



INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF YARNS AND FIBRES
FOR WOVEN AND KNITTED FABRICS
FOR APPAREL, FURNISHING AND TECHNICAL TEXTILES

FILO supports Tessile e Salute and TFashion

FILO confirms its commitment alongside the Italian firms to safeguarding the integrity of the Made in Italy textile chain in order to preserve a strong manufacturing sector and to give substance to the otherwise fleeting "fashion system" and to ensure the consumer high quality products that are also beautiful, functional and not harmful to health, made respecting the environment and the work of everybody.

In fact, for years FILO has been cooperating with the Associazione Tessile e Salute, based in Biella, which carries out a tireless work of analysis and information on dangerous substances in garments, import products and counterfeit items, in co-operation with the Ministries of Health and Economic Development, local health system and law enforcement. Its last study has been made on request of the European Commission DG Enterprise "*Chemical substances in textile products and allergic reactions*" and it shows the presence of dangerous substances in many imported textiles and footwear for sale in the national territory. In particular, the analyses carried out have highlighted the presence of carcinogenic aromatic amines, allergenic dyes, heavy metals, formaldehyde. Equally worrying data are also confirmed by health facilities denouncing the growing number of dermatological diseases caused by contact with textiles, accessories and footwear.

The damage for the Italian system is twofold: on one hand, Italian companies are suffering from the competition of foreign producers which do not apply either safety policies in their production processes or social equity principles; on the other hand, Italian consumers are constantly exposed to hazardous substances present in imported textiles and fake items.

The role of the Association Tessile e Salute in actively protecting the consumers of textiles and footwear and the results achieved require a more strengthened and consolidated organisation. Thus, the Association will be transformed into the **textile – clothing – leather – footwear national Observatory**.

The Observatory shall have the following functions: check imported items placed on the market; operate for a total application of the REACH Regulations; support manufacturing and trade companies managing any request for information on product safety and a use of safe substances and chemicals; promote and enhance virtuous businesses and supply chains of the Made in Italy; support Authorities to formulate statutory and regulatory requirements in order to guarantee mutual requirements and controls in trade .

Furthermore, the Association Tessile e Salute has been involved in a new project carried out together with Unionfiliere: TFashion.

TFashion is the traceability certification scheme, brought to you by the Italian Chambers of Commerce, as an instrument of support dedicated to all Italian companies wishing to guarantee the origin and safety of their own products.

TFashion is a sort of product "passport", which supplies the final consumer with all the necessary information for a more informed choice. The information are reported on an label, together with an alphanumeric code, which permits the consumer to retrace the history of the product on the website www.tfashion.camcom.it

The Control Inspections are carried out in arrangement with the Chamber Authorities, operating according to the principles of impartiality, independence and technical competence.

For more info on the various activities of the Associazione Tessile e Salute and the TFashion certification please visit their stand at the 41st FILO edition.

Biella, 5 marzo 2014

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