ASSEKURANZMAKLER

**CONTACT:**

Elke Hortmeyer | Bremen Cotton Exchange | Wachtstraße 17-24 | D-28195 Bremen  
Phone +49 421 33970-16 | [hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de](mailto:hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de) | [www.baumwollboerse.de](http://www.baumwollboerse.de)



## About the Bremen Cotton Exchange

- Founded in 1872 to strengthen the interests of the cotton trade and consumption in Germany, the Bremen Cotton Exchange has now been in the cotton business for more than 140 years. As an international court of arbitration, the Bremen Cotton Exchange always stands for neutrality.
- We offer various services to our members. Clear and neutral data and analyses are a part of this.
- As the ICA Bremen, together with the International Cotton Association in Liverpool and in cooperation with the Fibre Institute Bremen, we provide the International Quality Testing and Research Centre in Bremen. The Hanseatic city has now become the international centre for cotton testing and research, quality training and certification.
- We represent our members in all the important international bodies in the cotton world.

## About the Fibre Institute Bremen e. V. (FIBRE)

- In its 60-years history, the Institute has developed from a cotton testing laboratory into a successful research institute in the fields of future-oriented fibres, technical textiles and fibre composites at the University of Bremen. It deals with basic scientific and application-oriented questions along the entire process chain from fibre production to the manufacturing of fibre composite components and more for the aircraft industry.
- FIBRE's central international importance in cotton is shown by its work on the international harmonisation of cotton testing [e.g. round tests in cooperation with the ICAC and USDA-AMS], its work in central committees [ICAC Committee on Standardised Instrument Testing of Cotton (CSITC), ITMF Cotton Testing].

### GOLD SPONSORS



OEKO-TEX®  
INSPIRING CONFIDENCE



### SILVER SPONSORS



### BRONZE SPONSORS



ASSEKURANZMAKLER

### CONTACT:

Elke Hortmeyer | Bremen Cotton Exchange | Wachtstraße 17-24 | D-28195 Bremen  
Phone +49 421 33970-16 | hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de | www.baumwollboerse.de