Business Week
02 July - 08 July

AAFA welcomes extension of ATPA

02 July 2007

The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) has welcomed US Congress' decision to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA). The bill was passed by the House of Representatives with a vote of 365-95, and by unanimous consent in the Senate.

Kevin Burke, president and CEO of AAFA, stated, "We are pleased that key congressional leaders were able to forge a bipartisan and bicameral agreement to allow this eight-month extension to go forward without any further delay." Without this legislation, the ATPA legislation would have expired on Saturday, June 30, creating considerable disruption for US textile and apparel firms that do business with the Andean countries."

Mr Burke added, "Before time runs out on this new eight-month extension, we urge Congress to turn its attention to passage of the Peru and Colombia Free Trade Agreements—agreements that have been endorsed by the entire textile and apparel supply chain—to remove the economic uncertainty that currently plagues our trade relationships with these important partners."

Cognis spins off Process Chemicals segment

02 July 2007

With the aim of ensuring long-term competitiveness and enhancing product and service quality, German chemicals company Cognis has spun off its Process Chemicals strategic business unit, which will now trade as an independent company under the name of Pulcra Chemicals GmbH.

The new company will manufacture a range of chemicals for the fibre, textile, and leather industries and will operate sites and service centres in Germany, Turkey, Italy, Spain, Mexico, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, and the USA. It will offer additives for the manufacturing and processing of man-made fibres, and products and technical services for every stage of textile production from the manufacture of yarns and fabrics, through dyeing and printing, to the final treatment.

Clariant implements further price increases

02 July 2007

Due to high oil prices and energy costs, and a reduced supply of key raw materials due to the closing of several production plants in China aimed at lowering the environmental impact, Swiss specialty chemicals producer Clariant has implemented further price increases for various product segments in its Textile, Leather & Paper Chemicals, Pigments & Additives and Functional Chemicals divisions with immediate effect.

In the Textile, Leather & Paper Chemicals Division prices have been raised for dyes, optical brighteners, polymer dispersions, leather chemicals and ethoxylates. The increases will be 10%-30% for specific dyes, 10%-15% for optical brighteners, 5% for chinacridones and 15% for lacquered pigments.

The Pigments & Additives Division has increased prices for pigments, preparations, polymer additives, flame retardants and intermediates.

Alpargatas to open Timberland franchises

02 July 2007

Through a strategy aimed at expanding Timberland's business in Brazil, licensed producer of Timberland products São Paulo Alpargatas plans to set up a new franchising system under which franchisees will not have to pay advertisement fees, royalties or freight.

Although Alpargatas operates ten stand-alone Timberland stores in São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Belo Horizonte, the main distribution channel, which accounts for 80% of sales in Brazil, is currently 1,200 multi-brand stores.

Brands Holdings acquires Everlast

02 July 2007

US designer and manufacturer of boxing, fitness apparel, footwear, and sporting goods equipment Everlast Worldwide Inc. has signed a definitive agreement to be acquired by Brands Holdings Limited, a subsidiary of Sports Direct International plc, for $33 per share in cash, a 42.5% premium to its closing price on May 31, and a 24% premium to the average closing price over the last month. The total value of the transaction is over $182 million.

Pod rejects Merino Company bid

02 July 2007

According to local media reports, New Zealand textile company Pod has rejected a NZ$8 million ($6.2 million) bid to buy its Designer Textiles International unit made by Australia's The Merino Company.

Shareholders had been advised to reject the bid following the receipt of a new offer from another company.

Finish Line posts a loss

02 July 2007

US athletic and sports-inspired footwear and apparel retailer The Finish Line, Inc. has posted a net loss of $3.9 million for the first quarter ended June 2, compared with net income of $4.4 million in the same period last year.

Consolidated net sales also decreased, falling 0.2% to $288.3 million from $289 million in the prior-year period, whilst comparable store net sales declined 3.9%.

The company currently operates 696 Finish Line stores in 47 US states, 93 Man Alive stores in 19 states and 15 Paiva stores in 10 states.

Arc'Teryx R-320 harness wins ispo award

02 July 2007

Canadian developer of mountain equipment and apparel Arc'Teryx has been presented with the ispo performance award in the hardgoods category for its Arc'Teryx R-320 climbing harness.

The result of three years' research and development, the harness is part of a new range of harnesses that are said to be dramatically lighter weight, less bulky, and more comfortable, yet equally as strong as their predecessors.

The R-320 also features Arc'teryx's patented new Warp Strength Technology (WST) which, through the manipulation of structural materials, makes it possible to uniformly distribute weight through a thin and supple girdle thus eliminating the need for oversized padding to offset the discomfort caused by narrow load-bearing webbing.

Nilit names new European general manager

02 July 2007

Israel-based global manufacturer of nylon 6.6 Nilit has named Attilio Annoni as the company's new general manager for its Fiber Division's European activities.

Before joining Nilit, Mr Annoni was commercial director for Nylstar Group in Milan, Italy.

Commenting on the appointment Arie Gottlieb, general manager, said, "With this appointment, Nilit will move its European operations forward. Attilio will be responsible for all aspects of sales, operations, and administration related to fibres. Our plants in Germany and Spain will report directly to him."

Dow acquires Wolff Walsrode

02 July 2007

The Dow Chemical Company and the Bayer Group today announced the closing of Dow's acquisition of Wolff Walsrode for a purchase price of €540 million (approximately $725 million) including a cash component and the assumption of financial debt and pension commitments.

According to Dow, the acquisition will deliver considerable top line synergies for the company, driven by worldwide growth in demand for cellulosics.

Dow plans to combine Wolff with its Water Soluble Polymers business to create a new specialty business in the cellulosics industry.

SATRA names new head of research

03 July 2007

UK-based technology centre SATRA has appointed John Hubbard to lead its research team. He previously worked in SATRA's chemical analysis team and has led seminars in the UK and Far East on managing restricted substances in many types of consumer product.

While footwear remains the core focus of the research team, its activities also extend to other product sectors including furniture, luggage, automotive and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Commenting on his appointment Mr Hubbard said, "I'm looking forward to the challenge of this new role and seeking to build on the experience within the team to explore opportunities to deliver a service to the full cross-section of SATRA members."

Hartmax posts improved results

03 July 2007

US producer of casual and golf apparel Hartmarx Corporation has reported significantly improved financial results for the second quarter ended May 31.

Second quarter revenues increased to $155.9 million from $152.6 million in 2006, whilst net earnings improved to $5.4 million compared with $3.9 million year. However, for the first six months revenues slipped $276 million from $296.8 million, whilst net earnings fell to $2 million from $6.5 million.

Commenting on the improvement in the second quarter Homi Patel, chairman and CEO said, “We are pleased that we are starting to realise the benefits of our strategy of investing more in product lines and categories serving the better, bridge and luxury price points while reducing our exposure to the mainstream department store channel. While having a significant adverse impact on our 2006 operating results and through the first quarter of fiscal 2007, the actions initiated last year to discontinue and reduce several moderate priced tailored clothing lines and to close three production facilities were necessary to address the disruptive environment prevalent in this channel.”

Hartmarx produces apparel under its own brands including Hart Schaffner Marx, Hickey-Freeman, Coppley, Keithmoor, Society Brand, Racquet Club, Naturalife, Pusser's of the West Indies, Royal, Brannoch, Sansabelt, Barrie Pace, Eye, Pine IV, Wörn, One Girl Who, Zooey and b.chyll. In addition, the company holds licensing agreements to market products for brands such as Tommy Hilfiger, Burberry, Ted Baker, Bobby Jones, Jack Nicklaus, Claiborne, DKNY, Pierre Cardin, Perry Ellis, Lyle & Scott, Golden Bear, Jag and Starington.

Huntsman to acquire Baroda Division of Metrochem Industries

03 July 2007

The Textiles Effects business of Huntsman Corporation has signed an agreement to acquire long-term supplier of textile dyes and intermediates Baroda, part of India-based Metrochem Industries Ltd, for $46.5 million in cash. The transaction, which is subject to regulatory approvals, is expected to close in January 2008.

Invista presents knits with Teflon at Pitti Filati

03 July 2007

Highlighting the general shift towards products that combine fashion with function, Invista will unveil high-end knitted apparel with integrated High Performance Repel Teflon fabric protection from DuPont at Pitti Filati in Milan on July 4-6.

The High Performance Repel Teflon fabric protector, which can be applied to most knitted fabrics, is said to provide ‘delicate’ items such as cashmere pullovers with stain resistance against oil- and water-based products such as coffee and red wine without altering the appearance or the feel of the garment.

The technology, which forms a molecular barrier around each fibre, can be applied to the fibre itself or to the knitted fabric.

Amer Sports reorganises business structure

03 July 2007

In a move to improve the efficiency of its operations, Finland-based sports equipment company Amer Sports Corporation is reorganising its business structure, effective September 1.

The reorganisation will create a new winter and outdoor business unit under the leadership of Kari Kauniskangas, which will encompass the company’s Salomon, Atomic, Mavic, Arc'teryx and Bonfire brands. Suunto, Wilson and Precor will continue to operate as distinct units.

Bemis launches new custom printing capabilities

03 July 2007

US manufacturer of waterproofing seam tapes to the technical outerwear market Bemis has added custom printing capabilities to its line of heat sealing tapes, which it will showcase at upcoming outdoor shows in Europe and the USA, including Outdoor Retailer.

Developed in response to customer requests, the environmentally-friendly tapes—which use only non-solvent, UV cured and water-based inks—can be produced with customer specified patterns, logos and designs and applied to any Bemis seam tape.

Bemis manufactures heat activated film adhesives, coatings, waterproofing seam tapes and custom films for many industries including apparel, automotive, woodworking and composite.

Pigments and dyes market set to reach $30 billion by 2010

03 July 2007

According to a new report ‘Pigments and Dyes: A Global Strategic Business Report’ published by Global Industry Analysts, Inc., the global pigments and dyes market will

be worth approximately $30 billion by 2010.

The study highlights the fundamental shift towards value-added, metal-based inorganic pigments and away from solvent-based materials in the world pigments and dyes market as high performance pigments drive growth. It also notes that dyes are widely used in markets such as China, South Korea, India and Taiwan whilst organic pigments are more widely used in developed regions such as Western Europe, the USA and Japan. Asia Pacific is the largest market for these products, followed by Europe and the USA which collectively account for close to 80% of worldwide consumption.

The report also provides a review of market trends, drivers, challenges, product and end-use profile, players, competition, recent developments, and other strategic industry activities. Analysis is presented for major geographic markets such as USA, Japan, France, Germany, the UK, Italy, Spain, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East with product segment value and volume analytics provided for dyes (acid dyes, basic dyes, direct dyes, disperse dyes, fibre reactive dyes, vat dyes, fluorescent brighteners), inorganic pigments (titanium dioxide, iron oxides), and organic pigments.

US manufacturing sector continues to grow

03 July 2007

According to the Institute for Supply Management's (ISM) Report On Business, economic activity in the US manufacturing sector expanded in June for the fifth consecutive month, while the overall economy grew for the 68th consecutive month.

Manufacturing growth accelerated in June as the PMI registered 56%, an increase of 1 percentage point compared with 55% in May. The 12 top performing industries in June include textile mills, chemical products and plastics and rubber products.

Textile mills, furniture and related products and chemical products were among the industries displaying price increases as the ISM Prices Index registered 68% percent, above average May prices.

Fila to showcase Vintage and Gold collections at Bread and Butter

03 July 2007

Italian sports brand Fila is to present its Vintage and Gold collections at Bread and Butter Barcelona on July 4-6.

Inspired by the image of 'luxury sport' of the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Vintage Collection is said to be a celebration of the brand's heritage in retro sportswear. Fabrics and mixes have been reproduced using seams and piping to reflect the original width and placing. Woven badges carry the extract stitching patterns, thread colour, edging width and flexibility, while zip-pulls have the original enamel logo-pulls.

The Gold line is a contemporary luxury collection for spring/summer 2008 inspired by the culture of après sport. It features clean lines, fine tailoring and sharp silhouettes and luxury fabrics.

Polypropylene consumption set to exceed 51 million tonnes by 2010

04 July 2007

According to a new report 'Polypropylene: A Global Strategic Business Report', produced by Global Industry Analysts, Inc., worldwide consumption of polypropylene is expected to exceed 51 million metric tonnes by 2010.

The report is said to provide a comprehensive review of market trends, drivers, challenges, product overviews, players and competition with an emphasis on consumption trends, product positioning strategies, and consumer preferences. It also offers company profiles and enumerates recent developments, mergers, acquisitions and other strategic industry activities for established/emerging geographic markets such as the USA, Japan, France, Germany, U.K., Italy, Spain, Asia and South America.

Asia Pacific represents the largest market for polypropylene, and is set to consume an estimated 16.8 million metric tonnes in 2007, followed by Europe and the USA. Collectively these three regions are estimated to account for more than three-quarters of global consumption.

Wigwam launches Dri-release socks

04 July 2007

US-based casual and athletic sock producer Wigwam Mills recently introduced a number of new sock styles featuring Optimer's Dri-release with FreshGuard. The new socks are said to dry faster and keep feet cooler while also helping to prevent bad odours, blisters and abrasions.

Stellini launches 'Glow in the Dark' range for sportswear and workwear

04 July 2007

Italian fabric manufacturer Stellini Textile Group has expanded its 'Glow in the Dark' range to meet the specific requirements of the workwear and sportswear markets.

Previously developed for home furnishings, the new range which promotes visibility and safety for workers and sport enthusiasts was unveiled at the recent Techtextil show in Frankfurt.

Alberto launches new golf apparel collection

04 July 2007

Germany-based golf apparel company Alberto GmbH & Co. has unveiled its new spring/summer 2008 collection. Designed by golf professional Alex Cejka, the line comprises golf trousers and shirts made from high-tech, functional fabrics.

Trousers include sporty, casual cargo pants and stylish slacks in colours ranging from bright green, turquoise and pink to earthy and pastel shades as well as colourful striped and checked patterns.

The fabrics used in the collection are said to be skin-friendly and designed for comfort. The trousers also feature Ceramica fibres, which use tiny clay minerals mixed into the fibre to maintain a constant temperature, and Coolmax to provide moisture management and temperature regulation.

The company has also launched a new organic golf shirt line for the season made from natural cotton.

Feasibility study launched to protect Supima cotton

04 July 2007

US provider of DNA-based security solutions Applied DNA Sciences, Inc., has entered into an agreement with Supima, the promotional organisation of the American Pima cotton growers, to help it preserve the brand's reputation. This agreement provides for APDN to begin a $250,000 feasibility study to establish authentication methodologies to confirm the Supima cotton content of branded apparel and home fashion products. Upon successful completion of the study, which is expected to take approximately six months, APDN anticipates offering authentication services to Supima members for a fee.

Each year, of the 115 million bales of cotton produced around the world, less than 1% qualifies for the Supima name.

Arkema to acquire Coatex

04 July 2007

France-based chemicals producer Arkema has announced plans to acquire French polymer manufacturer Coatex from the Omya Group. The deal is subject to the legal information and consultation processes involving personnel representative bodies for the three groups, Arkema, Coatex and Omya, and the approval of the anti-trust authorities in the relevant countries.

Headquartered in Genay, near Lyon, Coatex specialises in the production rheology additives, which are used in many sectors including the textile, leather, paper, paint, water treatment, and cosmetics industries. It currently employs 300 people at its facilities in Europe, the Americas, and Asia, and reported sales of €150 millions in 2006.

Huntsman receives merger proposal from Hexion

04 July 2007

Having announced that it had signed a merger agreement with Basell AF last week, US chemicals and pigments manufacturer Huntsman Corporation has now reported that it has received a higher offer from Hexion Specialty Chemicals, Inc., an entity owned by an affiliate of Apollo Management, L.P.

The new proposal offers to acquire all of the outstanding common stock of Huntsman for $27.25 per share in cash, compared with the $25.25 agreed under the Basell deal.

Under the terms of the Basell agreement, the deal may be terminated under certain circumstances, including the receipt of a superior proposal, but Basell will be entitled to a $200 million payment. Hexion has agreed to directly fund $100 million of this payment, subject to reimbursement by Huntsman if the transaction with Hexion were not consummated.

New waterproof MP3 player from Finis

05 July 2007

US-based swim equipment and apparel provider Finis has launched its SwiMP3 Surf waterproof MP3 player, enabling sport enthusiasts to listen to music while taking part in water-based activities such as surfing.

It includes waterproof ear buds and a neoprene arm strap and can hold four hours of music, while the extended battery life allows ten hours of continuous use.

The company, which was founded in 1993 by John Mix and Olympic Gold medallist, Pablo Morales, develops technological and advanced training equipment for the swimming industry.

Patagonia teams up with Cotswold Outdoor

05 July 2007

US-based outdoor gear and apparel company Patagonia has teamed up with UK outdoor retailer Cotswold Outdoor to open up a shop-in-shop within Cotswold's Southampton store. The Pro Shop will offer customers a range of men's and women's clothing covering alpine climbing to travel and lifestyle apparel.

Groz-Beckert and Grob Horgen to join forces at ITMA

05 July 2007

Germany-based producer of tools for textile production Groz-Beckert is to exhibit at the International Exhibition of Textile Machinery (ITMA) in Munich on September 11-13, alongside its Switzerland-based subsidiary Grob Horgen AG. Groz-Beckert, which supplies needles and system technology for industrial applications and fine mechanical precision components for the production of textile constructions, has production facilities in Germany, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Canada, India and China.

Samsonite extends outdoor range

05 July 2007

Global manufacturer of luggage, casual bags and business cases Samsonite will showcase its new outdoor collections for 2008 at OutDoor in Friedrichshafen, Germany, on July 19-22.

Its Sloth range is a water and slash resistant collection using Superfabric which is designed for more extreme outdoor travellers, while the Tartaruga line offers flexible and ergonomic protection using the company's strong, lightweight Curv material.

Its Mobile Outdoor Active Bags includes hybrid packs offering a rugged hard shell bottom with a lightweight functional soft top, for casual and sporty users. The X+III Series is a collection of bags and packs for the off-track traveller, while the Median line is designed for use in outdoor and urban environments.

Sympatex wins ispo Performance Award

05 July 2007

Munich-based manufacturer of functional waterproof breathable products Sympatex Technology has won its second ispo award this year. The eleven-strong jury chose the company's Airflow laminate with added higH2Out as the winner of the footwear category.

The prototype shoe's laminate design is said to offer 120% better breathability than conventional laminates, as perspiration is soaked up by a hydrophilic inner layer—the higH2Out lining—and is swiftly transported through the membrane.

A special spacer fabric in the Airflow system provides heat dissipation as a result of improved ventilation so that each time the foot flexes, the spacer fabric is pressed together and warm air is pumped out both vertically and horizontally for an optimum inner-shoe climate. The laminate is also 100% wind- and waterproof.

New BASF AEOA plant goes on stream

05 July 2007

German chemicals company BASF has started up its new alkylethanolamines (AEOA) plant at its US Verbund site in Geismar, Louisiana, approximately one month ahead of schedule. The new plant complements existing amine production facilities at the site, which now produce 20 different specialty amines, and increases BASF's worldwide production capacity for AEOA by about 40%.

In addition to alkyl-, alkanol-, alkoxyalkyl-, di- and polyamines, the company also produces aromatic, heterocyclic amines, as well as chiral amines which are used in the manufacture of plastics and coating resins and form part of the process chemical formulations applied in water treatment as well as leather, textile and paper manufacturing.

Vulcabrás to acquire Indular

05 July 2007

Said to be Brazil's largest manufacturer of vulcanised footwear Vulcabrás—part of the Grendene Group—has announced plans to acquire Argentinean footwear producer Indular Manufacturas, including sports footwear brand Signia, based in Coronel Suarez, in the province of Buenos Aires. Although the purchase price has not been disclosed, Vulcabras has revealed that it plans to invest approximately $25 million modernising the company's production facilities and expanding capacity.

According to Milton Cardoso, director-superintendent of Vulcabrás, the company hopes to be producing 2.5 million pairs a year at the factory, including Reebok trainers, by the end of 2008, which will be distributed in both Argentina and Brazil. The company also aims to increase the workforce from 600 to approximately 2,000.

Indular once belonged to Argentina's largest footwear manufacturing group Gatic, which closed down during the 2001 financial crisis, and was bought by local

entrepreneur Guillermo Gotelli two years ago.

Phoenix Footwear completes Royal Robbins sale

05 July 2007

US designer of men's and women's dress and casual footwear, sportswear and travel apparel Phoenix Footwear Group, Inc. has completed the sale of its Royal Robbins division and related business assets to US apparel and soft goods company Kellwood, for approximately $40 million in cash.

Phoenix expects to report a net pre-tax gain of approximately $23 million on the sale including transaction costs, having acquired the business in October 2003 for a total of $11.7 million.

Cache acquires Adrienne Victoria Designs

06 July 2007

US-based sportswear and dress retailer Cache Inc. has completed its acquisition of New York-based design, sourcing and manufacturing company Adrienne Victoria Designs, Inc., Cache's largest supplier. The transaction is valued at $16 million.

Founders of Adrienne Victoria Designs, Adrienne and Robert Kantor, will join Cache with Ms Kantor as executive vice president – design and merchandising and Mr Kantor as executive vice president – manufacturing and product development.

Cache operates 294 stores in 44 US states, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

New autumn/winter collection from O'Neill Europe

06 July 2007

Surf, snow and lifestyle brand O'Neill Europe has launched its new autumn/winter 2007/08 collection, which aims to inspire people to be more active.

The collection features apparel, bags, accessories and functional footwear under three themes—manipulation, sophisticated cool and off line.

New technical materials in the outerwear collection include Gore-Tex 3 & 2-layer, Gore Windstopper and Dermizax. Selected materials, such as Dermizax, are also used in other parts of the collection, including the gloves range. Its snowboard specific clothing line, Boardcore, has also been expanded and now caters for a variety of mountain activities, from freestyle to freeride. The company's fourth generation wearable electronics line, H4, has also been extended and now features seven products including an H4 Walkie-Talkie jacket.

25 years of soft shell celebrated at Mammut

06 July 2007

Swiss sports apparel maker Mammut is celebrating 25 years since the launch of its soft shell technology. Its first two-way stretchable, fast-drying climbing and mountaineering trousers were introduced 25 years ago and collaborations with partners such as Schoeller have enabled it to develop new products for a wider range of applications.

The company's Extreme Qogir soft shell jacket, which won an ispo performance award, is made from the company's SOFtech stretch fabric to provide abrasion and scuff resistance. Exposed areas such as the elbows, shoulders and lower back are further protected by a layer of diamond-hard ceramic dots. This coating—a process developed by Swiss knitwear specialist Eschler—provides extra abrasion resistance. It is also an eco-friendly process as no solvents are used in the manufacture of the jacket.

The company's other soft shells include the Clime Air Jacket and Clime Air Women's Jacket for alpine use, featuring windproof, extra-light Gore Windstopper fabric, and the Kaolin Jacket and Kaolin Women's Jacket, a youth-oriented climbing jacket.

NBA to launch eyewear and sunwear

06 July 2007

US supplier of eyewear and sunwear for men, women and children Optimate, Inc. has entered into a partnership with the US National Basketball Association (NBA) to produce a sport-themed collection of NBA optical frames and sunglasses featuring designs incorporating the NBA logo. The collection will be available from the start of the 2007-08 NBA season.

Over 300 licensees already manufacture, sell and market NBA products, which are sold in 100 countries. Major categories include apparel, footwear, sporting goods and trading cards.

Asia and Latin America to boost protective clothing market

06 July 2007

According to a new study released by US research company Global Industry Analysts, Inc., growing concerns over the safety of workers, protection from

injury and infection, toxic chemical agents, fire and chemicals have driven growth within the protective equipment industry.

The report, ‘Industrial Protective Clothing: A Global Strategic Business Report’, reviews issues such as market trends and drivers, competition, regulatory environment and mergers and acquisitions. It analyses both established and emerging geographic markets including the US, Japan, Germany, the UK, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

According to the study, Europe is the largest market for protective clothing worldwide, with 2007 revenues estimated at $1.6 billion, followed by USA and Japan. Collectively these three regions represent over 70% of the global industrial protective clothing market. Germany is currently the single largest market followed by the UK and France, whilst Asia and Latin America are seen to offer strong growth potential.

The report states that revenue estimates for the chemical protective clothing market are approximately $3.3 billion for 2007, while the thermal clothing market is expected to total $2.3 billion by 2010.

DyStar raises prices

06 July 2007

Germany-based supplier of products and services for the textile and leather industries DyStar is raising the price of dyes and a number of textile and leather auxiliaries by 10%-30% with immediate effect.

According to the company, the increases are necessary as a result of the sharp rise in the cost of energy and raw materials in recent months.

Schoeller wins KMUPrimus award

06 July 2007

Having won an Innovation Prize at the Avantex show in Germany in June for its c_change membrane technology, Swiss functional fabrics developer Schoeller Textil AG was recently presented with its sixth KMUPrimus award. The award was presented to the company by the St. Gallen Kantonalbank at a ceremony in Switzerland.