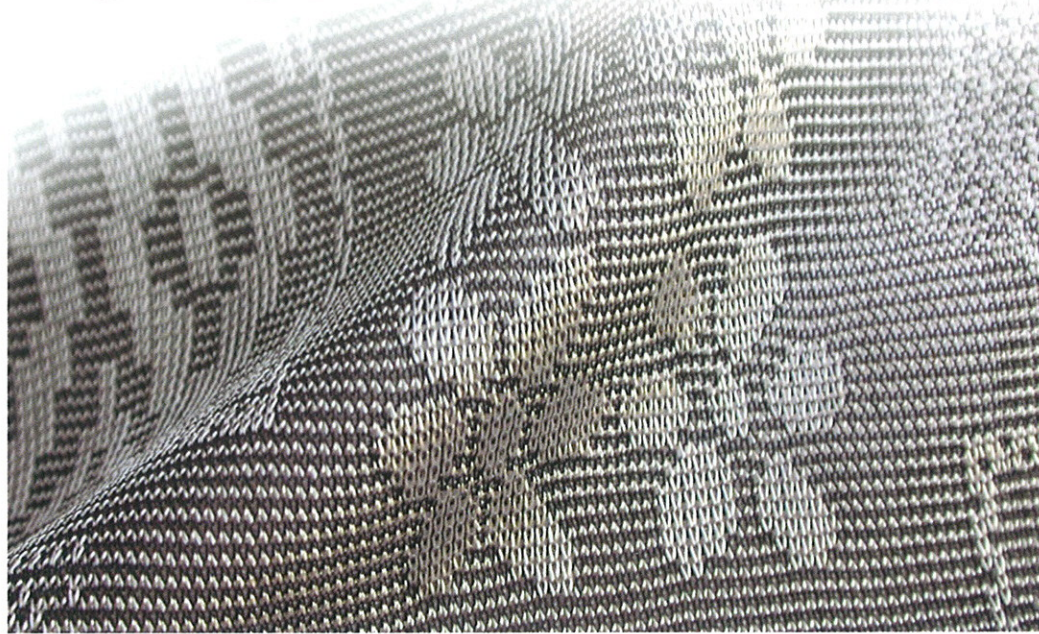


# India partnership boosts Terrot

Despite the tough market conditions, circular knitting machine builder Terrot has reported sales of its latest open width and mattress ticking technology into India and Bangalore.



High-quality knits produced on Terrot systems are generally used in the outerwear, underwear and sportswear sectors as well as the home textiles sector and for technical textile applications.

Promoting its highly efficient and user-friendly new generation of open width machines as well as its latest high production mattress ticking technology, the company exhibited at the recent India ITME 2008 in Bangalore alongside its regional partner Voltas and was able to secure a number of contracts. Since it emerged from administration, Terrot has been working towards getting sales back on track, developing new machines and forging ahead with its partnership with Voltas, part of the giant Tata Group.

One of the first things that Terrot did after it emerged from administration under the leadership of Peter Schuring, an investment banker from Munich who holds a major stake in the new Terrot as managing director, was to close down its Stuttgart administration centre. "We decided to integrate everything on the Chemnitz site where we actually build the machines," said Schuring. "We are doing quite well at the moment," he said, "and making around 30 machines per month

which are been sold to key markets in India, China and Indonesia as well as notable success in Brazil and Latin America."

When the company tied up with Tata through Voltas Ltd, which has represented Terrot in India for many years, it was suggested that Terrot may start manufacturing its machines in low cost India but Schuring rebuffed the suggestion. "We will keep the manufacturing operations in Chemnitz and continue to offer our high quality precision parts as 'Made in Germany'," he said.

Although Terrot could not at this stage disclose the latest buyers of the machines, the sales are believed to involve a number of UCC572M models, an electronically controlled jacquard double-jersey machine and the S296-1 single-jersey high production lines.

The UCC572M version on display in Bangalore was gauge E:20, 38 ins diameter version with 90 feeders for high production speeds of up to 19rpm. As Terrot points out, most of the knitted fabrics for mattress ticking are currently produced on 38

ins machines with 60 feeders. Setting the UCC572M apart from its rivals is the use of 90 feeders providing users with a 50% productivity increase to around 30 kg/h. The 3-way technique also means that the UCC572M can be used for an unlimited range of applications including mesh, spacer and blister. The new S296-1 is an updated version of Terrot's earlier compact single jersey system where the tubular fabric was cut and wound-up in open condition directly in the machine. In response to market demands, the new S296-1 Single-Jersey High Production machine is available with a very compact, open-width frame which is said to offer easy handling for the operator and improved speeds.

The S296-1 includes a motorized fabric take-down with 3-roller and automatic winding up device. The two needle track version on display at ITME was a gauge E:28, 30 ins diameter machine with 96 feeders capable of knitting single-jersey with elastane at speeds of up to 35rpm. This equates to a production output of 23.3 kg/h at an

unfinished fabric weight of 190g/m<sup>2</sup>. As with the open-width technology on its other machines, the S296-1 includes a motorized fabric take-down with 3-roller and automatic winding up device and adjustment rings to keep the fabric free of pressure, a Cadratex fabric spreader, a kit for tubular winding, a rotating cutting device and a distortion-free fabric winding system.

"The fair offered an excellent opportunity to Terrot to present the Indian market its innovative products and technologies," the company said in a statement. "Our presentation was focussed on innovation, quality awareness, marketability and competitiveness."

Headquartered in Chemnitz, Germany, the high-quality knits produced on Terrot systems are generally used in the outerwear, underwear and sportswear sectors. However, with the endless scope for imaginative designs and the use of specialised backing materials for coatings and roof linings, Terrot machines are also now used increasingly for technical textile applications.