

Press release

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Texworld Launches Into Footwear Market To Expand Sourcing Opportunities In Collaboration With Two Industry Leaders.

Global Footwear Sourcing, a new feature area in partnership with Material Exchange and Footwear Distributors & Retailers Association, to debut at Texworld New York City this July.

Texworld New York City announces a new partnership with Material Exchange and the Footwear Distributors & Retailers Association to increase footwear sourcing opportunities. The partnership includes the addition of a new footwear components showcase, **Global Footwear Sourcing**, to debut this July at the Javits Center alongside Texworld NYC, the largest sourcing event on the East Coast.

Material Exchange is the top marketplace for sourcing materials and components for footwear and apparel, connecting suppliers and buyers across the globe digitally. The Material Exchange mission is to help make transactions between suppliers and buyers more efficient, transparent and cost effective.

“Over the last couple of years, the sourcing industry has come to rely heavily on digital connections,” says Material Exchange’s CEO Darren Glenister. “Now, in-person events like FDRA’s and Texworld’s upcoming events are re-entering the mainstream, allowing important relationships to be built and nurtured – but there’s still a need to maintain these connections throughout the year; that’s where the digital collaboration comes into play. Material Exchange’s platform is the perfect complement to in-person trade shows, enabling industry players to strengthen these valuable relationships over time.”

The *Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America* (FDRA) represents over 95% of the entire footwear industry, including the majority of U.S. footwear manufacturers, brands, retailers, and importers to global footwear companies.

“We are very excited to finally welcome everyone back in-person this July. This new partnership was a natural fit as it furthers Texworld NYC’s strategy to expand the offerings available to buyers, meeting market

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demands in an innovative way” comments, Jennifer Bacon, Vice President, Fashion and Apparel Shows, Messe Frankfurt.

Global Footwear Sourcing will feature a wide range of shoe material components. Product categories include leather, synthetic, laces, insole, outsole, webbing and ribbon, thread and yarn, and hardware. Exhibitors will be represented in-person as well as through Material Exchange’s digital marketplace.

Within Global Footwear Sourcing, visitors can take advantage of educational seminars hosted by FDRA covering niche topics from sustainable footwear sourcing to material selection. Inside of Texworld NYC’s trend showcase curated by New York-based trend agency TOBE/ The Doneger Group, attendees can find the latest technology trends fueling innovation within the footwear industry. More details to be announced including exhibitor lists and full education schedule.

Registration for the event is now open. Those interested in attending Global Footwear Sourcing can register on Texworld NYC’s website. The co-located shows will be held in New York City at the Javits Convention Center, July 19-21, alongside Apparel Sourcing New York City and Home Textiles Sourcing. For more detailed information, please visit us online.

www.texworldnewyorkcity.com

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Background information on Texworld New York City

Texworld New York City is one of the largest sourcing events on the East Coast for apparel fabric buyers, research and product development specialists, designers, merchandisers and overseas sourcing professionals. This international business platform offers a wide product range covering the entire fabric spectrum. From casual cotton to function fabrics and sophisticated knits to intricate laces, season-to-season attendees discover textiles of innovative structures, material mixes and surprising color palettes.

For more information, please visit www.texworldnewyorkcity.com.

Background information Apparel Sourcing New York City

As a long-term joint venture partnership between Messe Frankfurt and CCPIT-Tex, Apparel Sourcing New York City offers apparel brands, retailers, wholesalers and independent design firms a dedicated sourcing marketplace for finding the best international apparel

manufacturers. As the only event on the East Coast to focus on finished apparel, contract manufacturing and private label development, the show provides attendees direct access to suppliers specializing in ready-to-wear for men, women, children and accessories.

For more information, please visit: www.apparelsourcingnewyorkcity.com

Background information on Home Textiles Sourcing

As a long-term joint venture partnership between Messe Frankfurt and CCPIT-TEX, Home Textiles Sourcing Expo is one of the largest sourcing events in North America to solely focus on fabrics and finished soft goods for all home applications. Held annually alongside Texworld New York City and Apparel Sourcing New York City, Home Textiles Sourcing provides manufacturers, retailers, jobbers, converters, contract specifiers and designers a one-stop-sourcing venue to locate new fabrics and products for their latest collections. Together the three co-located shows create one of the largest fabric sourcing destinations for the North American marketplace.

For more information, please visit our website at:

www.hometextilessourcing.com.

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

The Messe Frankfurt Group is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organizer with its own exhibition grounds. The Group employs approximately 2,300* people at its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main and in 30 subsidiaries around the world. In 2021, the company had to contend with the challenges posed by the pandemic for the second consecutive year. Annual sales will be approximately €140* million after having been as high as €736 million in 2019 before the pandemic. Even in difficult times caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we are globally networked with our industry sectors. We have close ties with our industry sectors and serve our customers' business interests efficiently within the framework of our Fairs & Events, Locations and Services business fields. One of the Group's key USPs is its closely knit global sales network, which extends throughout the world. Our comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organizing and running their events. We are expanding our digital expertise with new business models. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. Headquartered in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent).

For more information, please visit our website at: www.messefrankfurt.com

* Preliminary figures for 2021

Messe Frankfurt North America is a subsidiary of Messe Frankfurt and is headquartered in Atlanta, GA. Messe Frankfurt North America produces and manages shows within the United States, Canada, and Mexico. In addition to Texworld New York City, Apparel Sourcing New York City, and Home Textiles Sourcing, the North American portfolio of events includes Techtextil North America, Texprocess Americas, The Clean Show, INA PAACE Automechanika Mexico City, Waste & Recycling Expo Canada, and Process Expo.

For more information, please visit our website at www.us.messefrankfurt.com.