

Performance Days hosts 'Lycra Sport' updates

Published: 22 November 2016

Written by Tommy Lee



MUNICH – Invista has ramped up its efforts to demonstrate how its updated 'Lycra Sport' technology can benefit functional fabric manufacturers, and highlighted its attributes to visitors of last week's Performance Days trade show in Munich – in the style of an interactive workshop series.

First unveiled at this year's Outdoor Retailer Summer Market in Salt Lake City, Utah, the Lycra Sport technology is said to be scientifically engineered to deliver exceptional comfort, fit and support to stretch activewear.

The revamped platform combines the stretch technology of Lycra fibres with testing standards which measure fabric performance descriptors on a simplified 1-10 scale, based upon three indexes:

- The **Power Index** measures the compression delivered by the garment's fabric – the higher the power index, the greater the shaping or compression effect.

- The **Comfort Index** relates to the insight that consumers often complain about being uncomfortable in compression or shaping garments – the higher the comfort index, the more comfort the wearer experiences.
- The **Energy Index** rates the energy exerted by the body due to fabric construction – the lower the energy index, the lower the effort needed to move the fabric, making it ideal for competitive sports activities.

During the course of the workshops, which took place during Performance Days from 16 – 17 November, Invista revealed how this scale will help product brands, retailers and mills “improve their ability to make better garments” by choosing fabrics best suited to their needs.

"Lycra Sport technology makes it easier than ever for mills, brands and retailers to meet the consumer's need for sport-specific garments," Invista said. "Its proprietary indexes help designers easily describe performance levels that are tailored to fit the garment's end use and satisfy the wearer's need for comfort with outstanding performance."

The overall index approach to Lycra Sport is said to cover the broad spectrum of sportswear fabrics – from soft control for yoga, to high compression for running and cycling. The latest version also offers mills a simplified fabric certification process that gives access to branded hangtags and other promotional materials.