

## Knitting Industry

### Industry Talk

#### **Italian textile machinery targets Turkmenistan**

**Italian machinery suppliers strengthen their presence in a strategic textile market.**

The Italian textile machinery industry reinforced its presence in Turkmenistan through participation at Turkmen Textile Expo 2026, held in Ashgabat from 4-6 June. A large Italian delegation attended the exhibition under the coordination of the Italian Trade Agency (ICE) and ACIMIT, the Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers.

Turkmenistan continues to strengthen its position as an important textile manufacturing hub, supported by its substantial cotton production. Cotton remains the country's third-largest export commodity and government authorities are pursuing policies aimed at developing a fully integrated domestic textile supply chain capable of converting raw materials into higher value-added products within the country.

The success of these industrial ambitions depends on continued investment in advanced manufacturing technologies, creating opportunities for international machinery suppliers. Italy is positioning itself as a key technology partner for Turkmen textile producers, building on strong export performance that saw Italian textile machinery exports to the country reach €13 million in 2023.

Although the market is currently experiencing a period of transition as new investment programmes are finalised, demand remains focused on specialised and technologically advanced solutions. Accessories account for 56% of Italian textile machinery exports to Turkmenistan, followed by spinning machinery at 31% and knitting machinery at 13%.

According to ACIMIT President Marco Salvadè, the Turkmen market is entering a phase of maturity that will create opportunities for plant modernisation and new investments promoted by local authorities. He emphasised that the flexibility, versatility and technological expertise of Italian manufacturers, supported by continuous research and development activities, enable them to provide tailored solutions for the evolving needs of the country's textile sector.

Companies exhibiting within the Italian Pavilion included Bianco, Color Service, Corino Macchine, Dover Industries Italy, Itema, M.C.S. Officina Meccanica, Marzoli Machines Textile, Mesdan, Salvadè, Savio Macchine Tessili and Stalam. Ferraro is also participating at the exhibition with its own stand.

Founded in 1945, ACIMIT represents around 200 Italian textile machinery manufacturers, accounting for approximately 85% of the sector's turnover in Italy. The industry generates annual revenues of around €1.9 billion, with approximately 86% of production exported to 130 countries worldwide. Italian textile machinery manufacturers operate across spinning, weaving, knitting, finishing and related machinery sectors, with innovation, sustainability, reliability and quality remaining key strengths of the industry.

ACIMIT