

Press Release:

Ismaning, March 11th, 2026

PERFORMANCE DAYS © functional fabrics fair
produced by Design & Development GmbH Textile Consult
Mayerbacherstr. 32 | 85737 Ismaning | Germany
phone: +49 89 9394 6060
www.performancedays.com | astrid@performancedays.com

PERFORMANCEDAYS
FUNCTIONAL FABRIC FAIR

PERFORMANCE DAYS: Material Innovation and Circular Textile Solutions Take Center Stage

Functional Fabric Industry Meets in Munich

Sold out weeks ahead of the show, PERFORMANCE DAYS returns to Munich on March 18-19, 2026, once again serving as a key meeting point for the global functional fabric industry. In a time shaped by geopolitical uncertainty, new regulatory frameworks and increasing sustainability demands, the event provides a platform for material innovation, industry dialogue and knowledge exchange. Developers, designers, brands, suppliers and material experts gather to explore textile developments for the Spring/Summer 2028 season, discuss circular material solutions and exchange insights on the future of performance-driven textiles.

Focus Topic & Trend Forum: Circularity Moves Upstream

The Trend Forum, traditionally the starting point for visitors, introduces this season's Focus Topic: "Textile to Textile - The Role of Collectors & Sorters." Discussions around textile circularity often focus on recycling technologies. Yet circular systems begin much earlier in the value chain - with collection, sorting and the management of material streams, a crucial but often overlooked step in enabling effective textile-to-textile recycling.

The Trend Forum highlights material developments illustrating this shift, including:

- textile-to-textile recycling solutions for polyester and nylon
- new approaches to wool and cotton recycling
- mono-material constructions designed for improved recyclability
- PFAS-free membranes and emerging bio-based innovations

Circularity is increasingly becoming part of the early design and development process, influencing sourcing strategies and future product concepts.

PERFORMANCE DAYS Awards Highlight Material Innovation

Material innovation will also be recognized through the PERFORMANCE DAYS Awards, honoring outstanding developments presented by exhibitors. The **Eco Performance Award** goes to REO-ECO for its BioCulus® enzymatic recycling technology, enabling true textile-to-textile recycling of polyester. The **Performance Award** is awarded to Toray International Europe for an ultra-lightweight chemically recycled nylon ripstop that maintains high durability while advancing circular material use. The **Innovation Award** goes to Wu Luen Knitting for its NeoWarp™ warp-knit technology, redefining wool applications through structural textile innovation. The **Wool Award** is presented to Südwole Group for Algawool, a wool-alginate blend derived from seaweed fibers that combines natural performance with circular material sourcing.

Visitors can explore the award-winning materials in the Trend, Innovation and Wool Forum and learn more during the Award Winners Presentation at the Expert Talks Stage.

Press Release:

Ismaning, March 11th, 2026

PERFORMANCE DAYS © functional fabrics fair
produced by Design & Development GmbH Textile Consult
Mayerbacherstr. 32 | 85737 Ismaning | Germany
phone: +49 89 9394 6060
www.performancedays.com | astrid@performancedays.com

PERFORMANCEDAYS
FUNCTIONAL FABRIC FAIR

DAY 0: Industry Dialogue Starts Before the Show

The conversation begins even before the exhibition doors open. DAY 0, the pre-conference format of PERFORMANCE DAYS, invites participants to join an interactive workshop titled “Turn the Tap Off.” Rather than focusing solely on end-of-life solutions, the workshop encourages participants to rethink sustainability from the very beginning of the value chain. “We have to stop repeating the same discussions without moving into action,” says Bowie Miles, who leads the workshop. “Overproduction, resource scarcity and growing social pressures make the current model unsustainable. The future depends on conscious decisions: producing less, producing better and aligning business with planetary limits.” Discussions focus on fiber choices, material flows and production systems, examining where the greatest impact can be achieved. Built around dialogue and collaboration rather than traditional presentations, the format allows participants to map challenges within textile systems and explore practical approaches that can be implemented within their organizations.

Knowledge Sharing in Times of New Regulations

With new regulatory frameworks, reporting obligations and sustainability requirements emerging worldwide, the need for reliable information and industry dialogue continues to grow. PERFORMANCE DAYS therefore continues to expand its education and knowledge-sharing formats. “We provide orientation through different formats,” explains Anna Schuster, Head of Sustainability at PERFORMANCE DAYS. “The Sustainability Lounge addresses topics such as certifications, social sustainability and regulatory developments, while the Innovation Area showcases both early-stage developments and market-ready technologies.”

Additional highlights include the Expert Talks Stage with presentations and panel discussions on current industry topics, as well as the Circularity Zone, featuring hands-on workshops around the Focus Topic and a live podcast event. The Ingredient Brand Round Table - presented by The Business of Cycling - offers further opportunities for knowledge sharing and industry dialogue.

Curated Special Areas Highlight Key Developments

Several curated areas guide visitors through the exhibition while highlighting specific material developments and application fields.

Among them are:

- The **Bodywear Area**, dedicated to next-to-skin materials and base-layer innovations
- The **Wool Area**, focusing on wool as a high-performance natural fiber
- The **Innovation Area** and the **Innovation Hub by Future Fabrics Expo**, presenting emerging technologies, start-ups and forward-looking material concepts
- The **Tech Hub**, showcasing digital solutions, AI-driven tools and technology partners supporting the textile value chain
- The **Creative Area**, developed in cooperation with The CubeArchive, offering inspiration through curated material stories, design perspectives and future trends

These curated formats provide structured insights into current industry developments and allow visitors to quickly discover new directions in textile innovation.

Press Release:

Ismaning, March 11th, 2026

PERFORMANCE DAYS © functional fabrics fair
produced by Design & Development GmbH Textile Consult
Mayerbacherstr. 32 | 85737 Ismaning | Germany
phone: +49 89 9394 6060
www.performancedays.com | astrid@performancedays.com

PERFORMANCEDAYS
FUNCTIONAL FABRIC FAIR

A Platform for Innovation and Industry Dialogue

With its focus on material innovation, functional textiles and industry exchange, PERFORMANCE DAYS continues to serve as a key meeting point for the global functional fabric community. “In the coming years, I hope our industry rediscovers its courage for innovation,” says Marco Weichert, CEO of PERFORMANCE DAYS. “That we overcome trade barriers and focus again on progress instead of paralysis. Because in the end, what still drives me after all these years is the same thing: passion for this industry.” In an environment shaped by rapid change and increasing complexity, the fair provides space for dialogue, collaboration and new ideas, from emerging material technologies to discussions about circular systems and the future of textile developments.

More information about PERFORMANCE DAYS here: www.performancedays.com

Save the Date:

PERFORMANCE DAYS // March, 18-19, 2026 // Messe München
www.performancedays.com

DAY 0 // March 17, 2025 // Messe München
www.performancedays.com/day-0-conference.html

Press Contact:

Astrid Schlüchter
Email: astrid@performancedays.com
Phone: +49 172 27 690 57