



ACIMIT champions innovation and sustainability at ITMA ASIA Singapore

The Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers (ACIMIT) represents over 300 companies offering advanced solutions across the entire textile value chain—from spinning and weaving to finishing and technical textiles.

Renowned for innovation, quality, and sustainability, Italian manufacturers export over 85% of their production worldwide. Through initiatives like the Sustainable Technologies project and CLIMA certification, ACIMIT is driving the global shift toward efficient, low-impact, and technologically advanced textile manufacturing.

With Asia accounting for nearly half of Italian textile machinery exports, the region remains a cornerstone for future growth.

In this exclusive interview with Bangladesh Textile Today, Marco Salvade', President of ACIMIT, discusses Italy's evolving engagement with Asian textile hubs—including Bangladesh—and how innovation and sustainability are shaping the next phase of textile manufacturing excellence.

Textile Today: What is the significance of ITMA Asia Singapore for Italian textile machinery manufacturers, and how do you see this edition compared to the traditional Shanghai editions?

Marco Salvade': ITMA ASIA+CITME Singapore is a further occasion for Italian textile machinery manufacturers to display its updated technological supply. The choice of Singapore allows over 100 Italian exhibitors to engage with many Southeast Asian markets, which are becoming increasingly important manufacturing hubs. While Shanghai is traditionally the reference point for the wide Chinese market, Singapore provides a different perspective: it is a regional hub, connecting many fast-growing Countries, serving as a bridge for innovation across Asia.

Textile Today: How are ACIMIT members currently performing in global markets, and what opportunities do you see in key Asian hubs such as China, Bangladesh, India, and Vietnam?

Marco Salvade': Despite global economic uncertainties, ACIMIT members continue to perform well internationally, with exports representing over 85% of production. Total exports declined slightly in the first half of 2025. Asia remains a fundamental market, accounting for 44% of Italian textile machinery sales abroad (about 317 million euro). China and India keep being the leading markets, though current trend is different. Exports to China slowed in the first six months of 2025, while Italian sales to Indian market increased by 51% compared to the same 2024 period.

Pakistan and Bangladesh follow these two markets. The latter is experiencing a strong growth in the garment sector and requires a continuous updating of its textile production process to strengthen productivity and sustainability of local companies. Vietnam is another promising market, particularly for its integration into global supply chains.

Textile Today: Italian textile machinery is renowned for its innovation. What key technologies and solutions will ACIMIT members be showcasing at ITMA ASIA Singapore?

Marco Salvade': Italian exhibitors at ITMA ASIA+CITME Singapore will show a wide range of advanced solutions, covering the entire textile value chain. Visitors will see digitalization tools that can improve process efficiency and connectivity, automation systems for smarter production and innovations able to reduce environmental impact. In addition, there will be a strong focus on sustainable technologies, with machinery designed to optimize energy and water use, while ensuring high-quality results. Italian manufacturers are committed to combining tradition in textile knowledge with cutting-edge innovation.

Textile Today: Sustainability is at the core of today's textile industry transformation. How are Italian machinery makers addressing energy efficiency, resource savings, and circularity?

Marco Salvade': Sustainability is no longer an option. It is a responsibility. Italian textile machinery manufacturers have been pioneers in developing technologies that help customers reduce energy consumption, minimize water and chemical use, and optimize raw material efficiency.

Through initiatives such as the Sustainable Technologies project promoted by ACIMIT and focused on our green certification named CLIMA (Committed to Low Impact Machinery), we provide measurable tools to evaluate and certify the environmental performance of our machinery. Circularity is also part of our approach, with solutions that enable recycling and reuse of textile waste within textile processes. In this way, our industry actively contributes to building a greener and more competitive textile sector.

Textile Today: Looking to the future, what is your vision for ACIMIT and its members in driving innovation, sustainability, and partnerships across the global textile value chain?

Marco Salvade': Our vision is clear: to consolidate the position of Italian textile machinery as a global benchmark for innovation, sustainability, and quality. ACIMIT will continue to support its members in their internationalization efforts, fostering stronger partnerships with textile manufacturers worldwide. Innovation will be the focus for the Italian manufacturers, with growing investments in digitalization, automation, and sustainable solutions.

We believe the future of our industry lies in collaboration, collaborating closely with customers, research centers, and institutions to create value across the entire textile value chain. By doing so, Italian textile machinery manufacturers will be key players in shaping the sustainable and competitive future of the textile industry.