

LET'S GROW TOGETHER

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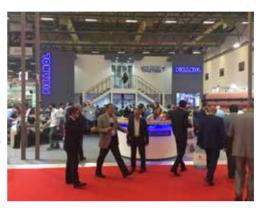




Picanol scores success

at ITM fair in Istanbul

The ITM 2016 fair was held at the Tuyap Fair Convention & Congress Center in Istanbul from 1 - 4 June 2016. Picanol exhibited in Hall 2, Booth 218 with one airjet and two rapier weaving machines. For the OptiMax-i and the TerryMax-i machines it was the first time that these machines were shown in Turkey.



While the quantity of visitors was not quite as large as expected, the quality more than made up for this. Decision-makers from not only Turkey but also countries such as Iran and Uzbekistan were welcomed at the Picanol booth, and showed great interest in the technology displayed. Overall the fair was a great success with various sales deals being concluded or initiated during the show.



Airjet and rapier innovation

TerryMax-i rapier weaving machine

Based on the same high-performance weaving technology as the OptiMax-i, the TerryMax-i offers all the possibilities for growing to the top in the terry market.

Ready for every new opportunity, offering full flexibility in design of terry fabrics.



Guaranteeing optimum fabric quality. Best in class for minimum energy consumption. Optimizing your precious time. And creating space to unleash your utmost creativity. Together with our customers we constantly strive to improve our machines and services, in order to stay ahead of the competition.

So if you really want to get the most out of your market, your material, your energy, your talent and your time, the TerryMax-i provides the platform for you to keep growing. Because that is the essence of weaving. The TerryMax-i is available in weaving widths up to 360 cm.

A brochure and high-resolution pictures of the new machine can be found at www.picanol.be.

The new TERRYplus Summum for terry cloth

Together with our customers we constantly strive to improve our machines and services, in order to stay ahead of the competition. If terry weaving is your objective, now you can be sure of real added value with the unique, future-oriented TERRYplus Summum. Based on the same high performance weaving technology as the OMNIplus Summum, the TERRYplus Summum offers all the



possibilities for growing to the top in your market.

This Picanol machine is characterized by its robust structure and offers the highest stability and performance on the market. The fabric quality is guaranteed by the stability of the unique pile formation. By combining state-of-the-art technology in hard- and software, the TERRY plus Summum offers your weaving plant the next upgrade to meet new market demands in quality, performance and energy consumption. Built on the BlueBox platform, the TERRY plus Summum is packed with new features that enhance your weaving performance and allow us to continue adding new developments in the future.

The TERRYplus Summum is available in weaving widths up to 360 cm and can insert up to 8 colors. A brochure and high-resolution pictures of the new machine can be found at www.picanol.be.

Picanol Group marks 80th anniversary

This year the Picanol Group is celebrating its 80th anniversary. Since it was founded in 1936, on 22 September to be precise, the Picanol Group has developed from a traditional manufacturer of weaving machines to a worldwide supplier of total solutions for the textile industry and other sectors. 80 years of staying ahead thanks to innovative technology, with the Picanol Group playing a worldwide pioneering role in development and production of high-tech weaving machines.



We therefore celebrated Picanol's 80th anniversary in fitting style on Saturday 18 June. All members of personnel and their partners were invited. The company site in the Belgian city of Ieper was transformed into a festival field for the occasion.

Some 1,700 attendees were able to follow the Belgium-Ireland Euro 2016 soccer match on a big outdoor screen, with the Belgians winning convincingly 3-0. In parallel with



this match we organized a competition: all members of personnel were able to make their personal forecast, with the main prize being a trip to Dublin, Ireland. After the football the celebrations really kicked off with various musical performances by famous Belgian groups. Our own Picanolband was there as well. This cover band was formed five years ago on the occasion of a previous personnel celebration and is now made up of employees from various departments of the Picanol Group. In the meantime all the festivalgoers were sustained by several food trucks and our own Picanol pub decked out in Irish colors for the occasion.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0pFY3J1L74

Luc Tack meets **Indian Prime Minister** Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India arrived in Brussels on Wednesday 30 March, 2016, for a day-long visit during which he attended the India-EU Summit and held bilateral talks with the Belgian Prime Minister, Charles Michel. Our Managing Director, Luc Tack, also had the opportunity to meet Prime Minister Modi. In his statement Mr. Modi stressed the importance of ties with the European Union as India's second-largest trading partner, with Belgium coming in the top 10.







New **Picanol OMNI***plus* **Summum** machines for Getzner Textil

In 2015 Getzner Textil started construction of an entirely new plant for weaving African damask in Gera, Germany.

The new plant consists of equal-sized weaving rooms, each with space for up to 60 weaving machines. For this new project Getzner Textil decided to purchase 180 new Picanol OMNI*plus* Summum airjet weaving machines with jacquard. The choice fell upon Picanol after extensive trials in which Picanol proved itself to be the perfect partner for efficient, high-performance airjet weaving machines. Installation of the new Picanol OMNI*plus* Summum airjet weaving machines started at the end of 2015 and will be completed in 2016.

Currently our technicians Patrick Debruyne and Joel Ferreira da Silva are on site installing the 180 Picanol airjets. The first weaving room with 60 Picanol airjets is already in production since April and is running to the customer's satisfaction. At the beginning of June Patrick and Joel started up the 100th Picanol airjet at Getzner Textil (see picture). The second weaving room with another 60 Picanol airjets is scheduled to be up and running before the summer holidays. In the meantime, Picanol is delivering the next 60 Picanol airjets for the third weaving room which will enter production after the summer holidays.



Artistic Fabric & Garment Industries,

leading suppliers

Artistic Fabric Mills (AFM) and Artistic Garment Industries (AGI) merged to form a single company in July 2015 and are now one of the leading suppliers of premium denim fabrics and garments in the world.

With a large-scale, fully vertical denim operation based in Karachi, Pakistan, the company produces some of the most innovative products for top denim brands globally. AFM and AGI are market leaders and offer a superior, full-package solution for buyers, from spinning to high-quality garments in their stores. About 50% of the fabric output is used in-house and the rest exported to international markets. The Artistic Fabric & Garment Industries customer portfolio includes leading High Street fashion brands such as H&M, Gap, Zara (and other divisions of Inditex), VF Corp and Esprit, among others.

The Spinning division produces 55 million pounds of yarn per year in three production units with a total of 75,000 spindles. The Fabric mill, equipped with some of the best technology in rope dyeing, weaving, and finishing machinery, produces 50 million meters of denim fabric per year. Artistic Fabric Mills weaves on 30 Picanol OMNIplus Summum, 60 OMNIplus 800

and 170 OptiMax machines, with further investments in both airjet and rapier technology currently being under consideration. On the airjet looms speeds of over 1000 RPM are reached with close to 100% efficiency. The OptiMax is ideally suited to weaving novelty (hyper-stretch) yarns and unique constructions. The Fabric mill also has a finishing capacity of 150,000 meters per day.

The Garment division with its high-tech machinery and state-of-the-art laundry has a capacity of 24 million garments per annum, which are all exported to foreign markets. Exports are equally spread over Europe and the United States. As a group Artistic Fabric & Garment Industries has 22,000 employees spread across its three mills and 13 garment units. The company has recently made significant investments in sustainability initiatives and is currently converting many of its garment units to eco-friendly plants.

All the equipment used by Artistic is of European origin in order to guarantee the highest quality standards, and Picanol is proud to be the sole provider for its weaving machines for the last five years, after AFM switched from projectile to rapier and airjet technology.



Left, Mr. Iqbal Ahmed (Chairman), accompanied by his nephew Mr. Hasan Javed (Director)

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Setex: Christo's floating Piers

At the Setex plant in Greven, Germany, two Picanol OptiMax 540 cm machines worked around the clock for six months to produce a very special kind of saffron fabric. It was made on behalf of Christo, the artist famous for his spectacular wrapping projects. Setex produced about 70,000 m² of polyester fabric for the new Christo project entitled "The Floating Piers".

Christo installed the floating piers on Lake Iseo in Northern Italy: visitors were able to walk on water! The piers, 16 m wide and about 3 km long, connected the mainland with two islands in the lake, carried by 20,000 floats. In addition a fabric road continued for 1.5 km into the pedestrian areas of Sulzano and Peschiera Maraglio. This installation was a unique experience for the people walking on water and afforded a spectacular sight when looking down at the lake from the surrounding mountain roads. The work of art was open to the public during 16 days in June 2016.

Setex could count on Picanol's full support when installing the machines and putting them into operation.



A first batch of fabric was ready by October 2015 and Setex shipped a second batch to Italy in January 2016. Klaus Struffert, manager of Setex, is proud to have gotten this six-digit order. Setex made sure that the saffron fabric, developed specially for this project, was color-fast, waterproof and dirt-repellent.



Heathcoat Fabrics, a life-changing skydive

To celebrate its long history in the parachute industry, a team from Heathcoat Fabrics took part in a 15,000 ft (4572 m) tandem skydive on 2 September 2015.

With the jump the team raised money for seven different charities in the UK. All of those who jumped are involved in the development, production and sales of parachute fabrics.



"We jumped with Skydive Buzz UK, Dunkeswell, Devon, England", says an excited Peter Hill, Woven Fabrics Director. "I can't imagine a better place to skydive with the rush of freefall followed by spectacular views of both coasts of Devon and the South coast of Wales as we glided back to earth after our canopies opened."

Heathcoat Fabrics Limited was established in 1808 by John Heathcoat, the inventor of the bobbinet lace making machine, and relocated from the Midlands to its present site in Tiverton, Devon, 200 years ago this summer.

Due to the use of silk for bobbinet Heathcoat became involved in the production of some of the earliest parachutes and actually manufactured parachutes as well as fabric from the early 1930s until the late 1960s. The company then ceased parachute manufacture so that it could concentrate on the production of parachute fabrics for its customers around the world. Modern parachute fabrics are made with high tenacity nylon 66 rather than silk. Some more challenging uses demand more exotic fibers such as para-aramid.

"Over the past 10 years we have embarked upon a plant refurbishment and upgrade program as part of our World Class Manufacturing project," explains Peter Hill. "Following extensive trials we selected Picanol as our key partner for airjet and rapier weaving looms and have installed a total of 28 Picanol looms to date. We have been very pleased with the after-sales service from Picanol. We weave very complicated technical fabrics with demanding yarns and structures.



John Stimpson (Business Manager for Woven Industrial fabrics), is shown mid-free-fall.

Picanol has worked closely with us to optimize the weaving of these technical fabrics and together we are pushing the boundaries of what can be achieved for the future."



The participants (from left to right): George Clarke (Production Manager), Louise Davies (Sales Technologist), Ele Newsome (Development Engineer), Natasha Palmer (Production Planning), Ricky Buttle (Weaving Technician), Simon Williams (Weaving Team Leader), Peter Hill (Woven Fabrics Director), John Stimpson (Business Manager), Blake Whitrow (Sales Admin Officer)

Dhakatex proves Bangladesh' growing importance in the global textile scene

Dhaka Textile and Garment Exhibition (DTGE) 2016 proved once again that Bangladesh is becoming more important every year in the global textile scene. The DTGE was held on the same location as in previous years in the Bangladeshi capital. Exhibitors from all around the world, active in all major applications of textiles, were present to show their novelties.

For at least 6 years in a row, Bangladesh has been a top 5 country for Picanol in terms of weaving machine sales. In the meantime Picanol has built up an impressive list of satisfied customers in that country, representing an installed base of well over 3,500 recent machines.

The booth, organized by our agent Spintex Technology, was the all-time biggest in terms of surface area compared with previous years, again demonstrating the growing importance of this event. With the courtesy of Mahmud Group, one of our loyal customers, we displayed an OptiMax rapier machine running a yarn-dyed shirting article.



Exclusive **training for textile company directors** in Bandung, Indonesia

Picanol Indonesia organized an exclusive training event for Indonesian textile company owners and directors held during October 21-22, 2015 in the textile hub of Bandung, Indonesia.

Owners and senior directors of textile companies using Picanol machines attended the two-day training program on Effective Management of Weaving Machine Performance. The attendees became familiar with technical and organizational parameters which affect weaving shed machine performance, such as raw material, labor, environmental conditions and machine



maintenance. They also shared best practices and standards for achieving optimal output and highest reliability from weaving machines.

This was the first event of its kind, considering the seniority of the participants and the topics that were covered. These subjects were considered from a management and operational point of view, rather than a purely technical approach.

Among the trainers were Mrs. Katelijne Goethals, After-Market Manager, and Mr. Stuart Gore, Spare Parts Sales Manager from Picanol NV, along with Mr. Tanim Chowdhury, General Manager, and Mr. Yusuf Rahmat, After-Market Service and Sales Manager from Picanol Indonesia.

The event was highly appreciated by customers, as not only was it informative and useful for senior management but it also provided a powerful opportunity to network with key players in the Indonesian textile industry.

This kind of event is a textbook example of how Picanol and its customers can grow together!



Enthusiastic feedback after **Open House at Nakaden Keori** in Japan

On 13 and 14 April 2016, Picanol and its Japanese agent EDI Co Ltd organized an Open House at Nakaden Keori, a Picanol customer for nearly 20 years.

During this event two OptiMax-i machines, recently supplied to Nakaden, showcased the possibilities in terms of speed and versatility that the new OptiMax-i generation offers to weavers.

The two OptiMax-i machines in free flight mode were shown weaving challenging styles. On the first machine a woolen fancy style with 10 different weft colors on 20 harness frames demonstrated the advantages of the Optispeed variable speed program, the Smartcut weft scissors with electronic settings per insertion channel, and the ERGO system, allowing waste minimization for each weft. The second machine was running a fancy cotton style with 12 different weft colors on 16 harness frames at high speed.

The visitors were enthusiastic. From their feedback it was clear right from the start that they were most impressed not only by the

performance of the OptiMax-*i* but also by the innovative features on display.

With close to 400 visitors from all over Japan, the event reached a large proportion of Japanese weavers. These have now been able to witness the superiority of the new Picanol OptiMax-i, and have experienced the dedication of Picanol and its local agent EDI Co Ltd to high-end Japanese fabric weavers.

A special word of thanks goes to Mr Nakashima and the whole team of Nakaden Keori (www.nakadenkeori.co.jp), who were the perfect hosts for this event.





From left to right: Pedro Fario (Picanol), Mr Hideki Ide (agent), Mr Nakashima (customer), Walter Moens (Picanol), Johan Verstraete (Picanol), Lieven Beke (Picanol)

Chandigarh Open House

On 20 April 2016, Picanol NV and Picanol India organized a well-attended Customer Day at the Marriot Hotel in Chandigarh. It attracted not only loyal Picanol customers but also new prospects interested in finding out about new developments in airjet and rapier technology from Picanol.

The program started with an introduction of the Picanol Group by P. Kasiviswanathan, Executive Director of Picanol India, followed by a presentation of the latest releases of Picanol's OMNI*plus* Summum. This covered among other things the revolutionary insertion system with unique triple air tank and full electronic

Moving from theory to practice, Mr. Anup Sharma, Service Manager of Picanol India, presented some "real life" cases with field results of new features like the ARVD II Plus, Twin Stretch Nozzle, PRA II Plus and QSC etc. running at customers.

The aftermarket team headed by Mrs. Katelijne Goethals and her Indian team member Mr. Dharmendra Verma outlined how the spare parts department is organized and showed the delivery performance to the customers. Also the new "eSPC" (electronic Spare Parts Catalogue) was introduced, explaining how this can ease the ordering of spare parts.



From left to right: Mr. Anup Sharma (Area Service Manager India), Mr. Koen Desmedt (Global Service Manager), Mrs Katelijne Goethals (Aftermarket Manager), Mr. Lieven Engelbeen (Sales Manager) and Mr. Kasiviswanathan (Executive Director Picanol India Pvt. Ltd.)

pressure setting, the Blue 22 prewinder with adjustable waste length, ARVD II Plus and Airmaster for better management of air consumption and the brand new PRA II Plus for superfast removal of broken picks.

During the second part of the program Mr. Lieven Engelbeen, Sales Manager of Picanol NV Belgium, highlighted the salient features of the new rapier loom Optimax-i, launched during ITMA.

The more than 80 customers and prospects present at the gathering greatly appreciated the information shared and enjoyed the face-to-face discussions with the Picanol representatives during an informal walking dinner after the presentations.

Indo-Intertex Jakarta 2016: Picanol fully committed to the Indonesian textile industry

The Indo-Intertex exhibition is the major trade fair for suppliers to the Indonesian textile and garment industry. The four-day exhibition attracted more than 14,000 visitors and 900 exhibitors. Picanol participated with its latest airjet and rapier technology.



The OptiMax-i, the successor to the very popular OptiMax model, was shown for the very first time in Indonesia. One demonstration machine was weaving an Indonesian denim fabric at very high speed. The OMNIplus Summum was also on display weaving an Indonesian sarong fabric at a speed of over 1000 rpm, something never seen before in Indonesia. This was all the more remarkable given that the fabric requires multi-color dyed yarn in warp and weft. A closed selvedge was formed by the Air Tucking-in (ATI) devices,



and yarn/beam preparation were from an Indonesian textile factory.

"Picanol was the only high-end supplier to actually show both rapier and airjet machines, with yarns sourced from Indonesian textile companies and fabric design and preparation done in Indonesia itself. This shows that Picanol machines are very suitable for Indonesian yarns and fabrics and can perform at high levels of productivity and efficiency. It also demonstrates our commitment to the textile industry in Indonesia and to our customers. With our office based in Bandung, a pool of local technicians and customer service staff, Picanol is fully geared to provide best-in-class services and sales support for the Indonesian industry," concluded Mr. Tanim Chowdhury, General Manager of PT Picanol Indonesia and INA Supervisory Board Member.



All eyes on Russia: Picanol at Inlegmash

The Inlegmash textile machinery exhibition was held in Moscow from 24 to 26 February. Picanol participated with a group stand organized by our Russian agent NAT. Picanol has a long tradition at this exhibition, as demonstrated by among other things the photograph book published to mark our 75th anniversary. Indeed Picanol was present at the exhibition back in 1975 when we were honored by a visit from the Russian cosmonaut Pavel Popovitch.

However the recent spectacular devaluation of the Russian ruble and the collapse of oil prices on which the Russian economy is strongly dependent together with boycott measures have led to local policy-makers rediscovering the importance of domestic manufacturing. This in turn has encouraged ambitious investment plans, giving renewed hope that Russia could once more become an important market for weaving machines. Reason enough for the Picanol team to participate in Inlegmash Moscow with redoubled efforts!



From l. to r.: Kurt Lamkowski (CRT manager), Jurgen Laier (Area Service Manager) and Tony Decock (Sales Manager).

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Growing is the essence of weaving.

Thread by thread, line by line, from the most basic to the most exquisite, a wide range of fabrics emerge from our weaving machines.

That's why Picanol offers a wide variety of machines and services that enable weavers to create every fabric imaginable.

Growing is the essence of doing business.

The relentless pursuit to weave faster, better and more cost-efficiently is what drives you, and motivates us. That's why we make our machines ever more energy-efficient, user-friendly and easy to set.

Growing is the essence of the future.

The world changes quickly, and only those who are ready to learn and adapt will survive.

That's why Picanol machines are sustainable, futureproof and intelligent machines that can adapt to changing circumstances and connect with each other. And that's why at Picanol, we want to be an intelligent organization that listens to our customers and develops together with them.

Because our goal is to Grow Together. With you, our customers and partners.

We will grow together by removing all the obstacles and conventions holding back your ambition and our imagination.

We will grow together by enabling your continued access to the latest technology.

We will grow together by inspiring each other, listening to each other and learning from each other.

We truly believe that the future holds tremendous opportunities for growth.

Let's grab them.

Let's grow together



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