

Passion for Cotton! 35th International Cotton Conference Bremen Focus on Young Professionals

Bremen, 6th December 2019: From 25th to 27th March 2020, the 35th International Cotton Conference will be taking place in the historic Town Hall of the Hanseatic city Bremen. The motto of this global meeting of the international cotton industry will be “Passion for Cotton!” After all, the passion for cotton connects people from textile industry, cotton trade and retail.



During the 2020 conference, the Bremen Cotton Exchange and the Bremen Fibre Institute (FIBRE) as organisers are offering a Young Professionals Programme for the first time. The aim is to introduce “generation future” to the complex and globally interconnected world of cotton and textiles and to offer first hand insights. The programme is tailor-made for prospective experts respectively students and job starters for example from trade, acquisition, design, product management or textile engineering of cotton.

In order to promote an effective transfer of know-how, a specific additional agenda besides the conference programme has been developed expressly for the target group. “The programme for the YPs promises contacts and discussions with top-class specialists and insiders from all steps of the value-added chain. Concurrently, it aims at opening a view to working procedures of the future,” as Elke Hortmeyer from the Bremen Cotton Exchange and Axel Drieling from the Bremen Fibre Institute explain. The Young Professionals Programme starts on Tuesday, March 24th and ends on Thursday, March 26th.

- On every day of the programme, the young professionals can be accompanied by mentors if required. The mentors offer an introduction to the cotton conference, answer questions about conference topics and arrange contacts with experts.
- As early as March 23rd, the development forum ICAspire will take place. It includes a networking dinner and is organised by the International Cotton Association (ICA). Interested participants of the Young Professionals Programme are also welcome.
- The official Young Professionals Programme will start on March 24th with a Bremen Creative Seminar. Participants will be given the task of designing the cotton world of the future in the fields of production, processing and retail.
- During the opening of the conference on March 25th, the participants of the programme will be introduced to the conference guests, initiating a lively exchange of experiences.
- Leading figures from the world organisations, for example from the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF), the International Cotton Association (ICA) and from Cotton Incorporated will be available for discussions with the newcomers and help setting up future scenarios. This means that specialists from cotton farming, but also from processing and from research will be present.
- On March 26th, the young professionals will present the results of their creative seminar. Afterwards, there will be time for informal conversation and networking in pleasant atmosphere during the Bremen Cotton Night in the Bremen Ratskeller.

Find more information and registration forms on the conference website:

<https://cotton-conference-bremen.de/young-professionals-programme/>

The International Cotton Conference is open for qualified visitors from Wednesday; March 25th. At the beginning, key notes from competent speakers will outline the status

quo and the challenges of the industry. The following thematically structured sessions are characterised by top-level speeches on branch specific questions along the supply chain. The topic of circular economy and the view on the life cycle of cotton from different perspectives will run through the whole programme like a common thread.

The organisers are expecting up to 500 participants from around 40 countries, with science and practice equally represented. The 35th International Cotton Conference is at the core of the Bremen Cotton Week. It offers meetings of cotton and textile associations as well as the conference “Sustain” in cooperation with the daily newspaper Weser-Kurier. This year’s “Sustain” will deal with future questions of the textile retail sector and with its importance for the vitality of city centres.

We will continue to give further information about more key contents of the Cotton Week and the Cotton Conference in further press releases. Current news about the conference and programme details are also available on the website of the conference:

www.cotton-conference-bremen.de.

We are looking forward to media coverage and would already like to invite journalists to the conference. You can register via the conference homepage.

Further Information and Contact:

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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.