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6. *Challenges of Traceability and Raw Material Quality*
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Press Contact

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www.cotton-conference-bremen.de | www.baumwollboerse.de

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Programme Overview

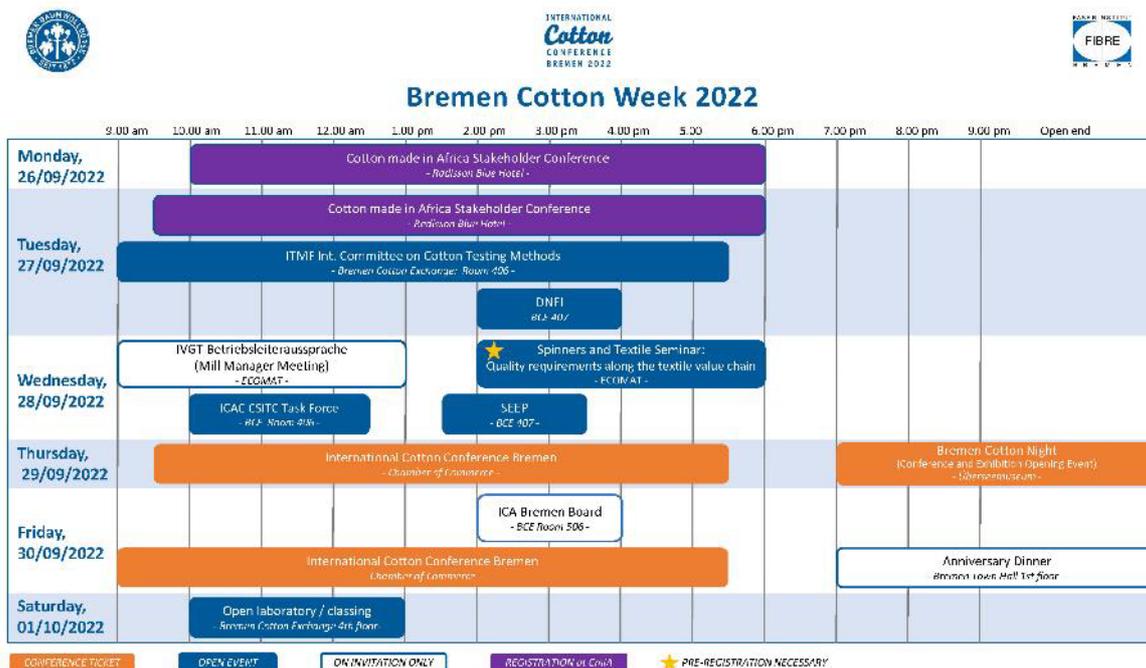
Registration will take place in the foyer of the Bremen Cotton Exchange.

The Conference starts on Thursday, 29 September at 9.30 a.m. with a Welcome & Official Opening in the Chamber of Commerce, Bremen.

Find the detailed Programme on our website

<https://cotton-conference-bremen.de/program/>

Bremen Cotton Week



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PLATINUM 	GOLD 	GOLD 	GOLD 	SILVER 	SILVER 	SILVER 	SILVER
GOLD 	GOLD 	GOLD 	GOLD 	BRONZE 	BRONZE 	BRONZE 	

Locations of the 36th International Cotton Conference

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The main conference site of the International Cotton Conference is the Chamber of Commerce, Am Markt 13. Here you'll find the on-site sessions as well as a stream of the online sessions.

Due to the strong demand of participants, we have decided to open the large conference room No. 406 of the Bremen Cotton Exchange as an additional broadcast location. Here, the face-to-face session will be broadcast directly from the Chamber of Commerce.

THE BREMEN COTTON EXCHANGE

Registration for the conference will take place in the foyer of the Bremen Cotton Exchange, Wachtstraße 18-24.

The Bremen Cotton Exchange is hosting meetings happening before the actual conference starts: ITMF International Committee on Cotton Testing Methods, CSITC Taskforce, SEEP, DNFI.

During the conference, sponsors break-out sessions will be hosted in the Bremen Cotton Exchange as well.

THE ECOMAT

There also will be events at the Ecomat, Cornelius-Edzard-Straße 15, 28199 Bremen: The Spinners and Textiles Seminar and the IVGT Mill Managers Meeting will take place there. Please be aware, that this location is not directly located in the city but near the airport. Easy to reach by Strassenbahn No. 6 direction airport

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THE ÜBERSEE-MUSEUM

The Bremen Cotton Cotton Night will take place in the Übersee-Museum Bremen, Bahnhofplatz 13. It is located next to the main station Bremen. A shuttle transfer from the Bremen Cotton Exchange to the museum will be organized, find more information here: <https://cotton-conference-bremen.de/the-bremen-cotton-night/>

THE BREMEN TOWN HALL

The gala dinner on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Bremen Cotton Exchange will take place in the Bremen Town Hall, Am Markt.

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36th International Cotton Conference Bremen 29 and 30 September – Cotton Decoded –

Bremen, 14 June 2022: the starting gun for registration has been fired: the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen will take place from 29. to 30. September 2022. The conference is organised by the Bremen Fibre Institute e.V. and the Bremen Cotton Exchange. The International Cotton Conference is one of the best-known international symposiums around



The International Cotton Conference will take place in presence again, but also online. Image: © Bremen Cotton Exchange

the topic of cotton and the biggest scientific cotton conference worldwide. Attendance at the conference will be possible in presence in Bremen as well as online.

The International Cotton Conference will take place in the anniversary year of the Bremen Cotton Exchange. The association was founded in 1872 and is celebrating its 150th birthday this year. The festivities will also find their way into the conference, including a big gala dinner and the opening of an exhibition in one of the biggest museums in Germany, the Übersee-Museum (Overseas Museum) Bremen.

„Because of our anniversary, we would of course like to welcome as many guests as possible from home and abroad in person in Bremen. We want to celebrate our founding jubilee. At the same time, we would like to continue the exchange about specialist issues that is traditionally very important at the conference in presence. From our point of view, personal meetings are more wanted than ever after the pandemic restrictions”, emphasises **Stephanie Silber**, President of the Bremen

Cotton Exchange. Of course, an online stream will be set up for guests who cannot come to Bremen, so participation via video conferencing is also possible.

Highlights of the Conference and Anniversary Week

- First association meetings and work groups from 27 to 28 September 2022 at the Bremen Cotton Exchange, at the Fibre Institute and online
- Official opening of the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen on 29 September. The conference venue this time is the Chamber of Commerce in Bremen, right at the market place and in the neighbourhood of the Cotton Exchange. The Chamber of Commerce has been representing the interests of trade in Bremen since 1451.
- On the same day, a cotton exhibition about the cultural history of the raw material in the past, the present and in the future will be opened at the Übersee-Museum Bremen.



Cotton field - image: pixabay

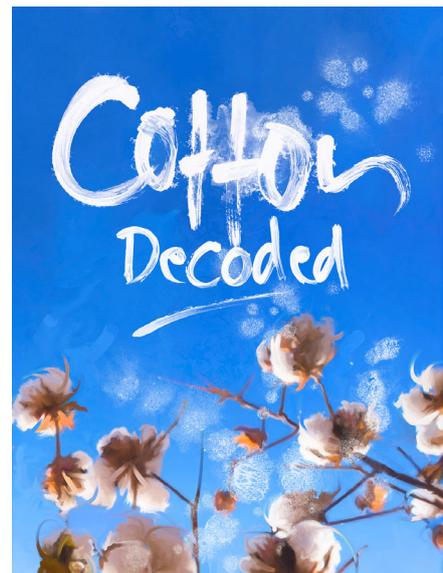
The Cotton Conference:

Sustainability and Climate Protection

- Crucial questions of sustainability in cotton growing, of cotton quality, but also of the usage of cotton as well as its processing into innovative textiles and other products will take centre stage in the programme of the International Cotton Conference Bremen. Climate protection and the capacity of the cotton plant to store carbon climate-neutrally in the ground play a special role. Digital procedures are increasingly used to check soil health.

Circular Economy, Transparency and Traceability

- Furthermore, the conference will address processes of circular economy that focus on modern methods of textile recycling. Biodegradability of cotton will also play a central role once more. Last but not least, the conference will deal with questions of transparency and traceability within the supply chain and present efficient, digitally managed control methods.



Innovative Products Made of Cotton

- Moreover, the discussion about new and innovative processing options for cotton is intended to make a mark and to increase interest in this biodegradable and regrowing raw material.

Keynotes to the Point

- As always, the keynotes can be highly anticipated, when personalities from the branch will critically address challenges within world economy and politics.



We will continually inform about the International Cotton Conference on 29 and 30 September and about the complete programme in the run-up in the form of further press releases as well as target-group-specific newsletters and also via our social media channels.

The starting gun for the registration has been fired: you can register at <https://cotton-conference-bremen.de/> from now on. You will also find regularly updated information there.

Media representatives, please directly turn to our press contact for **Accreditation**:

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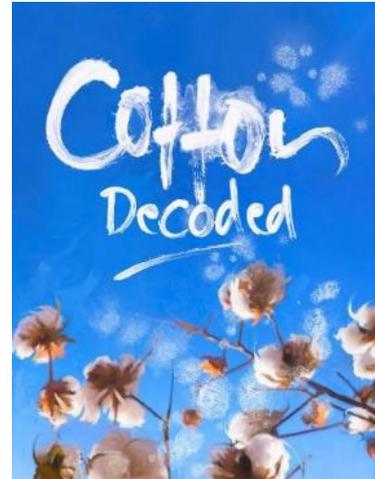
Of course, we cordially invite all interested media representatives already now to visit the hybrid edition of the 36th International Cotton Conference. We gladly support the choice of suitable interview partners. We appreciate all forms of media coverage even in the run-up to the conference. We are gladly available for further questions and interviews.

– Cotton Decoded –

**36th International Cotton Conference Bremen
29. and 30. September**

THE KEYNOTE SESSIONS

- *Expert Outlook Raw Materials,*
- *Expert Outlook Cargo,*
- *Expert Outlook Finances*



Bremen, 11 July 2022: The Bremen Cotton Exchange and the Bremen Fibre Institute e.V. together are inviting to the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen on 29. and 30. September. Under the Slogan “Cotton Decoded” the conference participants will be offered an ambitious programme with topical lectures and lively discussion groups on location in Bremen as well as online via a conference platform. Bremen stands for quality – as especially the International Cotton Conference Bremen confirms impressively with its regularly up to 500 participants from 40 countries that are part of the cotton supply chain.

Strong Keynotes

“Over the last years, the keynotes have emerged as an ambitious item on the programme before the actual conference programme in Bremen. First-rate experts speak about topics that move the raw material world and challenge it economically”, emphasises Elke Hortmeyer, responsible for communication and international relationships at the Bremen Cotton Exchange and co-organiser of the International Cotton Conference.

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GOLD



GOOD EARTH COTTON



SILVER



BRONZE

Commodity Markets and Logistics

Strong keynotes will also ring in the two conference days of the upcoming conference. On the Thursday, **Colin Iles**, Executive Manager, Marketing Cotton & Sugar at the internationally acting raw material concern Glencore/Viterra, Rotterdam, will cast a glance into the future of cotton. Colin Iles need not be introduced to the cotton world. The experienced trader of raw materials has been working in his field for a long time. His view of the developments in the global commodity markets offers important and exclusive insights to all participants.



Colin Iles, Glencore/Viterra
© Glencore/Viterra



Nils Haupt, Hapag-Lloyd
© Hapag-Lloyd

As the second speaker of the opening session and no less relevant, **Nils Haupt** has confirmed his participation as a sparring partner. Haupt is head of communications of Hapag-Lloyd AG, Hamburg, the biggest shipping company in Germany and the fifth biggest shipping company in the world. Haupt will address the future of maritime transport and questions of sustainability in cargo and also elaborate on the challenges within global supply chains.



Hapag-Lloyd ships in the harbor of Vancouver @ Hapag-Lloyd

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International Financial Economy



John Baffes, World Bank
© World Bank

On the second day of the conference, everything will revolve around finances. **John Baffes** is an expert on raw materials at the World Bank Washington, D.C. and chief economist in the group “Development Perspectives” of the World Bank. He is currently responsible for the “Commodity Markets Outlook”, a quarterly World Bank publication focusing on commodity market analyses and price prognoses. Participants can look forward to fascinating insights into current economic developments from the perspective of multinational development bank.

An equally heavy weight from a completely different area of finances comes from Frankfurt: **Jörg de Vries-Hippen** is Chief Investment Officer and member of the European Executive Committee at Allianz Global Investors. For two decades, Allianz GI has been developing investment strategies for institutional as well as private clients from all over the world who are saving their assets with a view to the future. The market expertise of the company ranges from industrial to emerging countries, from single-country to global strategies. The investment volume amounts to 637 bn EUR. The perspective of the financial expert on developments within the world economy should be a fascinating one at the moment.



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Bremen Cotton Night Special

The Bremen Cotton Exchange and the Bremen Fibre Institute are inviting to the well-known and popular Bremen Cotton Night again this year again. It is characterised by the 150th anniversary of the Bremen Cotton Exchange and is for good reasons taking place in the Übersee-Museum (Overseas Museum) Bremen this time: concurrently that evening, the



Exterior view of the Übersee-Museums | CC BY-SA 4.0
Übersee-Museum Bremen, photo: Matthias Haase

doors of the museum are opening for an impressive exhibition on the cultural history of cotton. This way, it also becomes accessible for the international guests of the Cotton Conference. “The participants of the conference will celebrate in the big atrium of the museum. Enjoying good music and good food, they will at last be able once again to spin personal networks and at the same time to pass in review the multi-faceted world of cotton with a beautiful and well-conceived exhibition”, emphasises Stephanie Silber, President of the Bremen Cotton Exchange. In the anniversary year, the Bremen Cotton Night is included in the conference price.

This year’s International Cotton Conference is taking place in the anniversary year of the Bremen Cotton Exchange. The organisation was founded in 1872 and is celebrating its 150th birthday this year. The conference venue this year is not the historic town hall, but the Chamber of Commerce in Bremen in the immediate vicinity of the Cotton Exchange. The Chamber of Commerce has been representing the interests of trade in Bremen since 1451 and is in close contact with the Bremen Cotton Exchange.

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Registration is underway

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Pictures in this press release can be used with naming the source.

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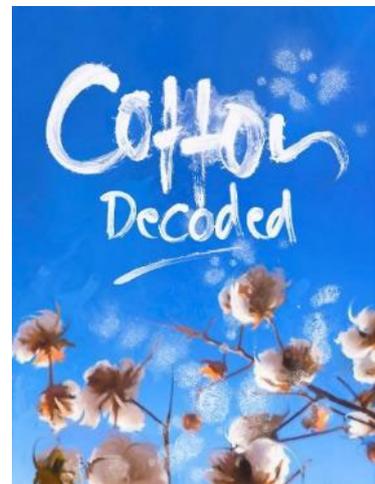
– Cotton Decoded –

36th International Cotton Conference Bremen, 29 and 30 September

REGION IN FOCUS: European Union

Opportunities for the EU cotton textile industry in international competition

Bremen, 17 August 2022: The Bremen Cotton Exchange and the Fibre Institute Bremen e.V. invite you to the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen on 29 and 30 September. Under the motto "Cotton Decoded", conference participants will be offered an ambitious programme with up-to-date lectures and lively discussions, both on site in Bremen and via an online conference platform. The day's events will be rounded off by an exciting evening program.



Premiere: EU cotton textile industry in focus

A special feature: On Friday 29 September, the conference will highlight the high-quality cotton production within the European Union in the network and the downstream, highly specialised textile and clothing industry, under the headline 'Region in Focus'. "The three-part session will show and discuss opportunities for stronger positioning and assertiveness in international competition" explains Axel Drieling (FIBRE e.V.) from the conference planning team.

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The countries of the European Union, such as Greece and Spain, are among the largest cotton exporters in the world. Europe is the world's second largest importer of textiles and clothing. This includes the raw material cotton with a share of around 50 percent, only a small part of which comes from Europe. In



Cotton field - source: pixabay

addition, Europe is one of the world's leading suppliers of innovative technical textiles, for example in the health sector, automotive engineering or interior design. Here, too, natural fibres such as cotton are increasingly being used as renewable raw materials and, because of their biodegradability, as part of the drive towards a circular economy.

The first part of the session will not only present the cotton textile industry in facts and figures, but also discuss its strengths and weaknesses. The predominant market structures within the framework of EU agricultural policy will be made transparent.

This will be followed by a discussion about new possibilities in the EU textile chain, embedded in the European Commission's strategy to build a resource-saving circular economy. The background here is changing consumer behaviour towards sustainably manufactured textiles. The aim is to make it clear what the competitive advantages of the EU textile chain are against this background, with which the demanding wishes of European consumers can be satisfied more quickly and flexibly. This could result in opportunities for the development of locally or regionally structured value chains.

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PRESS RELEASE



Last but not least, the 'EU cotton' initiative of the European Cotton Alliance, an association of European cotton organizations, will be presented. It enables European cotton farmers and their affiliated companies to provide their cotton with an EU cotton label, which can also be found in processed cotton textile products. The associated licensing program could make market-oriented textile production in Europe more lucrative through transparency and traceability.

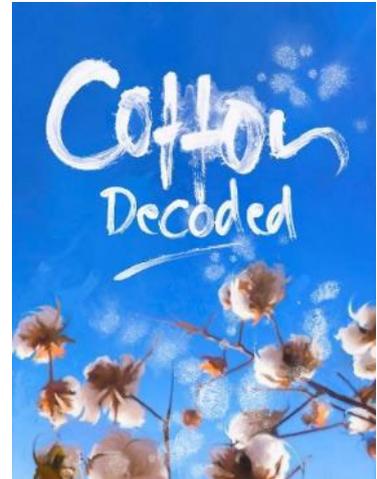


Antonios Siarkos, President of the European Cotton Alliance
© Siarkos

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<p>PLATINUM</p> <p>EUCOTTON EUROPEAN COTTON ALLIANCE</p>	<p>GOLD</p> <p>ALBRECHT, MÜLLER & PEIRSE & CO. TRADE COMPANY & CO. LTD. Bremen, Germany</p>	<p>GOLD</p> <p>Cotton Incorporated</p>	<p>GOLD</p> <p>GOOD EARTH COTTON</p>	<p>GOLD</p> <p>ICA Bremen The Cotton Exchange of Bremen, Hamburg and Frankfurt</p>	<p>SILVER</p> <p>Bayer</p>	<p>SILVER</p> <p>CARGO CONTROL GROUP</p>
	<p>GOLD</p> <p>OEKO-TEX® INSPIRING CONFIDENCE</p>	<p>GOLD</p> <p>otto stadlander gmbh</p>	<p>GOLD</p> <p>USTER® Think quality</p>	<p>BRONZE</p> <p>ATS ASSEKURANZMAKLER EIN UNTERNEHMEN DER GLOBAL GRUPPE</p>	<p>BRONZE</p> <p>cotonea wertschätzend. bewahrend. echt.</p>	<p>SILVER</p> <p>Cotton Service International</p>

**– Cotton Decoded –
36th International Cotton Conference Bremen,
29 and 30 September**



Status Quo Sustainability

- **No planet, no fashion**
- **Sustainability needs transparency**
- **Life cycle assessment: T-shirts made from US cotton**
- **Clothing made from cotton/synthetic fibre blends in the washing process**
- **Biodegradability: What happens to dyed cotton?**

Bremen, 30 August 2022. The Bremen Cotton Exchange and the Fibre Institute Bremen e.V. are inviting participants to the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen on 29 and 30 September. Under the motto "Cotton Decoded", conference participants will be offered an ambitious programme with up-to-date lectures and lively discussions, both on site in Bremen and via an online conference platform. The events of the day will be rounded off by an exciting evening programme.

The subject of sustainability has become indispensable. In fact, it is now literally woven into the textile chain. For more and more companies, credibly defined sustainability criteria in procurement have long been an integral part of their corporate policy. It is therefore no surprise that the International Cotton Conference should deal comprehensively with this complex of topics. In Bremen we will get specific: How far are we on our way, what have we achieved? How transparent is cotton today? How is the natural fibre reflected in the United Nations' sustainability goals (SDGs)? On 29

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and 30 September, two sessions will discuss aspects of sustainability from different perspectives.



No Planet, no Fashion

For the international fashion group HUGO BOSS, sustainability and corporate activity are in no way contradictory. They are inextricably interlinked. **Andreas Streubig, Senior Vice President Global Corporate Responsibility & Public Affairs**, will explain in his presentation how HUGO BOSS has implemented sustainability as a key guiding principle of its technology-driven growth strategy defined as “CLAIM 5”. The five claims – ‘Boost Brands’, ‘Product is King’, ‘Lead in Digital’, ‘Rebalance Omnichannel’ and ‘Organise for Growth’ – are based on a holistic and action-oriented understanding of sustainability. In this sense, sustainability is a sign of the future viability of the company, combined with intensive transformation and innovation processes. In order to achieve decisive improvements together, HUGO BOSS is involved in various initiatives such as ZDHC, UNFCCC, FLA and the Textile Partnership.

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Sustainability Needs Transparency

Dr Gary Adams is President and CEO of America's National Cotton Council. As an association, his organisation represents the entire spectrum of the US cotton industry, consisting of farmers, cooperatives, ginners, service providers and retailers. Sustainability aspects play an important role in this. In his presentation, he will offer an overview of the sustainability initiative 'US Cotton Trust Protocol'.

An important aim of the protocol is to achieve continuous, measurable improvement in key sustainability indicators. This data is shared fully transparently with brands and retailers to inform end consumers. The presentation will present the overall scope and structure of the initiative, as well as an overview of the aggregated sustainability data from the participating growers.

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Life Cycle Assessment: T-Shirts Made from US Cotton

Roger Gilmartin is a UK technical advisor on the **Cotton Council International (CCI)** technical team. He will report on the results of a research project dealing with the creation of a life cycle assessment for the manufacture and marketing of t-shirts. Previously published life cycle assessments have concentrated on what happens within agriculture. This current study includes all the processes that take place in a textile and clothing factory in Bangladesh. It provides well-founded data on the contribution of manufacturing processes to global warming, on the dangers of damage to the ozone layer, on photochemical generation potential, for example summer fog, freshwater ecotoxicity, the formation of acid rain and the excessive accumulation of residues in water, triggered, for example, by the excessive use of pesticides or phosphorus and nitrogen compounds.

Sustainability: The technical view

Clothing Made from Cotton/Synthetic Fibre Blends in the Washing Process

In connection with microplastics of textile origin, scientific research is mainly concerned with products made from pure synthetic fibres. But cotton is one of the most commonly used natural fibres in clothing. There are also many mixed fabrics. The lecture by **Dr Claudia Heller**, former research associate at the University of Applied Sciences in Berlin, now **Bosch Siemens Hausgeräte BSH**, will focus on the results of a washing study in which a shirt and a t-shirt with different material compositions and fabric constructions were exposed to a repeated household washing process according to a specific standard.

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The results show the change in fibre properties due to the influences of detergents, dirt and limescale. The analysis method shows that only a small part of the filter residues in the cascade filtration of the grey water from the washing machine are synthetic fibres and what proportions of cotton fibres, detergents and dirt occur in the household washing process.

Biodegradability: What Happens to Dyed Cotton

Microfibre pollution of the environment is a major problem with many incalculable consequences. Fibres coming out of textiles add to the problem. Much effort has been made over the past four years to study the biodegradation of cotton fibres in the natural environment. In her presentation, **Mary Ankeny, Vice President Product Development and Implementation at Cotton Incorporated, USA**, will provide information on the results of the biodegradability of dyed and finished cotton textiles in different natural environments. In particular, research was carried out into how chemicals break down that are used to provide colour and special properties to cotton clothing.

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Challenges of Traceability and Raw Material Quality

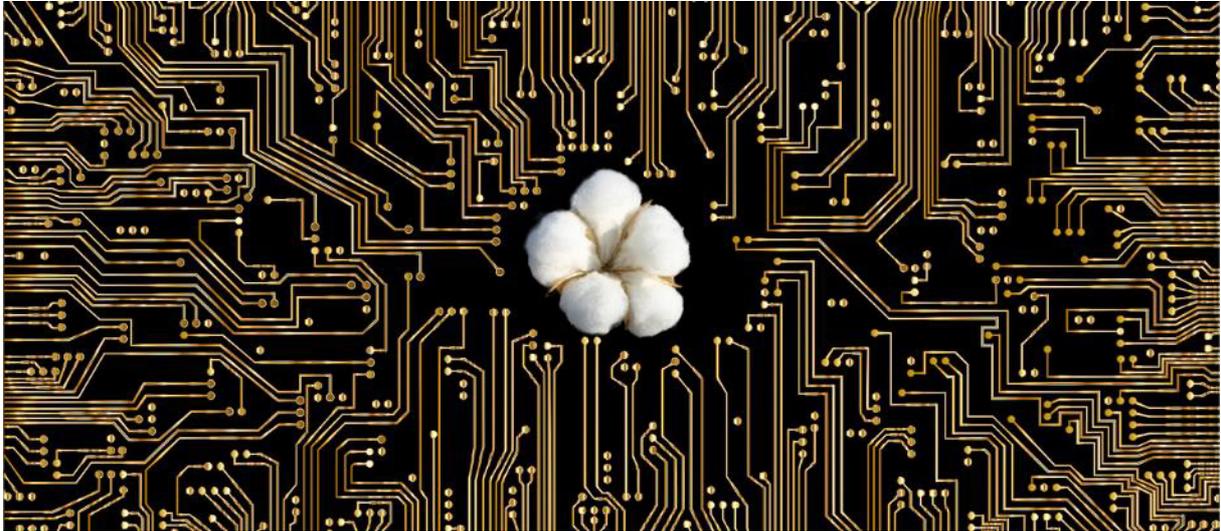
- *Digital ecosystems*
- *Effectiveness of locally networked value chains*
- *What cotton is my t-shirt made of?*
- *15 years of CSITC round test: Results and benefits*
- *Recycling and fibre quality*

Bremen, 12 September 2022: The Bremen Cotton Exchange and the Fibre Institute Bremen e.V. are inviting participants to the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen on 29 and 30 September. Under the motto “Cotton Decoded”, conference participants will be offered an ambitious programme with up-to-date lectures and lively discussions, both on site in Bremen and via an online conference platform. The events of the day will be rounded off by an exciting evening programme.

The European Union is holding textile companies accountable with its planned supply chain law. This requires a rethink in supply chain management. Additional challenges are arising from fast fashion, shorter cycle times in the textile and clothing industry, and demands for transparency and greater sustainability. Questions about the cotton quality required for a product also play an important role in this. The International Cotton Conference will look at methods of traceability and transparency in supply chains, as well as the possibilities for assessing cotton quality in the sessions ‘Traceability’ and ‘Cotton Quality and Testing’. We can expect highly informative lectures and expert discussions which take place on 29 and 30 September.

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Cotton in a digital ecosystem - source: pixabay and Cotton Australia

Digital Ecosystems – The future possibilities!

Gesine Köppe, Research Associate at the Institute for Textile Technology at RWTH Aachen University, will immerse the conference participants in the model of a completely digitally networked ecosystem. It offers complete transparency with the possibility of traceability throughout the entire textile production and supply chain, from the cotton field to the textile and clothing retail trade. According to Gesine Köppe, the solution lies in the use of ‘distributed ledger technology’ with the possibility of targeted documentation of selected transactions, which is also known in a similar form from blockchains. Every participant in the supply chain enters information relevant to the entire network into a decentralised digital ‘main ledger’, just like in bookkeeping. During the project, a permanent documentation and information system will be established to ensure the vertical and horizontal integration of the technologies. The aim is to offer the textile and clothing industry an incentive through cooperation.

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Cotton Uzbekistan: Traceability from field to mill

Dr Rinat Gulyaev, Director at the Cotton Science-Innovation Center, Tashkent in Uzbekistan, will present a project aimed at identifying and labelling cotton and cotton products using digital technology. This is intended to create traceability for the participants in the supply chain from the cotton farm to the textile factory. It uses modern international standards and proven procedures. Special emphasis is placed on the interaction of digital technology with other digital platforms in the context of the digital transformation of the Uzbek economy.

Effectiveness of locally networked value chains

Miriam Paris, Bayer Crop Science, USA, will present a special ‘Field to Closet’ project in which cotton grown in Georgia was used in medical products. The special feature: the workwear fabrics are equipped with PROTX2® AV protection from the US company Intelligent Fabric Technologies N.A. This is an antimicrobial technology that inhibits the growth of bacteria, a subject that is of great importance for the medical sector.

Textile tracker: What cotton is my t-shirt made of?

Secured proofs of origin are of essential importance in the textile chain. **Karin Ratovo**, Research Associate at the Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences, Mönchengladbach, and **Markus Bonner** Agroisolab GmbH, Jülich, will present the test results of the “Textile Tracker” project. Agroisolab is one of the leading European laboratories in the field of isotope analysis. As part of the research work on the project, they examined whether the chemical signatures of cotton fibres are preserved in the usual textile processing steps. If the validation is successful, it would be possible to set up a georeferenced origin database for cotton and textiles.

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Cotton quality testing with an HVI © Bremen Cotton Exchange

15 years of CSITC round test: Results and benefits

Since 2007, the Fibre Institute Bremen has been organising round tests for the standardisation of instrument tests for cotton as part of the Committee on Standardised Instrument Testing of Cotton (CSITC), in cooperation with the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). The tests are aimed at verifying and harmonising high-volume instruments (HVI). The results of cotton tests carried out using HVI technology are in demand, for example, in the cotton trade or at spinning mills. Therefore, the testing of a certain cotton quality in certified laboratories should show approximately the same results internationally. **Axel Drieling**, Senior Manager Cotton and Member of the Board at the Fibre Institute, and the new Head of the CSITC Task Force and Chief Consultant for the Australian company Textile Technical Services, Geelong, **Marinus van der Sluijs**, will present the progress made in testing over the past 15 years. Van der Sluijs aims to increase the number of cotton processors taking part in the round test. In addition, the advantages of harmonisation and verification for cotton production, trade and spinning mills will be set out and documented with facts.

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Recycling and fibre quality

Stephan Baz, Head of the Staple Fibre Technology Department at the German Institute for Textile and Fibre Research, Denkendorf (DIFT) will present the interim results of a project that offers solutions for the evaluation of materials made of cotton or synthetic fibres that are torn for recycling purposes using proven raw material classification. As part of the sustainability debate, the recycling of textiles as part of a circular economy has become a much-discussed topic. The aim of the project is to produce a yarn that is qualitatively usable in the spinning process with the lowest possible loss of properties by optimising the necessary tearing processes.

Fibre quality and ginning

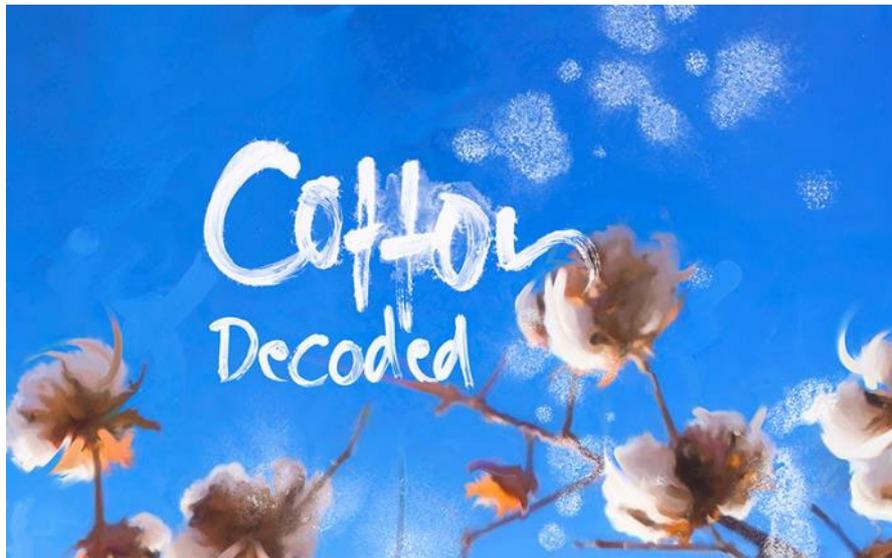
In his second presentation, **Marinus van der Sluijs** will look at the effectiveness of various ginning processes and individual process stages in the cleaning of seed cotton. At the same time, the effects of these processes on fibre quality were examined. According to the study, the average dirt content of delivered seed cotton is usually less than 10 percent. During the cleaning process, 20 to 40 percent of the impurities can be removed. Depending on the process, however, essential quality features such as equal length, the proportion of short fibres, the proportion of neps, stretchability, strength, fineness, and maturity vary greatly. When choosing cotton, it is worth taking a look.

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Cotton Decoded -

36th International Cotton Conference Bremen 29 and 30 September



The countdown is on!

Bremen, 28 September 2022. The time has come: the 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen is about to begin. One of the best-known international conferences on cotton and one of the most important global scientific cotton conferences is starting. Participation in the conference is possible both on-site in Bremen and online. On 29 and 30 September and already days before, several hundred experts and interested people from almost 40 countries will be guests in Bremen. At the beginning of the week, the CmiA Stakeholder Conference has already attracted numerous participants from mainly African producer countries to Bremen.

The International Cotton Conference is taking place in the 150th anniversary year of the Bremen Cotton Exchange. The birthday celebrations are also making their way into

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the conference. "We are very pleased about the gratifyingly high response to our conference and the participants' confidence in our work expressed by this. And I am particularly pleased to be able to welcome so many guests from Germany and abroad to Bremen and to celebrate our founding anniversary with them. The stay in Bremen finally creates the opportunity for the necessary direct exchange on professional issues. From our point of view, and this is certainly also the opinion in the industry, personal meetings are more desirable than ever after the pandemic restrictions", emphasises Stephanie Silber, President of the Bremen Cotton Exchange.

The anniversary week at a glance

Events in the run-up

The Cotton Week in Bremen began on Monday with a stakeholder conference organised by Cotton Made in Africa (CmiA). On 27-28 September, the first meetings of associations and working groups take place in Bremen. These include the meetings of the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF), the Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI), the Industrieverband Veredlung, Garne, Gewebe, Technische Textilien (IVGT), the ICAC Task Force on Commercial Standardization of Instrument Testing of Cotton (CSITC), the ICA Bremen Board Meeting as well as the meeting of the ICAC expert working group Social, Environmental and Economic Performance of Cotton Production (SEEP). In addition, an expert seminar of the textile industry will take place on Wednesday, 28 September at the ECOMAT Research and Development Centre. Accompanied by lectures, the changing quality requirements along the entire textile value chain will be discussed. The organisers are the Faserinstitut Bremen e.V., the Bremen Cotton Exchange, the ITMF and the IVGT. This confirms how important the conference has become for the industry networks.

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New conference venue

The 36th International Cotton Conference Bremen begins on Thursday, 29 September. The venue this time is the Schütting, the listed building of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce, directly on the market square and in the vicinity of the Cotton Exchange. The Chamber of Commerce has represented the interests of Bremen's trade since 1451, including the Bremen Cotton Exchange Association as a member since its foundation in 1872.



Haus Schütting: Premises of the Chamber of Commerce for Bremen and Bremerhaven, Photo rights: Frank Pusch

Anniversary evening at the Übersee-Museum

On Thursday, in keeping with the anniversary, the traditional Bremen Cotton Night will be held for all guests of the conference, in a different venue from usual, at the Übersee-Museum Bremen. This will be accompanied by the opening of a large cotton exhibition entitled '100 % Cotton' on the cultural history of the raw material in the past, present and future.

Topics of the Cotton Conference

The programme of the International Cotton Conference consists of seven sessions with lectures in presence. These will also be broadcasted online at the same time. In parallel, there will be additional online tracks with further, equally informative content. All sessions will be recorded. This means that participants will not miss any of the sessions and can follow them afterwards.

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Poster presentations

A total of 13 poster presentations will provide valuable additional inspiration that will increase the added value for conference participants in Bremen. They will be presented at the conference venue in the Bremen Chamber of Commerce. Just like the conference lectures, but nevertheless from different perspectives, they deal with topics such as organic cotton production and the supply situation, various methods for creating transparency, the technologisation of textile production processes including design or the development of natural fibre-reinforced plastics with increased sound absorption made of flax, hemp and cotton for applications in the automotive sector or in architecture.

Online access to the Cotton Conference Bremen

Conference participants who are not travelling to Bremen and have opted for online participation will receive access data for all conference sessions, poster presentations, the virtual exhibition, workshops and networking/matchmaking events by e-mail before the start of the conference. However, regardless of attendance, all conference participants can also follow sessions online on the platform and use the various networking tools.

During the conference sessions and presentations, there are opportunities for interaction. Participants can use the conference software to ask questions to the conference speakers and get in touch with them. The virtual platform of the International Cotton Conference Bremen with the conference software 'talque' is hosted by the Düsseldorf-based online event agency LIVENCO.

An invitation to the press: Of course, we cordially invite all interested media representatives - whether in attendance or online - to visit the Hybrid Edition of the 36th International Cotton Conference. Registrations are still possible. We will be happy to assist you in selecting suitable discussion and interview partners. We welcome any

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form of reporting on the conference. We are at your disposal for further questions and interviews. Press representatives should contact us directly:

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