

IN-LINE WITH **fi-tech**^{INC}

**SPRING
2024**

Enka Tecnica
World Leader In Spinneret
Technology

AirSplicer-3 Flex
Applications For High
Strength Technical Fibers

HASTEM® APRONS
Quality, Performance And
Innovation

Company Updates
Mayer & CIE Factory
Technician Training

**Brückner Textile
Technologies**
75th Anniversary Celebration

**Techtextil Messe
Frankfurt**
Largest European Show For
Technical Textiles



**FI-TECH LAUNCHES
NEW WEBSITE**

NEW EMPLOYEES



Todd L. Bassett

Welcome to the spring 2024 issue of *In Line with Fi-Tech!* In this issue of our newsletter, we have some important employee announcements to pass on. In March, another long-term Fi-Tech employee will be retiring. After 35+ years with Fi-Tech, Paul Lawhorne will be looking to spend more time on the water fishing. We would like to thank Paul for his years of dedication, loyalty and being the first to have the coffee ready in the morning! We would like to welcome Beau Haydel to the Fi-Tech Team. Beau started with us on January 2 and has been training along side Paul to take over for him upon retirement. Also, in December, Darrian Jefferson joined Fi-Tech and will be working in the warehouse full time along side of Pam Linegar and John Chandler. Welcome to our team Beau and Darrian!

Also, in this issue, we have some updates on conferences and exhibitions that Fi-Tech will be participating in over the next few months. Ian Mills will highlight our principals who will be exhibiting at the Techtextil Show in Frankfurt, April 23-26. Fi-Tech will have a team there to support our principals and to welcome our North American customers to this important exhibition. In addition, Fi-Tech plans to have a booth together with our principal, KKA, at the NPE Show in Orlando, May 6-10. Fi-Tech will also have representatives at INDA's WOW Conference in Minneapolis, June 17-20. We hope to see you at one of these events!

Finally, in this issue, we have included some principal updates from Hastem, Heberlein, Enka Tecnica and Brückner. Congratulations to Brückner Textile Technologies, who is celebrating their 75th Anniversary in 2024. Fi-Tech is proud to be a partner with Brückner in the US Market since 2011!

Thank you for taking the time to review our spring newsletter, and if you need additional information on Fi-Tech or any of our principals, please connect with us via our newly updated website at www.fi-tech.com, or contact us by phone at (804)794-9615.

Todd L. Bassett
Managing Director

HAPPY FISHING PAUL!

Paul Lawhorne joined the Fi-Tech Team in 1989 as Warehouse Manager after having delivered freight to us for several years prior. His time in the warehouse prepared him for his move to the Spare Parts Group in 1995 where he has served our customers and principals for the last 29 years. From early mornings to late afternoons, Paul has been a reliable team member that you could set your watch to. We appreciate all that Paul has done, and he will be greatly missed. Please join us in wishing Paul a very enjoyable retirement. Tight Lines Buddy!



Paul Lawhorne

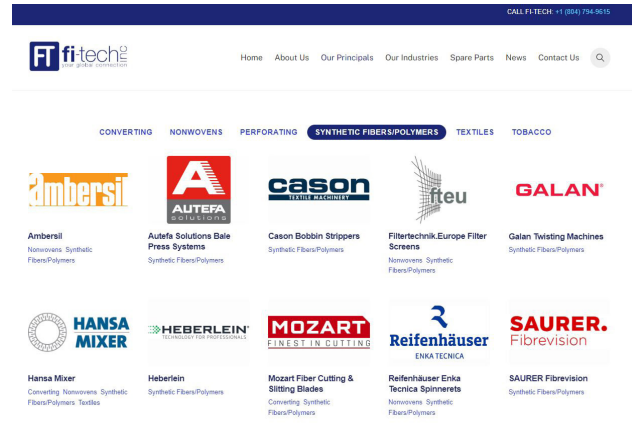
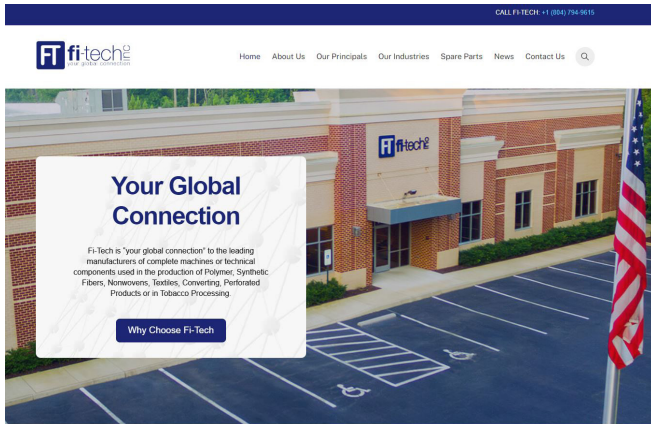
FI-TECH LAUNCHES NEW ENHANCED WEBSITE

Fi-Tech, Inc. is excited to announce the launch of its newly designed website, www.fi-tech.com. The website features a fresh modern look with updated informative content to help visitors understand our complete line of machinery and products for the synthetic fiber, nonwoven fabric, textile, converting and tobacco industries.

Key features of the new website include:

- Secure Connection
- Improved Brand Recognition for our Partners
- Optimized Search Structure
- Simplified User-Friendly Navigation

We are pleased to unveil our new website to our customers, partners, and the industries we serve. With updated information and photography, this site will enhance the online experience for our valued clients and principals. The site's new, secure, and modern design reflects our dedication to serving our customers and partners.



AIRSPLICER-3 FLEX - APPLICATIONS FOR HIGH STRENGTH TECHNICAL FIBERS

Yarn splicers use compressed air to produce a tear-resistant, homogeneous splice of material without interfering knots. Heberlein's AirSplicers are used in a wide range of applications for high-strength technical fibers. The new generation shows the following benefits:

- Width-adjustable splicer for technical and textile multifilament yarn
- One splicer covering 500dtex up to 30,000 dtex, depending on material

Synthetic multifilament yarns, Aramid, Carbon or Glass can be spliced with one flexible AirSplicer.



Find out more about AIRSPLICER-3 FLEX

ENKA TECNICA

Enka Tecnica has long been recognized as the world leader in spinneret technology and has been supplying spinnerets to produce synthetic fiber for more than 100 years. Enka Tecnica produces spinnerets and spin packs for melt spinning of filament and staple fiber, precious metal spinnerets for wet and dry spinning of acetate and viscose fiber, and ultra-high precision spinning nozzles for producing hollow membranes. Some spinnerets have as many as 10,000 micro-sized drilled holes, and others have special cross-sectional profiles. Spinnerets for wet and dry spinning can have as many as 100,000 orifices.

All are produced with an accuracy that is second to none. Enka Tecnica has developed computer-aided production methods, state-of-the-art 3D technologies, and cutting-edge measuring equipment.

Filament, staple, wet and dry spin spinnerets, as well as hollow fiber nozzles, are fabricated at the Enka Tecnica plant in Kabelsketal, Germany near Leipzig. The building has a total of 45,000 square feet of space with 10,000 square feet for office and meeting space and 35,000 square feet for spinneret manufacturing on one floor. The plant has state-of-the-art equipment with the full spectrum of hole cutting technologies.



**YOUR SOURCE FOR THE
FIBER & POLYMER AND
NONWOVEN INDUSTRIES**

Ambersil

- Anti-Stick Spinneret Silicone Spray

AstenJohnson Advanced Fabrics

- Woven Plastic & Metal Wire Belts, Forming Fabrics, Dryer Fabrics, Transport Belts

Autefa Solutions GmbH

- Bale Presses, Bale Wrapping & Strapping Systems

Brückner Textile Technologies

- Thru Air Dryers & Heat Setters

Cason Textile Machinery

- Bobbin Strippers

filtertechnik.Europe GmbH & Co. Kg

- Filter Screens for Spin Packs & Screen Changers, Filter Belts

Futura S.P.A.

- Pin-To-Pin Embossing Calenders

Galan Textile Machinery

- Ring Twisters for Fiber, Rope & Twine, Winders, Kiss Roll Devices, Creels

HANSA MIXER

- In Line Mixers and Foamers

Hastem Transportbänder GmbH

- Slat & Spiked/Needle Aprons

Heberlein

- Air Interlacing Jets, Air Texturing Jets, Aspirators, Splicers, Suction Cut Units

Idrosistem Srl

- Water Filtration Systems for Spun Lace Production

MOVEngineering Srl

- Hypox® Spinneret & Pack Cleaning Units

HASTEM® APRONS DELIVER ON QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE

For more than 50 years, the name Hastem has been synonymous with quality, performance, and innovation in the production of both pinned and slat transport aprons used in various staple fiber and nonwoven production processes. Based in Nördlingen, Germany, Hastem produces all key components for their patented and proven fiber opening or web transport apron systems found as standard on many OEM web forming systems. Key suppliers such as Andritz, Autefa, Dilo, Laroche, Trützschler and others rely on Hastem pinned and slat aprons in a variety of applications.

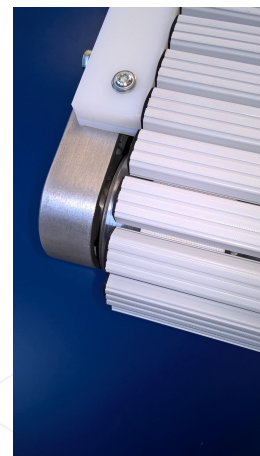
Hastem's AB range of pinned aprons are normally used in bale opening, fiber transport and blending applications for both dry and air laid applications. Their well-known C System of slat aprons are used to transport unbonded webs in cross lappers, needling or other dry laid nonwoven production. The variety of slat surface textures and finishes allow for a range of grip and performance in these critical web transport applications prior to web bonding.

Both the AB and C Systems aprons are designed for easy installation using overlapped drive belt junctions allowing for belts to be removed and re-installed. The component based construction also allows for quick and efficient repairs in place. Individual slats and related parts can be replaced or repaired as needed; extending the lifetime of the apron.

Fi-Tech, Inc. has proudly served as Hastem's North American distributor since 2002. We maintain a stock of critical repair parts allowing for quick deliveries. We also stock some common fiber opening aprons for immediate delivery. For complete replacements, we can quickly respond with competitive quotes and short delivery times. Through years of experience, Fi-Tech has also perfected the logistics of transporting these often wide aprons of up to 6 meters and more from Hastem's facility in Germany to our North American customers both cost effectively and efficiently. Please contact us for more information or a quote for replacement aprons.



Hastem AB Pinned Apron



*Hastem C System
CC25QG Slat*



*Hastem C System
CC25GT Slat*

WARM WELCOME TO NEW EMPLOYEES

Darrian Jefferson joined the Fi-Tech Team in December and will be working with our distribution team, as a Warehouse Assistant. Darrian enjoys baseball and is currently pursuing his Civil Engineering degree at Old Dominion University. Please welcome Darrian to the team!



Darrian Jefferson

Beau Haydel became the newest member of the Fi-Tech Team in January and will be taking over for Paul Lawhorne who is retiring after 35 years of service in March. Beau is a graduate of Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree. In his short time at Fi-Tech, he has already demonstrated his capabilities, and looks forward to working with our spare parts customers and principals.



Beau Haydel
804-763-5308 bhaydel@fi-tech.com

JON ADAMS COMPLETES MAYER & CIE FACTORY TECHNICIAN TRAINING

In November 2023, Jon travelled to Albstadt, Germany to visit Mayer & CIE's headquarters for two weeks of intensive factory training delivered by Mayer & CIE's service and R+D technicians. Throughout his career, Jon has worked with all brands and models of circular knitting, but with this opportunity to continue his education at the OEM facility, he will be able to provide unparalleled service and technical support to our Mayer & CIE customers in the double jersey, fully electronic jacquard machines that dominate our market. Jon also trained on Mayer's mechanical machine portfolio that are also present in the USA servicing the technical textiles market.

Looking ahead, Jon gained valuable exposure to Mayer & CIE's new generation 5.0 Control System and the proprietary, "on machine" defect detection system, KnitHawk, which are both being launched in 2024.

Based in Inman, SC, in the heart of the textile manufacturing region, Jon is ideally located to assist our customers on troubleshooting and servicing circular knitting machines. Jon can be reached at (804) 405-7402 or at jadams@fi-tech.com

Mozart AG

- Staple Cutting Blades, Film Slitting Blades

ProJet B.V.

- Power Cleaner Process Wire Belt Cleaning System

Reifenhäuser Enka Tecnica GmbH

- Spinnerets, Jet Strips, Die Tips, Repairs, Complete Meltdown Die Bodies

Reifenhäuser REICOFIL® GmbH & Co. KG

- Turnkey Plants for Spun Bond, Meltdown, Composite, Laminated Fabrics, Bicomponent

Rieter Components & GmbH, TEMCO

- Texturing Units, PU Friction Discs, Air Entangling Jets, Industrial & Glass Fibers, Separator Rollers, Guide Rollers

Saueressig Surfaces

- Engraved & Smooth Rollers, Embossing Rollers, Ultrasonic Anvils, MPS Microporous Shells

Saurer Fibrevision

- On Line & Lab Fiber Monitoring/ Testing Systems

Schill+Seilacher GmbH

- Spin Finishes, Surfactants & Fiber Auxiliary Chemicals

Sikoplast Recycling Technology GmbH

- Recycling Plants for PET, PA, PP and PE Waste

Spoolex/Calemard

- PEGASE Traversing Winders & Spooling Equipment, Slitter/ Rewinders

T.EN Zimmer GmbH

- Spare Parts Service for Zimmer® Plants

Tokuden Co., Ltd.

- Induction Heated Rolls, Air Cooled Hybrid Rolls, UPSS Super Heated Steam Generator

Zentes Unitex GmbH

- Spinned Inspection Devices, European Spare Parts

YOUR SOURCE FOR THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Benninger

- Jet & Beam Dyeing Machines, Jiggers

Brückner Textile Technologies

- Finishing and Coating Lines for Woven and Knitted Fabrics, Dryers, Tenter Frames & Coating Equipment

Corino S.p.A.

- Hydro Extraction, Openers, De-Twisters, Tubular Slitters, Padders

Erbatech GmbH

- Continuous Wet Finishing Equipment for Woven and Knitted Fabric, Bleaching & Washing Ranges, Cold Pad Batch

Guarneri Technology S.r.l.

- Textile Calenders

HANSA MIXER

- Foam Generators & Mixers

Idrosistem Srl

- Dyehouse Waste Water Recovery Plants

Mario Crosta S.r.l. - Italy

- Fabric Surface Finishing Equipment

Mayer & Cie. GmbH & Co.

- Circular Knitting Machines for Jersey, Interlock, Rib, Jacquard and Elastomeric Plaiting

Neunhauser-Ontec Automation GmbH

- Turbotex Scrim Fabric Machine

Pindarus S.r.l.

- Raising Fillet Wire, Cleaning Brush Wire

Shelton Vision Ltd.

- Vision Inspection & Defect Classification Systems

Tecnorama S.R.L.

- Automatic Dispensing Systems for Powder and Liquid Dyestuff & Auxiliaries

Testa S.r.l.

- Automated Inspection and Packaging Systems

BRÜCKNER TEXTILE TECHNOLOGIES CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY



In 1949, Mr. Kurt Brückner established Brückner Klimatechnik GmbH in Stuttgart, Germany as a small engineering company manufacturing air conditioning units and small dryers for the paper and textile industry.

Now, fast forward 75 years, and Brückner Textile Technologies, headquartered just outside of Stuttgart in Leonberg, Germany, is synonymous worldwide with quality of design, engineering, manufacturing excellence and technical textile processing knowledge in textile finishing.



With an estimated greater than 6,000 manufacturing lines still in operation across the globe, the product range has expanded to comprise of stenters, relaxation dryers, compactors, sanforizing machines, coating and laminating lines, nonwovens bonding ovens, through flow dryers and others servicing a wide range of technical textile markets.

The company is now led by second generation family member, Mrs. Regina Brückner and husband Mr. Axel Pieper.

Under their leadership, the company has continued to grow in scale and in 2018 opened a worldclass manufacturing facility in Tittmoning, Germany with the capacity to manufacture over 100 processing lines per year. With a strong passion for supporting manufacturing in Germany, Brückner has over 400 employees between the two locations and a supply chain relying on Western European partners.

Through the 2013 investment into their Technology Center, Brückner has led the industry in innovation related to textile finishing in regard to best available technologies for control of processing parameters, resulting in best-in-class heat consistency, energy efficiency and cost of ownership. Most recently focus is being placed on alternate heating sources, sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Fi-Tech is proud to have represented Brückner in North America since 2011 and we send our heartfelt congratulations to all of our friends and partners within the Brückner organization on the occasion of Brückner's 75th Anniversary.

We look forward to many years of ongoing cooperation and business success.



TECHTEXIL MESSE FRANKFURT

April 23rd – April 26th 2024

Every two years, the largest European show for technical textiles, Techtextil, is held in Frankfurt and this year the show will be on April 23 through April 26, 2024. As a large number of our principals will be exhibiting, Fi-Tech will send a team of our sales representatives from the USA and Mexico to provide support to our principals and to engage with North American visitors. The technical textile team will include Jessica Ethridge; and should you plan to attend the show, please reach out to her at (804) 714-7955 or by email at jethridge@fi-tech.com either prior to, or during the show, and she can facilitate meetings or introductions as required.

A full listing of the principals who are exhibiting and their booth locations is listed below:

Principal	Location	Hall	Booth	Products
Autefa Solutions GmbH	Germany	12	C77	Bale Presses, Bale Wrapping and Strapping Systems
Baldwin Jimek AB	Sweden	12	D63	Non-contact Spray Systems
Benninger AG	Switzerland	12	D63	Jet and Jigger Dyeing and Tire Cord Finishing
Brückner Textile Technologies GmbH	Germany	12	B54	Tenter Frames, Coaters and Thru Air Ovens
Erbatech GmbH	Germany	12	C55A	Scouring, Bleaching and Cold Pad Batch
Galan Textile Machinery S.L.	Spain	12	E81	Spinning, Twisting and Winding Machinery
Hansa Industrie Mixer GmbH	Germany	12	D63	Chemical Mixers and Foamers
Heberlein Technology AG	Switzerland	12	B01	Air Interlacing Jets, Air Texturing Jets, Aspirators, Splicers and Suction Cut Units
Neuenhäuser-Ontec Maschinenbau GmbH	Netherlands/ Germany	12	B68	Coaters and Inlaid Scrim
Reifenhäuser-Enka Tecnica GmbH	Germany	12	F32	Spinnerets, Jet Strips, Die Tips
Saueressig® Surfaces	Germany	12	D53	Engraved & Smooth Rollers, Embossing Rollers, Ultrasonic Anvils, Microporous Shells
Schill+Seilacher GmbH	Germany	11	C48	Surfactants
Shelton Machines Ltd	United Kingdom	12	E54	Vision Systems for Defect Detection
Spoolex S.A.S.	France	12	D03	Ultrasonic Cutting Systems
Temco-Rieter Components GmbH	Germany	12	C20	Texturing Units, PU Friction Discs, Air Entangling Jets, Industrial and Glass Fibers, Separator Rollers, Guide Rollers



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EVENTS CALENDAR

Techtextil

April 23-26, 2024
Frankfurt, Germany
www.techtextil.com

NPE2024

May 6-10, 2024
Orlando, FL
www.npe.org

World of Wipes

June 17-20, 2024
Minneapolis, MN
www.worldofwipes.org

Southern Textile Association Annual Meeting

July 28-30, 2024
Myrtle Beach, SC
www.southerntextile.org

Techtextil North America

August 20-22, 2024
Raleigh, NC
www.techtextil-north-america.us.messefrankfurt.com

RISE

October 1-2, 2024
Raleigh, NC
www.riseconf.net

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In-Line with Fi-Tech, a Fi-Tech, Inc. publication, is designed to assist Engineering, Management, Purchasing and Plant Personnel by providing an avenue of communication between fiber producers and the best machinery manufacturers in the world. Fi-Tech, Inc. is the premiere representative for Nonwovens, Synthetic Fiber, and Textile machinery and components.

Fi-Tech, Inc. Editorial Board

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