**PRESS RELEASE**

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**SPORTSWEAR PRO 2020 TO SHOWCASE LATEST SOLUTIONS FOR THE GLOBAL SPORTSWEAR MANUFACTURING MARKET**

With less than two months to go, a host of international exhibitors are getting ready to showcase their latest technologies in garment production, design and decoration at Sportswear Pro 2020 (24 – 27 March 2020, IFEMA - Feria de Madrid, Spain).

The first Sportswear Pro event is geared specifically towards business decision-makers in garment production looking to streamline manufacturing processes, reduce inventory and waste, and enable on-demand and just-in-time production in response to shortening fashion cycles.

The growing line-up of exhibitors covers all aspects of production from digital printing and cutting, to embroidery and heat sealing, along with software solutions for process automation and supply chain management.

Michael Ryan, Event Manager for Sportswear Pro comments: “As the final countdown begins to our first show, we are getting a strong flavour of the many sportswear manufacturing innovations that will be on display for visitors in March. For this specific audience, and for visitors with an interest in garment production crossing over from the co-located FESPA Global Print Expo, these diverse exhibitors promise valuable insights into new business opportunities and enhanced production processes.”

**Digital Printing**

One of Sportswear Pro’s key goals is to show visitors where the crossover between print and sportswear is and how some of the trends affecting sportswear are the same ones that are impacting the wider print industry.

The synergies between print and sportswear production will be exemplified primarily by Print Make Wear, FESPA Global Print Expo’s popular fashion feature, which will link directly to Sportswear Pro and focus exclusively on customised sportswear production. Visitors will be able to get an up close look at the garment production chain from initial design to final product, while also being given the opportunity to print a personalised sportswear garment on site. **Kornit Digital**, **Roland DG** and Gold Sponsor **Mimaki** are just a few renowned digital printing brands that will contribute towards the recreation of the live end-to-end production process for sports and athleisure garments.

FellowGold Sponsor **HP** (Hall 3- C120) will also have a presence at the event and will exhibit its digital textile printer, the HP STITCH S500. As part of HP’s effort to help customers access work in expanding sectors of the wider textile print market, the HP Stitch S500 is designed for high-production operations and delivers fast, precise colour-matching, alongside efficient, simplified processes. These qualities make the HP STITCH S500 fully equipped to handle the on-demand customisation requirements of the sportswear manufacturing industry.

**Cutting**

One of the fundamental processes in garment and sportswear manufacturing, cutting has a major presence at Sportswear Pro 2020. Based in Italy, **FK Group** (Hall 3-D90) has specialised in cutting since 1961 and is renowned among eminent Italian and international companies in textile production. Sportswear Pro 2020 will allow FK Group to launch its Tecno Freccia automatic cutting system to this market. With a compact and refined design that allows easy installation in any work environment, Tecno Freccia is the ideal solution for small- to medium-volume productions and is able to cut through a wide variety of materials.

Laser cutting will also feature heavily, with innovations from several exhibitors. **Seit Elettronica** (Hall 3-C116) will show its Laser Bridge SL10, an advanced system for cutting and engraving that utilises galvanometric technology. It enables users to perform cuts and etchings on a wide range of fabrics and materials, integrating perfectly with embroidery machines.

**Embroidery**

**ZSK Stickmaschinen GmbH** (Hall 3-C101), a German market leader in industrial embroidery machines, will launch two new systems: the Racer 1 XL, featuring a large embroidery field and 24 needles, and the Racer II 4 WL, which includes 18 needles, fast colour change and head selection as a standard feature. Both systems are defined by their high speed, precision, flexible operating modes and longevity.

**Tajima** (Hall 3-D121) will display two new embroidery systems: the TMEZ-SC1501, an advanced single head machine featuring full touch screen and Tajima iTM Intelligent Thread Management, and TMBR-SC1801, its first 18 colour system, as well as its first pickerless trimming machine.

**Heat sealing**

Heat seal machines are used for the thermal transfer of labels, emblems and repair patches to garments and textiles of all kinds, with companies such as **Perma Press AB**, **TransferPress** and **Seri Press Transfer Solutions** all exhibiting in this area.

Swedish manufacturer **Perma Press AB** (Hall 3-D122) specialises in heat presses and screen and digital heat-seal transfer systems, and will exhibit its range of environmentally friendly, stretchy soft heat-seal transfers for sportswear.

**MACPI** (Hall 3-D100), a Milan-based manufacturer of stitch-free technologies for the garment industry, will display its user-friendly, energy-efficient 336.59T hot seal taping machine, equipped with the ‘cold chute’ feature from previous models for standard textile applications, with an added ‘hot chute’ for more challenging materials. MACPI will also exhibit its Ultrasonic Machine, a system designed for fabric cutting, welding and decoration which, used in conjunction with the 336.59T, allows fabrics to be joined without any stitching.

**Software**

Design is of the main areas of focus for Sportswear Pro, and a number of companies will present their design software solutions for garment manufacturing. **Meepl** (Hall 3-B854), a Swiss specialist in smartphone-based 3D body scanning, leverages artificial intelligence and visual computing to enable brands and retailers to reduce return rates, digitise supply chains and deliver interactive and personalised 3D shopping experiences. **Crea Solution** (Hall 3-C95) will demonstrate how its integrated digital workflow solution streamlines the garment manufacturing process from initial 3D design to final fabric cutting.

Visitor registration for Sportswear Pro 2020 is open now at [www.sportswearpro.com/registration](http://www.sportswearpro.com/registration). Visitors can register free of charge using promotional code SWPM207. Without a code, registration costs 40 Euros online and 70 Euros onsite.

The Sportswear Pro visitor ticket also gives free access to FESPA Global Print Expo, including the Print Make Wear feature and content programme, and to European Sign Expo.

For more information on Sportswear Pro 2020 visit [www.sportswearpro.com](http://www.sportswearpro.com)*.*

**ENDS**

**About Sportswear Pro**

Launching in 2020, Sportswear Pro is an exhibition dedicated exclusively to sportswear manufacturing, running alongside FESPA Global Print Expo 2020.

With a focus on the latest technologies in on-demand and customised sportswear production, Sportswear Pro brings together suppliers of solutions for three key areas of sportswear manufacture: design (CAD/CAM and 3D body scanning); production (CMT, bonding and knitting) and decoration (printing, engraving, embroidery and laser appliqué systems), as well as developers of accessories, smart textiles and printed electronics.

Sportswear Pro is hosted by FESPA, the organiser of the market leading FESPA Global Print Expo, an annual event attracting over 20,000 visitors from the international screen, digital and textile printing industries.

**About FESPA**

Founded in 1962, FESPA is a global federation of associations for the screen printing, digital printing and textile printing community. FESPA’s dual aim is to promote screen printing and digital imaging and to share knowledge about screen and digital printing with its members across the world, helping them to grow their businesses and learn about the latest developments in their fast growing industries.

**FESPA Profit for Purpose**   
The shareholders are the industry. FESPA has invested millions of Euros into the global printing community over the last seven years, supporting the growth of the market. For more information visit [www.fespa.com](http://www.fespa.com)

**FESPA Print Census**

The FESPA Print Census is a global research project to understand the wide format, screen and digital print community. It is the largest data gathering project of its kind.

**Forthcoming FESPA events include:**

* FESPA Brasil, 18-20 March 2020, Expo Center Norte, São Paulo, Brasil
* FESPA Global Print Expo, 24-27 March 2020, IFEMA, Madrid, Spain
* European Sign Expo, 24-27 March 2020, IFEMA, Madrid, Spain
* Sportswear Pro, 24-27 March 2020, IFEMA, Madrid, Spain
* FESPA Global Print Expo, 18-21 May 2021, Messe München, Munich, Germany
* European Sign Expo, 18-21 May 2021, Messe München, Munich, Germany

**Issued on behalf of Sportswear Pro by AD Communications**

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