

# KNITTING TRADE JOURNAL

## Knitting sector gears up for the return of ITM

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Istanbul - A wide range of the knitting industry's latest technological developments will be on show at the upcoming ITM 2022 exhibition which returns in June after a three-year break.

The show takes place at the Istanbul Tüyap Fair and Congress Center on 14-18 June 2022.

Welcoming the return of ITM, organisers have highlighted how the textile industry, which is among the leading contributors to the Turkish export sector, underlined its key role to the

whole world during the pandemic. Achieving an increase of up to 40 per cent in exports of textiles and raw materials, Turkey has also produced record levels of medical textiles, technical textiles, and indoor for the export market during the pandemic hiatus.

Turkey's textile and apparel industry is regarded as the driving force of the Turkish economy, accounting for 35 per cent of the country's total exports, 11 per cent of employment, 10 per cent of GDP and 25 per cent of the total amount of industrial investments in the country. The latest data shows that the Turkish textile industry is in sixth place in terms of exports with more than **50,000 workplaces** and a total of **2.5 million employees**. As the world's seventh largest textile manufacturer, Turkey is currently the second biggest supplier to European Union countries.

Turkey is also the fourth largest buyer of textile machinery with the country's textile manufacturers relying heavily on imported machinery and technologies for their investments when domestic production does not meet the demand.

Ranking in the top three in the most important market for the European textile machinery manufacturers, Turkey has also attracted attention for its production performance during the Covid-19 outbreak. Many Turkish textile companies were compelled to increase their production capacity during the last three years in a bid to keep up with their customer demands, as well as continuing their investment and modernization programs. The result is that the European machinery manufacturers have spoken highly of Turkey's performance, with many key players confirming an increase in machinery sales to Turkey in 2020 and 2021.

"ITM 2022 Exhibition, will make significant contributions to the success of the Turkish textile industry in production and exports," organisers said. "The textile machinery industry will make a big leap forward with the latest technologies to be introduced at ITM 2022 and new investment decisions will be taken. Trade committees and textile investors from many countries where textile production is active such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, India, and Egypt will travel to the ITM 2022 Exhibition. Thanks to the machinery sales and business partnerships of manufacturers from all over the world, the exhibition will create a great vitality in the Turkish and world economy.

"Many companies focusing on product development and innovations under pandemic conditions are looking forward to the ITM 2022 Exhibition to present their products to the market and introduce them to their customers personally. ITM 2022 Exhibition, where world textile machinery manufacturers and investors will meet, will steer the textile machinery sector in terms of launches and new ideas to be developed by the companies. Thousands of visitors from Europe, Central Asia, and Arab countries, especially from the Turkic Republics, will visit the ITM 2022 Exhibition to be informed about the latest trends in textile machinery."

ITM 2022 Exhibition will be held in Istanbul Tüyap Exhibition and Congress Center between 14 and 18 June 2022 in cooperation with TEMSAD and in partnership with Tüyap Tüm Fuarçılık Inc. and Teknik Exhibitions Inc. The last edition, in 2019, welcomed 1200 exhibitors from 64 countries and 60,000 visitors from 94 countries. ITM 2022 Exhibition is expected to surpass these figures.