



Dresden, November 27, 2019

## Press release

### **Now for the first time, four parallel sessions with a special focus on industrial topics: digitization, industry 4.0, artificial intelligence, and tactile internet at the Aachen-Dresden-Denkendorf International Textile Conference (ADD-ITC) 2019 in Dresden**

On November 28th and 29th 2019, the Aachen-Dresden-Denkendorf International Textile Conference takes place in Dresden. 600 participants from Germany and abroad (status: 11-27-19) accepted the invitation to attend the event located at the International Congress Center. International participation amounts to 20 % from 25 different countries, and approx. 45 % of participants have joined us from industry and various associations.

Professor Chokri Cherif, host of this year's conference, is delighted about the continuous interest in ADD-ITC. "This year was dominated by Techtexil and ITMA, two of the most important conferences of the textile sector; thus, we are extraordinarily glad that so many participants join us for ADD-ITC despite of this eventful year to enjoy the many excellent presentations from industry and research throughout the next two days."

This year's partner country is Great Britain. Due to numerous well-established networks of our research partners with Great Britain, the organizers have deliberately chosen this partner country at this specific time. The goal is to send a visible signal that existing cooperation relationships in research and industry with companies and universities can persist and new collaborations can be created independently of Brexit. Dr. Hassan El-Dessouky and Chris McHugh will present latest developments in the composite sector generated in cooperation with Boeing at the Composite Centre - Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC with Boeing) at the University of Sheffield on day two of the conference with their plenary talk. Moreover, 3D woven composites and carbon fiber recycling methods will be presented in keynote lectures by British companies Sigmalex and ELG.

Since 2007, this conference for innovations and technological strategies has become the most important meeting ground for exchange between executive management, experts & young professionals from industry and science at the three locations Aachen, Dresden, and Denkendorf. The conference's success is mainly based on its broad range of topics, including current developments, market strategies, and global trends along the entire textile process chain, environment and resources, energy, mobility, health and digital communication through the development of key technologies by using novel

materials and advanced production technologies. Digitization, industry 4.0, artificial intelligence, machine learning, tactile internet, and sustainability are among the topics that will be presented in exciting lectures. Professor Chokri Cherif is convinced that “the new 5G mobile communications standard will open innovative possibilities for connecting sensors, machines, and other devices along the textile process chain for various high-tech applications”.

Professor Frank Fitzek of TU Dresden will emphasize the potential of 5G, currently investigated within the Cluster of Excellence “CETI – Tactile internet with human-machine-interaction” at TU Dresden. Moreover, Professor Mesut Günes from the University of Magdeburg will present networked systems in production processes and Professor Peter Letmathe from RWTH Aachen will give a lecture on new business model architectures, enabled by advanced digitization and networked production technologies. Additional plenary lectures are provided by speakers of Federal Initiatives for Excellence, involving topics such as “Computational Design and Construction” and “Metamaterials”, which are currently at the center of attention at the Universities of Freiburg and Stuttgart.

Professor Cherif, being this year’s main organizer of the conference, highly appreciates the interdisciplinary character of Dresden, where CEOs and decision makers meet developers from different sectors. In addition to representatives from SMEs, experts from market leaders – including Boeing, Bosch, Daimler, Rolls Royce, or Siemens – will also be attending since high-performance textiles offer innovative solutions for all industrial branches. Over all, this conference is a platform with a focus on industry. Therefore, both days of the event will include lectures in four parallel sessions featuring topics that are particularly relevant to the industry.

As well-established part of the first conference day, the transfer session "Best Practices: Transfer – from idea to practice“, will once again be organized by Forschungskuratorium Textil e.V. The focus is on current innovations (e.g. products, technologies, procedures) that were generated by research cooperations, in particular through IGF/ZIM, and successfully transferred into industrial practice by start ups. A keynote lecture by the BMWi is a special highlight titled “From concept to market success - programmes for an innovative SME sector“, where customized funding programs are presented in addition to already well-established funding opportunities involving IGF and ZIM as part of AiF.

Traditionally, on conference day 2 in Dresden, new fiber, material, and product developments for protective and functional materials as well as textile membranes are introduced. Also, smart functional textiles with integrated sensor and actuator systems in addition to textile membranes for high-tech applications are addressed.

Another one of the event’s highlights are 8 short poster presentations, which provide a valuable opportunity for young scientists to present their research results to the audience, thus raising attention for the poster session. The Aachen-Dresden-Denkendorf International Textile Conference 2019 is completed by a comprehensive poster presentation session. More than 100 scientists and company representatives from Germany and beyond present their latest research results. Three extraordinary poster presentations are subsequently honored with the poster award 2019.

Moreover, promotional awards generously provided by the Circle of Friends and Supporters of the ITM at TU Dresden e.V. are granted for excellent theses.

Also, as organizing team of the conference, it is our great pleasure to announce that the VDMA, Textile Machinery Association, selected ADD-ITC for their annual award ceremony by the Walter Reiners-Foundation of the German Textile Machinery Industry supporting young engineers. Prof. Cherif is convinced that all laureates made a valuable contribution with their innovative ideas, thus being promising candidates for future leading positions in the textile sector. The award ceremony takes place at 6:30pm on conference day 1.

## **ADD-ITC AT A GLANCE**

Since 2007, the textile research institutes of Aachen, Dresden, and Denkendorf have successfully organized the International Textile Conference, with the three institutes taking turns in organizing the event: the DWI Leibniz-Institut für Interaktive Materialien in Aachen, the ITM – Institute for Textile Machinery and High Performance Material Technology in Dresden, the DITF - Deutsche Institute für Textil- und Faserforschung in Denkendorf. They are supported by further research institutes, most of which are part of the Forschungskuratorium Textil.

Hence, this conference is one of the most important events in the textile sector in Europe and has become a national and international platform for the textile industry, textile mechanical engineering, textile finishing, textile chemistry and application-oriented disciplines, such as lightweight engineering, bio and medical technology, civil engineering as well as electro- and information technologies.

Moreover, the institutes received valuable support from renowned company representatives and associations during program preparation. Special thanks goes to the Forschungskuratorium Textil e.V., the Gesamtverband Textil + Mode e.V., and the VDMA, Textile Machinery Association.

By integrating various partner countries (2009: Netherlands and Belgium, 2010: Poland and Czech Republic, 2011: Australia and New Zealand, 2012: Japan, 2013: Turkey, 2014: South Korea, 2015: France, 2016: Austria & Switzerland, 2017: USA and 2018: Italy) into the International Textile Conference, the organizing team managed to establish a platform for new research cooperations and sustainable networks beyond Germany, thus offering a great potential for international exchange of expertise and information between representatives from science and industry.

### **Save the Date - ADD-ITC 2020**

November 25th to 26th 2020 in Stuttgart

<https://www.aachen-dresden-denkendorf.de/itc>

### **Photographic material**

Selected photographs of ADD-ITC 2019 will be available for download on November 29<sup>th</sup>:

<https://www.aachen-dresden-denkendorf.de/itc/programm/downloads/>

### **Local organization 2019**

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