Business Week
27th March - 02nd April 06

FAIR: EU shoe companies will face €150 million duty bill

27 March 2006

FAIR, the Footwear Association of Importers and Retail chains has released a statement claiming that the EU's decision to impose provisional duties will cost European shoe companies €150 million.

According to the statement, By pushing through the introduction of anti-dumping measures regardless of the fact that 22 Member States are against the current proposal, or at least consider that an improvement is required, he [Mr Mandelson] ignores the actual advice of the Member States and harms the interests of the EU.

Indeed, because of these measures, EU footwear companies active in design, import, logistics, and retail sales of shoes will have to pay approximately €150 million in anti-dumping duties during the next six months. This is because for this period, purchases have already been made and the re-sales prices of these purchases are already confirmed. At the same time, the EU producers that are expected to gain from anti-dumping measures will not obtain a comparable benefit. Over the same period, their benefit will be €4 million."

FAIR represents the interests of more than 100 footwear importers and retailers.

Q4 sales rise 10%at The Finish Line

27 March 2006

US athletic specialty retailer The Finish Line has reported net sales of $399.2 million for the fourth quarter ended February 25, 2006, a 10% increase over the comparable period a year earlier. Net income for the quarter was $28.1 million versus $28.2 million last year.

For the full year, net sales increased 12% to $1.306 billion compared with $1.167 billion for the 52 weeks ended February 26, 2005. Net income for fiscal 2006 was $60.5 million versus $61.3 million for fiscal 2005.

FGL announces record Q4 results

27 March 2006

Canadian sporting goods retailer The Forzani Group Ltd. has released record fourth quarter and year-end results for the 13 and 52-week periods ended January 29, 2006.

For the fourth quarter, retail sales increased $71.4 million to $438 million from $366.6 million in the comparable quarter a year earlier. Total revenues, consisting of

corporate store sales, wholesale sales, service income, equipment rentals, franchise fees and franchise royalties, reached $342.2 million, an increase of 24.8% from the prior year.

For the full year, retail sales were $1,310.5 million, a $202.2 million increase from sales for the 52 weeks ended January 30, 2005. Revenue was $1,129.4 million, a $144.3 million, or 14.6% increase over the 52-week period last year.

RadiciGroup to exhibit at Techtextil North America

27 March 2006

Italy's RadiciGroup will exhibit a complete range of products at TechTextil North America, designed to meet the needs of its key markets such as sportswear, protective and industrial fabrics.

The products being presented include Raditeck Dyna high-tenacity air-jet textured nylon 66 yarn for sportswear and technical applications; Starlight Colours bacteriostatic polyester fibre—hypoallergenic as well as antibacterial—for skin protection and hygiene; Radilon antimicrobial hypoallergenic nylon 6 and 66 yarn with Sanitized Silver to enhance skin freshness and well-being; PES-PP two-component yarn for very lightweight fabric with exceptional colour performance; high-tenacity fabrics made with Raditeck yarn, antistatic and antimicrobial fabrics (carbon blend and silver blend) for the medical sector, high-visibility fabrics, protective fabrics for high-level sports, warp knits for industrial use (PVC coating and lamination) and mesh linings; and Radigreen synthetic grass yarn for sports surfaces (football, rugby and hockey pitches, tennis courts, golf courses), swimming pool edging.

The RadiciGroup is a multinational active in the chemicals, plastics, synthetic fibres and textiles sectors and operates in 15 countries with 48 production and sales units and employs 4,900 staff world-wide.

Patagonia names new CEO and president

27 March 2006

The Lost Arrow Corporation, parent of outdoor apparel company Patagonia, Inc., has appointed Casey Sheahan as CEO and president, effective March 20, 2006. He previously served as new business director at Patagonia.

Mr Sheahan joined Patagonia in January 2005 from his post as president of Kelty, Inc. He is aligned with several environmental organisations and served for many years as president of the Conservation Alliance, a non-profit organisation of outdoor businesses whose membership dues support grassroots citizen-action groups. In addition to his management background, he brings skills in the fields of sales, marketing and publishing.

Patagonia is known internationally for its commitment to environmental activism. Its Environmental Grants Programme has contributed over $22 million to grassroots environmental activists since the programme began in 1985. Incorporating environmental responsibility into product development, the company has, since 1996, used only organically grown cotton in its clothing line, and is noted for using recycled soda bottles in many of its polyester fleece garments.

In 2005, the company launched its Common Threads Recycling Programme, recycling worn-out Patagonia garments into new products.

Gerber Technology to showcase new solutions at IMB 2006

27 March 2006

US-based developer and manufacturer of integrated software and hardware automation systems for manufacturers and retailers in the sewn products and flexible materials industries, Gerber Technology will showcase its new products at the IMB 2006-World of Textile Processing show to be held May 10-13 in Cologne, Germany.

Gerber will highlight its newest additions to the GERBERsuite product line for the flexible materials industry including Fashion Lifecycle Management (FLM), a new Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solution from Gerber designed to meet the specific needs of the fashion market. FLM combines an enterprise-wide, collaborative workflow engine with Gerber's WebPDM, a feature-rich PDM solution. The workflow engine is fully integrated with WebPDM to enable global, real-time visibility and control over the entire product development and lifecycle management process.

The new version of the company's AccuMark software includes Pattern Wizard, a new function that enables anyone to quickly and effortlessly calculate bid costs by using existing style measurements in Microsoft Excel or Gerber AccuMark PDS measurement chart format and applying them to base patterns included with the software.

AccuNest PE is Gerber's new software for automatically generating markers. It is said t provide increased efficiency and speed to save manufacturers time and material costs.

The Infinity series of wide-format high-performance inkjet plotter offers reliability, versatility, and ease of operation. Gerber's two new models, the Infinity 45 and Infinity 85, are said to be ideal for continuous plot throughput in an ultra-wide format, offering faster plotting than the previous models and providing the ability to remotely monitor ink and paper levels. The Infinity 85 features a new 350 ml bulk ink supply which will save an estimated 20% on ink costs and decrease down time due to ink out.

The new high-quality, high-performance automated GERBERspreader XLs50 is specially designed for the apparel industry. It is capable of spreading woven or knit materials from either rolls or flat-folded packs. It is said to provide accurate and consistent spread length and alignment of fabric edges which enables parts to be nested closer to the beginning, end, and edges of the spread, eliminating end loss and optimising material utilisation.

Man-made fibres congress to be held in Austria

28 March 2006

More than 700 participants from over 30 countries will take part in the 45th Dornbirn man-made fibres congress (Dornbirn MFC) in Dornbirn, Austria, on September 20–22.

More than 80 lectures will cover the four main focus subjects of the congress which are: developments in yarns and fibres, technical textiles and textile composites, nonwovens, and well-being and health with textiles.

Big names return for ITMA 2007

28 March 2006

Almost 18 months before it opens, international textile machinery show ITMA has attracted some of the biggest names in the industry as exhibitors, despite their absence from the event in 2003.

Two of the world's largest and most well-known companies from the textile machinery sector, Saurer and Rieter, as well as the leading manufacturers of flat knitting machines Stoll and Shima Seiki will exhibit to visitors and competitors at ITMA 2007 after they were not in Birmingham in 2003.

The latest products of the international textile machinery industry will be presented at ITMA in Munich, Germany, on September 13 – 20, 2007.

Fleissner and Neumag enter cooperation agreement for nonwovens

28 March 2006

Fleissner GmbH and Neumag, a Saurer business unit, have signed a cooperation agreement for select technologies in the field of nonwovens. As a result of this cooperation, Neumag and Fleissner are said to be the first on the market to offer complete solutions for all major nonwoven production processes.

In the future, Neumag will be able to utilise Fleissner AquaJet technology in its processing lines for spunlaced nonwovens.

Fleissner and Neumag will also cooperate in the field of technological development.

Shanghai Petrochemical posts lower profits

28 March 2006

Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Company Limited has reported increased turnover for the year ended December 31, 2005. However, profit for the year dropped by 51%.

Turnover of the group for 2005 amounted to RMB45.9559 billion (approximately $5.6945 billion), an increase of 16.63% compared with 2004. Profit before tax was RMB2.2876 billion ($0.2835 billion), representing a decrease of 51.29%.

Located in Jinshan District in the southwest of Shanghai, Shanghai Petrochemical processes crude oil into a broad range of synthetic fibres, resins and plastics, intermediate petrochemicals and petroleum products.

Performance Fibers to acquire Invista's polyester yarn business in Europe

28 March 2006

An affiliate of Performance Fibers Holdings, Inc. has signed a letter of intent to acquire Invista Resins & Fibers GmbH's German polyester yarn business. The acquisition would include both commercial and manufacturing operations in Germany. It is expected that the definitive purchase agreement will be signed in the coming weeks. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Performance Fibers produces high-tenacity polyester fibres and fabrics. With manufacturing facilities in North America, Asia and Europe, its products are used in a wide range of consumer and industrial applications.

Gerber Technology celebrates 25 years in Mexico

29 March 2006

US manufacturer of integrated software and hardware automation systems for manufacturers and retailers in the sewn products and flexible materials industries, Gerber Technology, will celebrate its 25th anniversary of business success in Mexico in 2006. Gerber first entered the Mexican apparel industry in 1981, when the company sold its first two CAD/CAM systems in the country, an AM-1 automated grading and marking system and an S-91 GERBERcutter.

As a result of its growth and success in the region, in May 1988 the company established a direct subsidiary; Gerber Technology S.A. de C.V., which now manages all sales and services to the region.

To date, the business generated in the region exceeds $85 million serving over 750 customers operating over 2,000 systems and workstations.

RASIE becomes member of FESI

29 March 2006

The Russian Association of Sport Industry Enterprises (RASIE) has joined the Federation of the European Sporting Goods Industry (FESI).

RASIE, which was established in spring 2004, represents more than 50 companies including suppliers of sporting goods, retailers and enterprises of sports infrastructure and works to assist and support manufacturing entities, vendors and retailers in the sporting goods industry.

The President of FESI and vice president of Puma, Horst Widmann said, I am very pleased to welcome the Russian Association of Sport Industry Enterprises to our Federation. This affiliation creates an important link between Russian sports companies and the European sporting goods industry, strengthening our relations not only inside the European Union but also on an external platform."

FESI represents the interests of approximately 1,800 sporting goods manufacturers through ten National Sporting Goods Industry Federations and its directly affiliated member companies.

Union welcomes support for textile workers in Canada

29 March 2006

The union representing workers in Canada's struggling clothing industry, Unite Here, have applauded the country's Conservative government in their attempts to assist the sector.

"Subsidised clothing imports from China are crippling our garment and textile industries," said Unite Here Canada director Alex Dagg. "The Conservatives criticised the Liberals for doing nothing about it, and now it looks like we might finally have a government that is willing to step up on this issue." She added that her union was

encouraged after a recent meeting with Conservative Industry Minister Maxime Bernier.

A new report published by Unite Here claimed that Canada's clothing industry, the 10th-largest manufacturing sector in the country, has shrunk by over 25% since January, 2004. The problem intensified a year and a half ago when

World Trade Organisation (WTO) global quotas for apparel were lifted. Many countries, including the US and European Union, responded by implementing safeguards to protect their own industries, however, no such action has been taken in Canada.

According to the union, clothing imports to Canada from China have doubled across the board since the quotas were lifted, and quadrupled in some categories.

International Smart Sourcing to acquire Charter Fabrics

29 March 2006

International Smart Sourcing, Inc. has entered into a non-binding letter of intent to acquire Charter Fabrics, Inc., a privately held textile and cosmetic sourcing company located in New York, USA.

The letter of intent states that the company will exchange 11,000,000 shares of restricted unregistered common stock of the company for all of the shares of common stock of Charter Fabrics. Charter Fabric's current annual revenue totals in excess of $13 million.

Charter Fabrics sources both textiles and cosmetics, with a specialty in Asia. The Charter Fashion division of Charter Fabrics provides fabric and complete women's garment packages to major US manufacturers.

International Smart Sourcing specialises in assisting companies in reducing manufacturing costs by outsourcing all or part of their manufacturing to China.

New textile JVs to be established in Uzbekistan

29 March 2006

According to the Uzbekistan's Light Industry Association Uzbeklegprom, seven textile joint ventures (JV) will be established in the country by April 2006.

Funded by foreign investment worth $108.3 million, the projects will increase the country's cotton yarn production by 33,300 tons or 37 million metres.

AAFA president warns protectionist policies for apparel are a mistake

29 March 2006

American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) President & CEO Kevin M. Burke has warned that imposition of quotas, duties and other mechanisms designed to protect country markets, including the United States from import competition, is a costly - and counterproductive - mistake.

Addressing the Prime Source International Apparel Forum, Mr Burke expressed hope that the Doha Round of global trade negotiations will lower tariffs and other trade barriers in the US and world-wide.

We believe a successful Doha Round could reduce tariffs in the United States as well as open fast-growing foreign markets like China, India, and Brazil to US brands by lowering their tariffs and eliminating their non-tariff barriers," he said. Such action, he added, would move world apparel trade forward—to the benefit of US apparel firms and supplier countries worldwide as well as consumers…"

Mr Burke pointed out that when quotas on apparel were imposed in the United States in 1974, US apparel and textile manufacturers employed more than 2.2 million workers. Today, there are 627,000. While there is still some apparel manufacturing in the United States, today's US apparel industry is largely focused on marketing brands of products designed, sourced, distributed, and sold by US workers, but manufactured elsewhere. Now that quotas have been eliminated, US firms now have more opportunities to source the best product at the best price in the best amount of time under the best working and environmental conditions," he said. The bottom line is that the elimination of quotas has enabled US apparel firms to provide US consumers with a wider variety of high-quality, reasonably-priced clothes made under more socially responsible conditions - while still making a profit."

Enthusiastic mood at Interstoff Asia

30 March 2006

According to the organisers, the first spring run of Interstoff Asia, held in Hong Kong on March 22-24 was characterised by a high international presence and an enthusiastic business mood.

Buyers from overseas accounted for 29% of the total visitors, with most foreign attendees coming from Australia, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Macau, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, the UK and the USA.

Among the visitors were representatives from retailers, fashion chains and design houses. High-end fashion and casual wear labels sourcing on-site included Abercrombie & Fitch, Ann Taylor, Burberry, Burlington, Calvin Klein, Coach, Donna Karan, Eddie Bauer, French

Connection, Gucci, Hugo Boss, Laura Ashley, Liz Claiborne, Polo Ralph Lauren, Timberland, Tommy Hillfiger and Zegna.

Other well known brands were also present such as Bossini, Carrefour, Coles Myer, Dockers, Disney, Esprit, G2000 Gap, Giordano, H&M, IT, Izzue, J C Penney, Joyce, Karstadt Quelle, Levi Strauss, Macy's, Marks & Spencer, Mastina, Mexx, Sara Lee, Sears, Target, Tesco, and Wal-mart.

Sportswear and intimate apparel brands including Fila Sport, Jockey, Lotto Sport, Nike, Quicksilver, Triumph, Victoria's Secret and Wacoal also attended .

A total of 276 exhibitors from 11 countries and regions participated at the show, including 18 Taiwanese companies exhibiting under the "Amazing Taiwan" pavilion, a group of 30 Korean companies showcasing their products under the heading "Dynamic Korea" and companies from Pakistan.

National "Leapfrog" Conference to be held at the IMB 2006 Fair

30 March 2006

As part of the IMB 2006 Fair in Cologne, Germany, the partners in the joint European "Leapfrog" Project are organising a national conference on May 10 entitled "Advanced Garment Development and Production".

The conference will be divided into four sessions, where speakers from research organisations, industry and trade associations, headed up by the European Textile and Apparel Association Euratex, will present the main aims of the project and its four key focuses.

The sessions on innovative development of new products will deal with the technologies which could help the European clothing industry to hold its own against competitors from other parts of the world. These include, for example, 3D design and flattening, and the computer-assisted simulation and animation of clothing products.

Finally, an overview of the latest procedures and equipment for laser welding, a presentation on the framework conditions for networking between companies involved in the production process, and a talk on the transponder-based identification and tracking of clothing products right through the production process will demonstrate the potential benefits of innovative partnerships and approaches to production.

The "Leapfrog" Project is an initiative of the European textile and clothing industry, designed to give a boost to innovation in terms of productivity and competitiveness and to reduce the importance of wage costs as a factor.

Emtex elects new chairman of the board

30 March 2006

US-based supplier of engineered fabrics including laminated and unlaminated Corduras, linings, meshes, and other materials for footwear and outdoor activewear Emtex, Inc. has named Robert Livingston as chairman of the board

The board of directors at the company, based in Danvers, Massachusetts, USA, has also announced that Joseph Tutrone has been promoted to president of the company from his former position as vice president. Joel Livingston, formerly director of Operations, has been appointed executive vice president.

Sultex reports strong sales in Mexico

30 March 2006

Swiss weaving machine manufacturer Sultex has reported impressive sales in Mexico. By the end of the first quarter of 2006, the company had already sold more than 70 weaving machines – Sulzer Textil P7300HP projectile and G6500 rapier weaving machines – to customers in Mexico, which will go into service during the next few months.

Execute Sports files patent for shoe technology

30 March 2006

US developer of action and water sport apparel Execute Sports, Inc. has filed a broad patent for its Kampus Drain System (KDS) technology, covering design and application for Kampus' footwear products, specifically targeted towards the action water sports market.

Execute Sports' KDS technology provides a drain system that penetrates through the insole liner, and releases water onto the lightweight EVA mid-sole, which has channelled drain passages to allow water to exit freely.

The technology and Kampus footwear line was the winner of the Water Sports Product of the Year last summer at ispo.

Based in San Clemente, California, Execute Sports, Inc. develops performance products including wetsuits, vests, rash guards, snowboards, wake skates, bindings, bags and apparel for the action sports industry. The company's brands include Execute Wetsuits, Academy Snowboards, Kampus Wakeskates and Kampus Shoes, Execute Moto Graphics, Collective Development Bindings and Collective Development Bags.

Columbia Sportswear acquires Pacific Trail brands

30 March 2006

US-based active outdoor apparel and footwear company Columbia Sportswear Company has announced that it will acquire the Pacific Trail group of brands. The acquisition is the result of the March 29, 2006 auction in bankruptcy court of specified assets of Pacific Trail, Inc. and

London Fog Group, Inc., where Columbia was the winning bidder offering $20.4 million cash plus the assumption of certain liabilities.

Established in 1945 in Seattle, Washington, Pacific Trail manufactures and sells products to retailers across the USA. The Pacific Trail business includes the Pacific Trail outerwear and sportswear brand, the Towne outerwear and rainwear brand, the Pac Tec high-performance outerwear brand, the Black Dot Clothing surfboard apparel brand, and the Moonstone mountain equipment brand.

Half of Dutch footwear imports come from China

31 March 2006

According to the Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics, nearly half of all shoes imported into the Netherlands come from China. The Netherlands imported 157 million pairs of shoes in 2005; 75 million of which were made in China. This equates to a 42% share of the total number of footwear imports and is more than double the 32 million pairs imported from China five years earlier.

Asia as a whole accounted for nearly two-thirds of all shoe imports, whilst the share of EU–made shoes in Dutch imports fell from 42% to 32% in the same period.

On a positive note, Dutch footwear exports increased by 11% to reach 96 million pairs in 2005. Nearly all of the exports went to EU countries, mainly Germany, Belgium and the United Kingdom.

AAFA: Industry effort helped to minimise EU anti-dumping duties

31 March 2006

According to a statement by president of the American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA), Kevin Burke, whilst provisional anti-dumping duties on some imported footwear products have been approved by the European Commission (EC), the action would have been much worse but for a concerted lobbying and educational effort made by industry groups.

AAFA is disappointed with the EC's decision to impose provisional dumping duties of 16.8% for European imports of leather shoes from Vietnam and 19.4% for European imports of leather shoes from China that are sold in European Union (EU) countries," said Mr Burke. But the extent of these duties could have been much more severe and comprehensive. I believe our message did get through. Unfortunately, however, the EC's action will still result in significantly higher costs for footwear companies and significantly higher prices for consumers, without saving a single job."

He expressed appreciation to AAFA member companies that worked against the anti-dumping duties and thanked the Foreign Trade Association (FTA), the Footwear Association of Importers and Retail Chains (FAIR), the Federation of European Sporting Goods Industries (FESI) and the European Branded Footwear Coalition (EBFC) as well as the European retailer and consumer advocacy communities and the EU member countries that opposed the duties.

Mr Burke urged the EU to reconsider its voting method, noting that the decision to impose the duties actually received only three positive votes out of 25 EU member countries, with 11 abstentions – but those abstentions counted as yes" votes under EU law.

Brazilian leather and footwear associations support demonstration

31 March 2006

Brazilian leather and shoe trade associations have announced that they will support a "Pro Shoe and Leather Industry Demonstration" when approximately 2,000 unemployed workers will travel to Brasilia to protest about the closures of hundreds of shoe factories that have occurred since December 2005. The demonstrators claim that these closures are a direct result of the government's economic policies.

The associations that have voiced their support of the demonstration include the Industry and Trade Associations of Novo Hamburgo, Campo Bom and Estância Velha (ACI); the Brazilian Association of Manufacturers of Machinery and Equipment for the Leather, Footwear and Allied Trades (Abrameq); the Brazilian Association of Manufacturers of Footwear and Related Goods (Abicalçados); the Brazilian Association of Manufacturers of Leather and Shoe Components (Assintecal); and the Association of Tanners of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (AicSul).

The demonstration is set to take place on May 10, when workers from all over the Vale do Sinos region will travel to Brasilia. The protesters plan to hand out leaflets and display industrial machinery that is no longer in use.

Dow Corning launches new impact protection technology

31 March 2006

Developer of silicone solutions for the textile industry, Dow Corning Corporation, introduced its new, patented impact protection technology – the Dow Corning Active Protection System – at the Techtextil-Symposium North America held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, in March.

The patented system consists of a three-dimensional intelligent" spacer textile treated with a special coating, which remains soft and flexible under normal conditions but hardens instantly upon impact. When the impact force is removed, the material immediately returns to a

flexible state.

Senior technical service chemist Graham Budden, who presented the new technology, reviewed the development and testing of the Active Protection System as well as its potential for wide-ranging applications within the textile industry. In addition, he examined the combination of benefits the technology offers for high performance apparel such as the fact that it offers fully-integrated active safety that can be stitched directly into garments (unlike rigid systems that often require the use of removable components); it allows for material customisation and versatility to allow creative design possibilities; it is breathable, flexible and lightweight for comfort and freedom of movement; and it is washable for easy care and maintenance.

In independent testing under various conditions, Active Protection System exceeded European Standards EN 1621-1:1997 (two layers) and EN 1621-2:2003 (three layers) impact protection requirements for motorcycle clothing by about 40%.

Dow Corning will initially market the new technology to the manufacturers of protective motorcycle apparel, but the company anticipates potential expansion of the technology into other high performance apparel markets as well as into other industries, such as life sciences, civil and military defence, and construction.

Eco friendly fibres produce results for Naturally Advanced Technologies

31 March 2006

It appears that the consumer trend for environmentally friendly apparel is becoming ever-more popular as producer of sustainable, environmentally-friendly fibres and fabrics Naturally Advanced Technologies Inc., (formerly Hemptown Clothing) has reported a 19% increase in sales for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2005.

Sales for the fourth quarter reached $151,982, up 19% compared with the $127,637 reported in the comparable period a year ago. Net loss for the quarter ended December 31, 2005 was $406,387 compared with a net loss of $417,940 for the quarter ended December 31, 2004.

Sales for the full year were $958,238, up 15% compared with the $831,545 reported for 2004. Net loss for the full year 2005 was $876,758, compared with $897,054 for the full year 2004.

"Overall sales increased in 2005; however, our aspirations for our company and the proliferation of sustainable fibres are much greater. Therefore, we have taken steps to increase growth through sales of our clothing line HT Naturals and development and commercialisation of proprietary technology owned by our Crailar Fiber Technologies subsidiary," stated Jerry Kroll, CEO.

The company is currently in the process of developing and patenting Crailar—a biotech enzyme fibre process—in collaboration with Canada's National Research Council and Alberta Research Council.

G-III Apparel's sales rise by over 50%

31 March 2006

US manufacturer of outerwear and sportswear G-III Apparel Group, Ltd. has reported a 51.2% rise in net sales for the full year ended January 31.

During the twelve-month period sales increased to $324.1 million from $214.3 million in the prior year. The company also reported net income of $7.1 million compared with $703,000 year-on-year.

For the three-month period ended January 31, net sales increased by 80% to $69.1 million from $38.4 million during the same period last year. However, the company reported a net loss of $2.8 million for the three-month period, compared with $2.7 million, during the same period last year.

G-III Apparel manufactures and distributes outerwear and sportswear under licensed labels, its own labels and private labels. The company has licenses, with brands such as Calvin Klein, Guess?, Tommy Hilfiger and Donald Trump, and sports licences with the National Football League, National Basketball Association, Major League Baseball, National Hockey League, Louisville Slugger, World Poker Tour and more than 60 universities across the USA.