

# ITMF At A Glance

ITMF was founded in 1904 at a meeting held in Zurich, Switzerland. Originally, it was called International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association. For many years, the headquarters were in Manchester, England. Not least because of the rise of man-made fibers, the name was changed in 1954 to International Federation of Cotton and Allied Textile Industries. In 1963, the headquarters moved to Zurich. Since the '60s, the membership has increased and included more and more sectors of the textile industry. Therefore, the present name, International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF), was introduced in 1978 to include all areas of the textile industry.

ITMF's main objectives are:

- to provide a forum for discussion of matters appropriately within the common interest and concern of textile companies;
- to provide a neutral meeting ground for textile trade associations for the exchange of information on matters affecting their textile industries, consistent with the trade regulation laws of the nations represented;
- to act as a central agency of the textile industries for the collection of information, statistical and otherwise, on textile manufacturing developments in all countries of the world;
- to act as spokesman for the world textile industry in matters relating to raw materials (cotton and man-made fibers); and
- to perform the functions of a liaison agent between the textile industries and governments and intergovernmental organizations interested in the textile industry.

Through ITMF, the textile industries cooperate at a high international level

with organizations representing other sectors allied to their industry. The current Board of Directors comprises the following:

**President:**

Josué C. Gomes da Silva (Brazil)

**Vice President:**

Tiankai Wang (China)

**Honorary Treasurer:**

Peter Gnägi (Switzerland)

**Members:**

Jaswinder Bedi (Kenya)

John Cheh (Hong Kong, China)

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Andrew G. Macdonald (Brazil)

Heinz Michel (Switzerland)

B.K. Patodia (India)

K.V. Srinivasan (India)

Bassem Sultan (Egypt)

There are three categories of membership in ITMF:

- *Members* are associations and other constituted organizations of manufacturers of textiles. There can be only one member association from each country.
- *Associate members* are associations and other constituted organizations of manufacturers of textiles in countries where there is already a member association; and associations allied to the textile industry.
- *Corporate members* are manufacturers of textiles or of products allied to the textile industry in countries where their respective central trade association is not affiliated with ITMF.

Various committees including spinning, cotton and others are active. Particularly considered are the global statistics published by ITMF. So-called Country Statements offer members highly appreciated facts and figures about the most important textile markets of the world.

Source: ITMF