Checkpoint provides the massive item-level encoding solution of RFID labels at Inditex distribution centers for garments in boxes, pallets and hanging items at a speed in line with Inditex's logistics needs. The high-speed bulk encoding solution, which combines hardware and software, ensures the highest levels of accuracy and encoding speed without needing to manually open boxes and handle individual garments. RFID label encoding means that Inditex products are associated with a unique code allowing the apparel retailer to manage its inventory automatically.

Checkpoint's solution also enables Inditex to automate the sending of garments from the distribution centers to the stores, avoiding any possible packing mistakes in quantity, model, size or color. The RFID solution automatically checks the accuracy of the content of the boxes regardless of the packing format -- with a high level of precision and at a high speed -- in line with Inditex demands before they are sent to the stores.

The RFID project is already active in more than 700 Zara stores in 22 countries. According to Pablo Isla,"Implementation of this next-generation technology is one of the most significant changes ever in how the Group's stores operate."

"We are proud to support Inditex's omni-channel retail strategy with RFID solutions which enable maximum speed and optimal precision for full control and visibility of the millions of garments that the Group ships every day to its stores around the world," commented Per Levin, president and chief sales officer for Merchandise Availability Solutions, Checkpoint Systems.

Turkish company ranked top garment exporter of Ethiopia

Ayka Addis Textile & Investment Group, a Turkish textile company, has been declared the top textile and garment export performer in Ethiopia for the year 2013-14 by Ethiopian Textile Industry Development Institute (TIDI), Ethiopian Radio and Television Agency reported.

The communications director of TIDI, Bantihun Gessesse said that Ayka Addis Textile & Investment Group contributed around US$ 63 million, out of the US$ 111.45 million textile exports revenue in Ethiopia.

He said that Germany was the top importer of Ethiopian textile products, followed by Turkey, China, Italy and US.

He added that 2013-14 total export revenue of US$ 111.45 million represented 31.8 percent of the national US$ 350 million target for total textile exports.

He said the target was not achieved because of the shortages and low-quality cotton supplies, leadership capacity limitations, low productivity, delays in the construction of projects, and shortages of electricity.

Established in 2010, Ayka Addis Group, a vertically integrated subsidiary of Ayka Addis Textile & Investment Group, was established in Alemgena, Ethiopia. The company has created more than 10,000 jobs and now has the capacity to export textile products worth US$ 100 million.

The Ayka Addis Textile & Investment Group is one of the leading textile manufacturers from Turkey.

73% of DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR space sold - VNU Exhibition

Organisers of the DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR, VNU Exhibitions Asia say six months before they open doors, 73% of the space of the 2015 edition has been sold out and add that now now they have opened online visitors registration.

The 17th edition of DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR which takes place from March 24-26, 2015, will present not only the latest in flooring, but also new themed areas and interesting conference topics to further support the industry development.

With140,000 sq meters of gross exhibit space, DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR will include 5 halls dedicated to carpet and rugs, 4 halls dedicated to wood, laminate, bamboo and other hard floors as well as 3 halls dedicated to resilient commercial and industrial floorings.

VNU Exhibitions Asia says the "World of Handmade Carpets" concept is coming back after a first launch edition in 2014 in hall W5, while the wood sector is back to the East halls of the Shanghai New International Exhibition Centre. The InnovAction Flooring campaign, running for the third time in 2015, will reveal once again the newest products developed by the industry specifically for the Asian needs but also for the global markets.

GreenStep Asia Awards, organized by FCW and hosted by the show, is also coming back in March 2015 for its second edition. This is the only awards program giving recognition to the green flooring solutions innovated in Asia-Pacific.

Gerflor's Marketing Director, Pierre Convers informs, "Asia and China are really in the centre of the strategy for Gerflor. DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR too is getting more and more professional year after year."

"We are very satisfied not only with the quantity but also with the quality of the meetings we have onsite. The visitors have really clear ideas and precise needs now and they come to DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR to see innovations and new products", he added.

VNU Exhibitions Asia informs that not just most of the companies who exhibited in the 2014 edition are returning, but many new companies too are in contact to secure their exhibition space in 2015.

VDMA elects new chairperson

Friedrichshafen – The VDMA, the German Textile Machinery Association, has elected Mrs. Regina Brückner, Managing Associate of Brückner Trockentechnik, as Chairperson, marking the first occasion that the position has been held by a woman.

The election of Mrs. Brückner took place during the recent members' meeting of the Association in Landau, near Lake Constance. She replaces Fritz P. Mayer, Associate of Karl Mayer Textilmaschinenfabrik who has led the Textile Machinery Association since 2008. Mr Mayer will remain active at the VDMA after being elected as Vice-Chairperson by the new board during its inaugural meeting. As part of this role he will devote special attention to the European and international relations of the Textile Machinery Association.

The new-look board also includes Benjamin Mayer, Mayer & Cie; Andreas Schellhammer, H. Stoll; Eric Schöller, Groz-Beckert; and Markus Kleindorp, Memminger-Iro.

Germany's VDMA sees engineering production up 2 pct in 2015

Germany's VDMA engineering association expects production in the sector to rise 2 percent next year with growth in the United States and China more than compensating for what is expected to be subdued demand from France and Italy. In July, the VDMA cut its outlook for 2014 production growth to 1 percent from a previous estimate of 3 percent, blaming the Ukraine crisis. "The uncertainties about further economic developments are high, the risks are not to be underestimated," said VDMA chief economist Ralph Wiechers, noting however that growth in big export markets and a low euro exchange rate would help German engineering firms. The United States, China and other emerging markets were on a growth path but he said problems in France and Italy would dampen demand from within Europe. The VDMA also said engineering orders stagnated in August with contracts from abroad down 9 percent and domestic demand up 19 percent. Over the past three months, orders are up 3 percent on an annual basis. (Reporting by Madeline Chambers; Editing by Noah Barkin)

Shima Seiki eyes technical textiles growth

Shima Seiki's developments for the technical textiles sector will be brought into focus next month at the Advanced Textiles Expo in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

As well as the new SRY123LP, which offers a range of possibilities for producing inlay fabrics, which are widely used in the technical textiles industry, the Japanese firm has also developed a new yarn unwinding method to improve the results when knitting with materials such as metallic and monofilament yarns.

Shima Seiki to show digital printing technology at Viscom

Japanese computerized knitting machine producer, Shima Seiki will showcase its latest innovations in digital textile printing technology at Viscom Italia 2014 exhibition in Milan, Italy this October.

Shima Seiki will display the SIP-160F3, its latest flatbed inkjet printing machine that is capable of providing beautiful full color printing on a variety of fabrics.

Shima Seiki said reactive dyes, acid dyes and pigment inks can be used to support different types of print applications.

It added that the printing head can be raised or lowered according to substrate thickness, allowing printing on fabrics with 3-dimensional textures, or even directly on finished products.

Applications include Wholegarment knitwear which is produced in its entirety without any seams using Shima Seiki's own Wholegarment knitting machine technology.

"Multidrop inkjet technology, ink circulation and degassing system and ink thermoregulation provide efficient and stable printing, Shima Seiki informed.

Also on show is the latest version of its SDS-ONE APEX3 3D design system. The color management system on APEX3 provides accurate simulations of the printed piece for checking before printing on SIP-160F3.

APEX3 which is also at the core of its "Total Fashion System" concept, integrates production into one smooth workflow from yarn development, product planning and design to production and even sales promotion.

"Especially effective is APEX3's capability to improve on the planning process with virtual sampling", Shima Seiki said.

Photo-realistic simulation capability allows virtual sampling to minimize the costly, time-consuming sample-making process while enhancing presentation quality. (AR)

Checkpoint Systems Implements RFID at Inditex Distribution Centers

Checkpoint Systems, Inc. (NYSE:CKP), a leading global supplier of merchandise availability solutions for the retail industry, has been selected by the Inditex Group to implement Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology into its distribution centers. Inditex's RFID implementation project was recently unveiled by Chairman and CEO Pablo Isla at the company's Annual General Meeting.

significant reduction to its 2015 cotton import quota to boost demand for domestically-produced fibre. But experts disagree on whether the policy could pose risks for textile and clothing manufacturers.

The reform was introduced to encourage the estimated 10,000 yarn and fabric makers in the country to use Chinese raw cotton unless they want to pay higher prices for imports. China imported 1.88m tonnes in the first eight months of this year [2014].

A statement made by Liu Xiaonan, vice head of the economy and trade department at the country's powerful National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), said Beijing will only provide import quotas next year that are required under its World Trade Organization (WTO) commitments, suspending its usual additional quotas to textile mills. Chinese language media has reported this amounted to between 600,000 to 800,000 tonnes last year.

"Apart from the 894,000 tonnes of import quota required under WTO entry commitments...we will not issue additional import quotas, instead guiding domestic textile companies to use more Chinese cotton," Liu told journalists in Beijing.

The announcement followed China's move earlier this year to end its three-year old policy of buying cotton from Chinese farmers at above market prices. Massive state reserves have been accumulated, which the authorities have been wary to release, giving the risk of reducing prices.

Groz-Beckert to focus on automotive nonwovens at Cinte Techtextil China

Groz-Beckert, leading provider of industrial machine needles, will be dedicating its showcase at the Cinte Techtextil China trade fair to nonwovens used for car interiors.

The TexCar, a carefully cut open and specially prepared Mercedes E-Class model, reveals exactly where textile materials are used in modern cars, the company reports.

In its presentation of solutions, Groz-Beckert will be focusing on special needles for the production of needled nonwovens that are visible in the car interior.

Groz-Beckert hosts conference for knitting machine makers

Groz-Beckert, a producer of industrial machine needles, precision parts and fine tools hosted its first ever international conference on 16 and 17 September, to which it invited manufacturers of large diameter circular knitting machines at its headquarters in Albstadt.

On both days, 70 visitors from all over the world gathered in Albstadt –Germany to receive and exchange information about recent developments and up-coming trends in the textile sector.

The event started on October 16, with Eric Schöller, Member of the Management Board, welcoming the guests. After a short presentation of the company, he shared the concept of the conference with the participants.

"We want to create a platform for our customers providing room for ideas and exchange. Bringing all big players together under one roof and getting experts to watch interesting presentations was our aim", said Eric Schöller.

Later, the guests were taken on a guided tour of the Technology and Development Center (TEZ).

The first technical presentation of the conference came from Roland Karle of Solidian GmbH. He spoke on the topic of textile-reinforced concrete, by giving the example of the world's longest concrete bridge made with textile reinforcement, inaugurated in Albstadt-Lautlingen in 2010.

Next, Till Krauss from Forschungsgesellschaft Textiltechnik Albstadt (FTA) gave a detailed presentation on potential of non-crimp fabrics (NCF) – textile scrims of unidirectional fiber systems that can be produced on flat knitting machines as 2D or 3D structures.

After lunch, the participants got a first-hand look of the Groz-Beckert production facility at Albstadt.

The second day of the conference was dedicated to technical presentations on different topics. In the morning, the visitors listened to representatives from Triumph International AG, Memminger-IRO GmbH, Lenzing AG, and Hermann Bühler AG.

Their presentations followed by discussions, included trends in the lingerie sector, innovative accessories for circular knitting machines and innovations from the world of fibers and yarns, specially developed for production of ultrafine knitted fabrics.

Post-lunch, presentations focussed on finishing of textiles, with presentations from Brückner Trockentechnik GmbH & Co. KG and CHT R. Beitlich GmbH. Among many topics, challenges of dry finishing sensitive and ultrafine knitted fabrics were discussed.

Another interesting topic discussed was suitable auxiliary products for finishing of sports and functional wear and the ever more challenging requirements on finishing, considering the increased use of fine microfiber fabrics made of polyester (PES) and polyamide (PA).

As last item of the agenda, Groz-Beckert provided insight into internal market analyses concerning current and future developments of the global large diameter circular knitting sector with a focus on Asian markets.

Groz-Beckert is a producer of industrial machine needles, precision parts and fine tools as well as systems and services for the production and stitching of textile fabrics. Its products service and support the knitting, weaving, felting, tufting and sewing sectors. (AR)

World Textile News

Picanol demonstrates its rapier technology at open house event in Korea

Picanol, technological market leader in airjet and rapier weaving machines, has organised an Open House event in Daegu, Korea, from 6-8 October 2014.

This event, aimed at Korean weavers, has seen Picanol demonstrating its latest rapier technology and offerings for technical textiles, with a specific focus on its OptiMax showpiece. The Open House was organised at the new premises of Picanol customer Dong-A T.O.L., a manufacturer of high-quality outerwear and furnishing fabrics.

Versatility and modularity

Picanol took this opportunity to demonstrate to Korean weavers the versatility and modularity of its OptiMax machines for the widest range of high-quality fabrics.

This covers everything from mainstream to niche applications. The company has been presenting two versions of its OptiMax rapier weaving machine with the OptiMax 540 cm being showcased for the first time in Korea.

This rapier machine is equipped with positive guided grippers and will be weaving a mix of monofil, multifilament and PP-tape to demonstrate its extreme versatility in weft and speed capacity. The other machine – the OptiMax 190 cm – comes equipped with negative free-flight grippers and the Open House will see a shirting fabric woven.

Textile machinery exhibition to be held in Pakistan

The 8th international garment, textile and leather machinery and accessories exhibition and conference (IGATEX Pakistan) will be held at the Expo center, Lahore from the 21st of October to 24th of October this year.

The highlights of the event include technical seminars, business-to-business match making, regional visitors, and buyers' promotions. The exhibition will feature over 550 exhibitors from 35 countries including China, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Turkey, Taiwan, and Switzerland. The exhibit profiles for the event include accessories for textile machinery, apparel machineries, cloth processing machineries, etc. The expected visitors for the event include owners, C.E.O's. directors, decision makers, technical managers, manufacturers, distributors, importers, and exporters from textile and garment knitwear, spinning, weaving, etc. Working and stand-alone demonstrations of various cutting edge industry tools and technology will be a part of the event. High-level machinery, equipments, and accessories which provide business opportunities and will increase the product worth will be displayed in the event. The exhibition will also help to improvise trade benefits and increase foreign investments and spending through business visits by international delegates.

The event would be a professionally enriching experience for textile machinery manufacturers, providing them an opportunity to directly market their equipment to quality buyers and decision makers in a competitive, global business environment. IGATEX Pakistan 2014, organized by FAKT Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, is a leading event with strategic partners such as Textile Machinery Manufacturer's and Supplier's Association of Pakistan (TEXMAP), All Pakistan Textile Manufacturers Association (APTMA), Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA) and Pakistan Textile Journal (PTJ) etc. (GK)

Opinion divided on impact of China cotton import cuts

China, the world's top cotton consumer, has announced a

models. It seems that the reason is the availability of folic acid on the cancer cells in those areas. The method mechanism is based on the high possibility of the adsorption of gold nanoparticles attached to folic acid by cancer cells. The nanoparticles are less absorbed in healthy cells. In the next stage, the laser beam is radiated to the tumoral area and it is hoped that the chance of treatment of the cancer cells will be higher in the area with more nanoparticles.

A part of the research has been published in Lasers in Medical Science, vol. 29, issue 2, 2014, pp. 847-853.

Iranian Nanotechnology Scientists Produce Polymeric Scaffolds for Tissue Engineering

Iranian researchers from Amirkabir University of Technology have produced polymeric scaffolds which could be used for tissue engineering purposes.

The scaffold has been designed for the treatment of damaged bones and has the ability to carry and release drugs in a controlled manner.

According to Katayoun Nazemi, one of the researchers, the aim of the scaffold production was to use it in the treatment of damaged bones, and in the release of antibiotics and anti-inflammation drugs implanted on the scaffold. The scaffolds contain PLGA nanoparticles with size of about 100 nm. The interesting point in the application of nanoparticles is that they are able to act as drug carriers, and they release the drug in the desired spot. When the drug is released locally on the desired spot, the other tissues are not involved in the treatment process and the side effects of the drug reduce. This characteristic also results in higher efficiency of the drug. Nazemi explained the results of the research, and said, "The produced scaffolds have appropriate and consistent porosity.

In addition, the spherical PLGA nanoparticles have been distributed homogenously in their polymeric bed, which results in controlled release of drug. However, the weak strength of the scaffold should be taken into consideration. Therefore, they can be used only in the parts of the bones that do not carry any load."

In this research, composite scaffolds of chitosan/ bioactive glass, which contained spherical nanoparticles of poly (lactic-co-glycolic) acid (PLGA), were produced through frozen drying method and they were characterized. Next, the researchers studied the effect of increasing the amount of bioactive glass on various properties of scaffolds, including water adsorption, degradation rate and mechanical properties.

Results of the research have been published in BioMed Research International, vol. 2014, issue 1, 2014, pp. 898930-1 to 898930-9.

Irantex 2014

The 20th International Exhibition of Textile, Raw Materials,Home Textiles, Embroidery Machines & Textile Products. Irantex 2014 to be held on 17-19 Nov 2014 at Tehran International Permanent Fair Ground – IRAN. Exhibitor showcase their products on Profile of exhibit are textile Machinery, Accessories for textile machinery, Auxiliary equipment, Bleaching and washing machinery, Bonding and Finishing machine, Felting needles, Inspecting, measuring and folding, Sewing Machinery, Embroidery machinery and Accessories, Apparel Machinery & Accessories, Raw Materials, Consultants & Services, Apparel, Fabrics. Profile of exhibit are textile Machinery, Accessories for textile machinery, Auxiliary equipment, Bleaching and washing machinery, Bonding and Finishing machine, Felting needles, Inspecting, measuring and folding, Sewing Machinery, Embroidery machinery and Accessories, Apparel Machinery & Accessories, Raw Materials, Consultants & Services, Apparel, Fabrics.

Turkish trade delegation visits Iran

A delegation from Turkish Exporters Assembly is in Iran to discuss ways to boost relations with Iranian traders.

The delegation will attend a conference of Iranian-Turkish businessmen which will be held on Sept.22, Iran's Mehr news agency reported on Sept. 20. Members of the Turkish delegation are active in the areas of food and sea products, wood, steel, car, and textile industries.

Iranian Ambassador to Ankara Alireza Bigdeli said in April that Iran and Turkey have set a target of nearly $16 billion in the volume of their bilateral trade transactions during the current Iranian calendar year (started March 21), Press TV reported.

He added that Iran-Turkey trade turnover stood at $1.2 billion in the first quarter of the year 2014 given the released monthly reports, adding that the figure would rise to $20 billion once a preferential trade agreement signed by the two countries is enforced, IRNA reported.

Iran and Turkey have signed a preferential trade agreement which could pave the way for a hike in the bilateral trade. The agreement was signed during Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's visit to Tehran in January. At the time, Erdogan said the goal is to boost trade between the two neighbors to $30 billion by 2015.

Iran Textile News

Multifunctional Cotton Fabrics Produced in Iran Using Nanotechnology

The nanocomposite creates important characteristics in the fabrics, including self-cleaning, antibacterial and electrical conduction properties.

Fabrics made of cotton have desirable properties for clothes, including high sorption ability, respiration ability, comfort and softness. However, the application of these fabrics in various industries is limited due to their low mechanical properties, high flammability, easy growth of microorganisms due to high adsorption of humidity and their becoming dirty easily. Therefore, it is vital to carry out special complementary processes to improve the properties of cotton fabrics, such as increasing self-cleaning, thermal resistance, antibacterial activity and mechanical behavior. In this research, the effect of the application of graphene/titanium dioxide nanocomposite has been studied for the first time on improving the properties of cotton fabrics.

According to the researchers, the coating of cotton fabrics with graphene/titanium dioxide nanocomposite has created fabrics with perfect photocatalytic properties under the radiation of ultraviolet and visible light. The fabrics have fantastic electrical conduction and antibacterial activity and it has been confirmed that they are non-toxic. The interesting point is that the produced fabric in this research is multifunctional and can be used in various industries.

Graphene has been used in this research as the second part of the composite (titania is the first part) to settle the problems and create high performance photocatalyst. The nanocomposite is highly capable of absorbing paints and organic materials and has wide light attraction zone and high electron transfer ability. Higher efficiency and activity at visible light are the advantages of the produced nanocomposite over titanium dioxide.

Results of the research have been published in Cellulose, vol. 21, issue 5, 2014, pp. 3813-3827.

Iranian Scientists Discover Nanotechnology Method to Remove Limitations in Tumor Surgery

Researchers from Iran University of Medical Sciences presented a new method to overcome limitations in the laser surgery of head and neck through nanotechnology. This therapy increases the performance of cancer treatment methods if it completely succeeds and helps the society's health significantly. The use of straight laser beam is one of the most important methods for the surgery of head and neck malfunctions. Laser usually causes damage to the tissues next to the tumor or the tissues on its path. Moreover, laser beam does not have selective treatment characteristic. Therefore, the aim of the researchers was to present a therapy method for the surgery of these tumors by using laser and nanoparticles, which is able to carry out the operation and degrade tumor at nanometric scale.

The creation of selectivity characteristic in the laser therapy of head and neck tumors by using gold nanoparticles attached to folic acid is considered as the most important achievement of the research. The method has been tested on the head and neck, cervical and breast cancers.

The best responses were obtained in the first two

Special guests: top designers Stefan Diez, Ross Lovegrove, Roberto Palomba

A series of presentations and discussion forums complete the program. With the focus increasingly shifting towards the design of striking floors, internationally renowned architects, interior designers, planners and designers such as Stefan Diez, Roberto Palomba and Ross Lovegrove will discuss tomorrow's trends and the effects on their work at the Innovations@DOMOTEX Talks in Hall 6. In addition, architects and designers participating in the presentation program will lead visitors on Guided Tours from the special areas to the exhibitors' stands.

If you would like to find out more about the selected innovations, presentation topics, speakers and guided tours in advance of the trade fair, all the important information is clearly presented in the Innovations@DOMOTEX Guide. The guide will be available online before the event at www.domotex.de/home.

Luxurious and exclusive hand-made rugs are featured in Hall 17, where renowned designers and manufacturers – including Rug Star, Floor to Heaven, Jan Kath Design, Makalu, Obetee, Reuber Henning, Hossein Rezvani, Wool & Silk Rugs and Zollanvari – will be showcasing their latest creations. Classic hand-made rugs can be found mainly in halls 15 and 16. Hall 14 will also include an exhibition space for antique rugs, which provide an exciting contrast in modern home interiors.

Carpet Design Awards 2015 presented in conjunction with Innovations@DOMOTEX

For the first time, the Carpet Design Awards will be presented as part of Innovations@DOMOTEX in 2015. "Uniting the two will offer exhibitors significant added value for the presentation and promotion of their exclusive creations," underlines Köckler. The renowned competition is regarded as the most prestigious international award for modern hand-made carpets. Chaired by London-based designer Michael Sodeau, an international jury will select three carpets in each of eight categories. These will be featured in the Innovations@ DOMOTEX area in Hall17. The winners in each category will be announced on Sunday, 18 January 2015during the official award-giving ceremony.

A more hands-on approach will be taken in Hall 7, where parquet layers, floorers, interior decorators, painters and carpenters can find out all they need to know about innovative installation, maintenance and application techniques as well as useful information for their day-to-day professional lives. Moreover, visitors can obtain comprehensive information about parquet, wooden and laminate floors and also outdoor flooring in halls 8 and 9.

DOMOTEX 2015 (17–20 January)

Both a global showcase and a trend barometer

Hannover. The gates are opening on DOMOTEX 2015 from 17 to 20 January, when some 1,300 exhibitors from more than 60 countries will be showcasing their product innovations and collections for the coming season at the world's leading trade fair for carpets and floor coverings in Hannover, Germany. Visitors can look forward to a highly international and innovative event. As a global meeting place and driving force behind the industry, DOMOTEX 2015 is guaranteed to provide fresh impetus and generate business. With Innovations@DOMOTEX, DOMOTEX offers a unique showcase to highlight selected innovations in a concise and targeted way. In 2015 the trade fair is expanding its successful concept and will for the first time also feature innovations in applications and installation technology. These will be showcased in one of the three special display areas, which will also include textile and resilient floor coverings, parquet and laminate flooring, as well as modern hand-made rugs and carpets. In addition, internationally renowned architects and designers such as Stefan Diez, Ross Lovegrove and Roberto Palomba will be discussing the latest developments and applications in the flooring sector at the Innovations@DOMOTEX Talks.

"In terms of the breadth and diversity of products, innovations and trends, there is no alternative to DOMOTEX. It is both a global trend barometer and a showcase," saysDr Jochen Köckler, Member of the Managing Board at Deutsche Messe in Hannover. Nowhere else do so many foreign trade visitors from the retail and wholesale trades, skilled trades, architecture and interior design come to find out about new products and trends in the industry. More than 90 percent of these visitors are involved in their companies' purchasing decisions.

The world's leading suppliers of floor coverings will be represented at DOMOTEX inJanuary, with more than 85 percent of the companies coming from outside Germany. Exhibitors at DOMOTEX show products and innovations ranging from textile and resilient floor coverings for the residential and commercial sectors to rugs, carpets, parquet and laminate flooring and floor coverings for outdoor areas as well as installation, maintenance and application techniques.

Following its successful debut this year, Innovations@DOMOTEX will be back for a second time in January 2015. "The concept of providing visitors with more orientation, which significantly helps to initiate business contacts at the exhibitors' stands, has been well received by the industry," says Köckler. The coming year will also see innovations in applications and installation technology featured in one of the three special exhibition areas for the first time. On 5 November 2014, a jury of ten chaired by internationally renowned industrial designer Stefan Diez will be selecting the best ideas from those submitted.

Berlin architectural firm Matter puts innovations center stage

Headed by André Schmidt, Berlin-based architectural firm Matter is responsible for the creative presentation of the innovations in the three special display areas.Schmidt has developed a customized design for each Innovations@ DOMOTEX area relating to the particular qualities of the product categories in halls 6, 9 and 17. As a central meeting place and highlight of the trade fair, the areas provide an inspiring overview of the product innovations and their design options.