

ECOTEXTILE

NEWS

Performance Days to address ‘closing the loop’

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MUNICH – At this year’s Performance Days trade show in Munich, scheduled to go ahead from 9-10 December, a theme of ‘Nothing to Waste – Closing the Loop’ will address the industry’s gargantuan waste issue, with expert talks and exhibits set to outline the scale of the issue and provide inspiration for action.

Performance Days, which will celebrate its 25th show having been forced to cancel its April affair, has developed from a straight-forward functional fabrics fair to one which puts sustainability front and centre for discussion amongst exhibitors and visitors.

With its new theme finalised, the show’s organisers will welcome innovative ‘sustainable’ fibres to be showcased in a dedicated space at the Messe München as is customary. In the coming months, these will be decided upon by the Performance forum jury.

In a statement explaining how it landed on this theme, Performance Days cites figures from the European Environmental Agency which estimates that 5.8 million tonnes of used textiles are discarded each year, destined either for landfill or incineration.

As such, the focus of interest to Performance Days' forum jury will be recyclable textile fibres and other materials which can either enable a circular economy, or biodegrade as not to merely add to waste volumes at end-of-life.

“Rather than thinking about recycling opportunities at the end of the product life cycle, brands can already begin developing closed loop options while in the design phase. Among other things, designing out the waste can reduce the environmental impact of the products,” the organisers of Performance Days says.

No doubt it will be product design, production and consumer behaviour that will be of focus with various expert panel discussions at the event, as they ponder how the industry can align efforts to this end.

Further details on the event programme, as well as a full list of exhibitors, will be made available closer to the date.