

Functional Fashion

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■ Passion ■ Purpose ■ Protection

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In the absence of N95 masks, multi-layered proper fit face masks offer protection against Omicron variant

ELYSSA SANDERS

Texas Tech researchers author study using new standardized mask filtration testing to evaluate effectiveness of alternative facial coverings.

Pitch

As the Omicron variant surges, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is expected to issue more robust mask guidelines to help curb COVID-19 transmission. During personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages, it has been necessary for people to utilize materials already at their disposal to craft their own face masks.

Seshadri Ramkumar, a professor of chemical countermeasures and advanced materials in Texas Tech University's Department of Environmental Toxicology, has co-authored a study utilizing standardized methods to evaluate common household fabrics as alternative materials for barrier face coverings. Olukayode James Ayodeji, a PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental Toxicology, conducted the standardized tests measuring the filtration efficiency (FE) of different facial coverings.

Using mask filtration testing standards developed by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), Ramkumar and his team compared the performance of popular ready-made facial coverings, such as bandanas and neck gaiters, to alternative household materials including denim, cotton shirts, bedding and towels. Both categories of materials were measured against R95 masks, which offer the highest level of protection against viral particles.

While a material's ability to filter out viral particles is paramount, breathability is an equally important consideration, Ramkumar said. Unfortunately, testing revealed an inverse relationship between filtration efficiency (FE) and breathability – for instance, while denim showed the highest FE, it also had the lowest breathability of all the household fabrics, rendering it unsuitable for face mask



Figure 1: Seshadri Ramkumar.

production. Ramkumar and his team took both parameters of FE and breathability into equal account when evaluating a material's overall performance.

According to their study, the most effective ready-made facial coverings on the market are Velcro masks with carbon filters and surgical masks, while the least effective are fashion face masks, single-layer face coverings, neck gaiters and bandanas.

The highest-performing



Figure 2: Olukayode James Ayodeji.

household materials were thick cotton shirts and towels, indicating that multi-layered cotton facial coverings with proper fit are the most effective homemade mask alternative because they offer a measure of protection against viral particles without compromising breathability.

A combinatorial approach involving both a facial covering and a surgical mask with good fit would offer the wearer better protection against particle inhalation, Ramkumar said.

For Full Story: <https://ff.textiletoday.com.bd/absence-n95-masks-multi-layered-proper-fit-face-masks-offer-protection-omicron-variant/>

BUFT exhibition unleashes the design talent of students

BUFT Correspondent

A day-long exhibition titled 'The Impressive Catalogue-2022', hosted by the students of BGMEA University of Fashion and Technology (BUFT), Batch-182 of the Dept. of Apparel Manufacturing and Technology was successfully held at the university premises on Thursday, January 13, 2022.

The exhibition was directly supervised by Hridika Nusrat Kuntala, Lecturer, Dept. of Apparel Manufacturing and Technology, where the students got the opportunity to showcase their newly developed and re-engineered products.

Aiming to unleash the design

talents of the students, this exhibition features students' works over diverse clothing products. The inspirations for those clothing items came from social awareness, biomimicry, architecture, sustainable fashion, traditional fabrics, and particularly our Bengali heritage.



Figure 1: BGMEA University of Fashion and Technology (BUFT), Batch-182 of the Dept. of Apparel Manufacturing and Technology successfully organized 'The Impressive Catalogue-2022.'

For Full Story: <https://www.textiletoday.com.bd/buft-impressive-catalogue-2022-exhibition-unleashes-design-talent-students/>

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Masco hosts training on Stress Management

Abu Hasnat

Stress is a physiological response to any change whether good or bad, that alerts the adaptive fight-or-flight response in the brain and the body.

As a part of sustainable continuous development, Masco hosted a training on Stress Management at Masco



Figure 1: Training was led by Md. Shahanur Islam.



Figure 2: ATM Mahbul Alam Milton, Executive Director, Masco Group participated in the Training Program as of Special Guests.

Printing & Embroidery Limited on 09 January 2022.

The Training was led by Md. Shahanur Islam (Assistant General Manager, Office Management, Masco Group). Honorable Executive Director and Directors of Masco Group participated in the Training Program as of Special Guests.

For Full Story: <https://ff.textiletoday.com.bd/masco-hosts-training-on-stress-management/>

Germany and Bangladesh signs €20mn to improve RMG workers working conditions

Yeasin Miah

Germany and Bangladesh have signed development projects worth 20.15 million euros to improve workers working conditions.

The grant will be used to improve the working conditions of workers in the textile processing industry and to ensure access to clean

energy for the Bangladeshi people. Yasmin applauded Germany for its continuous support for Bangladesh's development over the last 50 years.

Fatima Yasmin, Secretary of the Economic Relations Division of the Bangladesh Ministry of Finance and Achim Tröster,

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany signed the agreement.

GIZ in close collaboration with its Bangladeshi partner ministries and institutions will implement five projects with the grant.



Figure: Fatima Yasmin, Secretary of the Economic Relations Division of the Bangladesh Ministry of Finance and Achim Tröster, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany signed the agreement.

For Full Story: <https://www.textiletoday.com.bd/germany-bangladesh-signs-e20mn-development-projects/>



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OUR CORE VALUES



Kering and HEC business school to take a new challenge of sustainability

Amena Kamal Khan

Recently fashion luxury group Kering visited HEC, a business school, launched a new sustainable innovation challenge to teach students about Kering's vision of sustainability.

In this two-week long program, students will receive sustainability coaching, get a chance to imbue themselves in the topics of circularity and traceability in the supply chain through in-depth lectures.

Also, HEC students have to present a fashion industry case study, making use of their digital knowledge.

Basically, the sustainable innovation challenge forms a part of the Kering Group's sustainability strategy.

For that, the company wants to encourage young people around the world to integrate sustainability into their practice.



Figure: HEC students have to present a fashion industry case study, making use of their digital knowledge.

For Full Story: <https://ff.textiletoday.com.bd/kering-hec-business-school-new-challenge-sustainability/>



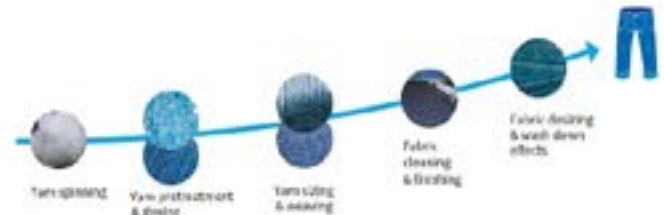
Archroma and Jeanologia launch eco-conscious denim cleaning

Sayed Abdullah

Archroma, a global leader in specialty chemicals towards sustainable solutions, and Jeanologia, a world leader in sustainable and efficient technology development, joined forces to launch an eco-advanced alternative to the denim fabric washing process, including in some cases the mercerization, one of the most water-intensive and pollutant processes of denim fabric finishing. The production of denim requires a succession of several

steps aimed at imparting the qualities we love in our favorite pair of jeans.

It all starts with the spinning step where the cotton is turned into yarn. The second step is a pretreatment that will prepare the yarn for the dyeing step. The dyed yarn then goes through the sizing process, which is a treatment preparing it for weaving. At this stage, we have obtained a denim fabric that will go through a few more steps. First, the fabric may



undergo a washing treatment or, in some cases, mercerizing treatment which consists of treating it with caustic soda in

order to obtain a more lustrous, flat and less reddish blue and black denim.

For Full Story: <https://ff.textiletoday.com.bd/archroma-jeanologia-launch-eco-conscious-denim-cleaning/>

TCO 21: The next generation comber machine

Kleo Knippertz

Comber machines from Trützschler are already trusted by customers across the textiles industry and around the globe. Now, a state-of-the-art new design is building on this track record to boost productivity, ensure quality and support increased automation: Meet the TCO 21!

Higher productivity. Better quality. Automatic optimization. The search for continuous improvement in the textile industry never ends. That's why innovators at Trützschler never stop exploring fresh ways of optimizing combing performance.

The TCO 21 is the latest

milestone in our long history of driving progress for spinners around the globe. It leverages market-proven designs and technologies from Trützschler to offer next-level performance and an expanded range of features that give our customers a decisive advantage over their competitors.



Figure: The state-of-the-art combing machine TCO 21.

For Full Story: <https://ff.textiletoday.com.bd/tco-21-the-next-generation-comber-machine-2/>

PFAS: a 'forever chemical' in apparel

Md. Akhtarujjaman

PFAS stands for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), this group of chemicals consists of about 9,000 compounds. These chemicals are widely used additives in textile manufacturing due to their unique chemical properties which can make textiles water-, stain- or heat-resistant. The PFASs are used in our daily articles such as t shirts, jeans, outdoor jackets, and shoes as a coating to make them water, stain, and heat resistant. So, it makes our life easy, right!

Not completely. Though it comes with many advantages that add special features to our daily textile articles, it has some horrific disadvantages!

PFAS is a toxic chemical. These chemicals are dubbed "forever chemicals" because they do not naturally break down and remain

forever in the environment. They accumulate in animals, including humans, and are linked to cancer, birth defects, liver disease, thyroid disease, decreased immunity, hormone disruption, and a range of other serious health problems.

Even the toxic PFAS compounds are contaminating the air inside homes, classrooms, and stores at alarming levels, a new study has found.

Researchers with the University of Rhode Island and Green Science Policy Institute tested indoor air at 20 sites and detected the "forever chemicals" in 17 locations. The airborne compounds are thought to break off of PFAS-treated products such as carpeting and clothing and attach to dust or freely float through the indoor environment. And at the end ingested into our body.

For Full Story: <https://www.textiletoday.com.bd/pfas-forever-chemical-apparel/>

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Textile Tech Association launched to drive RMG and textile sector

Nurnahar Tania

Textile tech Association has started its journey with the slogan 'Analyzing the opportunities & barriers for the female employee' on 15 January at AHS Auditorium of Govt. College of Applied Human Science in Dhaka.

More than 200 textile professionals, experts, and students joined the grand inauguration ceremony.

Textile Tech Association will work on this specific issue to build a strong connection between the head hunters and the job seekers.

Also, it will ensure the equity of both male and female employees

for having the best output.

The association aims to be the voice of mid-level working women in the RMG sector said, Sabrinna Sharmeen, Founder, Textile Tech Association, former student Govt. College of Applied Human science and Team Leader, Varner AS Bangladesh Liaison office.

The speakers talked about the clothing sector's recent challenges, export, clothing price, and product innovation.

Besides that, they need to collaborate with academia and industry and more participation of women in mid-management in this industry.



Figure: BGMEA President Faruque Hassan (3rd from right) along with other guests at the grand inauguration ceremony.

For Full Story: <https://www.textiletoday.com.bd/textile-tech-association-launched-drive-rmg-textile-sector/>

Denim expert Ltd unveils men's skinny biker jeans

Zakir Hossain

Denim Expert Limited, a Bangladesh-based denim manufacturing company, presents new sustainable men's jeans for the season Autumn-Winter 2021 with confidence to be loved by jeans fans.

Denim Expert Limited is a market leader in quality denim

manufacturing since 2009, the year of its foundation.

Since then, the company has rapidly expanded, becoming a benchmark in Bangladeshi denim manufacturing & washing.

By 11.00 Oz 82% Cotton, 16% Polyester, and 1% Elastane Black OD comfort stretch

recycled fiber blended for this sustainable denim jeans, and treated through Vintage used to wash with abrasion effects and localized damage & repair detailing.

Also, the jeans are designed to focus on the new trend and a true blend of creativity.



Figure: The jeans are designed to focus on the new trend and a true blend of creativity.

For Full Story: <https://textiletoday.com.bd/denim-expert-ltd-unveils-mens-skinny-biker-jeans/>



Barbie and fashion house Balmain collaborate on a new ready-to-wear and accessories collection

Sanjay Saha

Mattel has launched a dynamic, unprecedented partnership between the Barbie brand and the French luxury fashion brand, Balmain.

As well as developing a celebration of the combined influence of Barbie and Balmain on fashion and wider culture.

Meanwhile, the two brands are launching a ready-to-wear fashion and accessories collection that excludes two entities distinct Barbie and Ken Avatar three one-of-a-kind NFT.

Mattel said in a press release, styling a complete look from Balmain's design, each comes with a one-of-a-kind bespoke set of Barbie-sized Balmain pieces, creating a

unique digital and physical art collection.

These Barbie x Balmain NFTs will be available exclusively through Mattel Creations, an online auction hosted by mintNFT, guaranteeing buyers a unique place in the history of fashion.

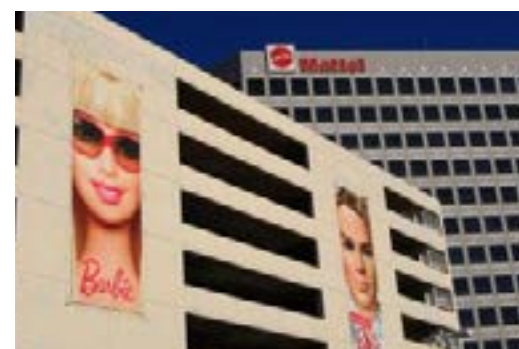


Figure: Mattel has launched a dynamic, unprecedented partnership between the Barbie brand and the French luxury fashion brand, Balmain.

For Full Story: <https://textiletoday.com.bd/barbie-fashion-house-balmain-collaborate-new-ready-wear-accessories-collection/>