

Press release
(English translation)

IEG: THE LIVE APPOINTMENT WITH FIMAST FOR THE HOSIERY INDUSTRY

Directed by Italian Exhibition Group, the 5th edition of the biennial international event dedicated to the sock and footwear sectors will be at the Brixia Forum in Brescia (Italy). From October 19th to 22nd 2021, technological excellence and all the news live, from machinery to yarns to the finished product. And with FIMAST CONNECT a new digital development opportunity for exhibitors.

www.fimast.eu/en/

Brescia (Italy), 18th - 22nd October 2021– **From October 19th to 22nd 2021, FIMAST, the B2B event for the sock and footwear supply chains organized by Italian Exhibition Group returns at the Brixia Forum**, in the heart of the two **Italian districts of Brescia** for textile machinery and complementary technologies, and of **Mantua** for yarns and hosiery factories. In order to reconnect the international community online as well, the new **FIMAST CONNECT** virtual platform is available from last April.

For the restart of the sector, the fifth edition of the international biennial event - **from 2019 in the IEG exhibition portfolio of events** - will gather **yarns, production technologies, machinery and finished products, services and accessories** in the Brescia exhibition center. It will be the first opportunity for Italian and international operators, after the forced stop due to the pandemic, to reconnect with the market to develop the business and discuss the future, finally live and in presence, with all the protagonists of innovation and most significant market trends. On stage, therefore, new products such as “**seamless**” that caters to the technical sports sector, the **knitted shoe**, a footwear born from the encounter between shoe factories and hosiery factories, or solutions for the **healthcare** sector.

In a rapidly evolving scenario, the format will combine the physical presence of Italian and foreign exhibitors and buyers at the event, with **FIMAST CONNECT**, an advanced **business matching** platform to facilitate the interaction with international operators unable to reach Italy for any mobility restrictions still in place. **Starting from the month of April**, the new tool **developed by IEG** will provide exhibitors not only with an easy solution to organize the agenda of business meetings both in person and remotely, but also with an online showcase to present their news on international markets through numerous features. In fact, companies will be able to organize webinars, presentations and training meetings.

FIMAST will also give space to professional updating thanks to the partnership with the **Centro Servizi Calza (CSC)** and the **Associazione Distretto Calza e Intimo (A.DI.CI.)** which will investigate the industrial and economic scenarios of **textile machinery**. According to the latest data available, the national production which has a strong tradition in the Italian manufacturing system, in 2018, it reached **2.5 billion euros** in value, thanks to about **330 companies** and **10,000 workers** employed in the Mantua district alone (Castelgoffredo). A good **83 percent** of the machinery produced in Italy is **exported** to around 130 countries: ranging from spinning machines to those for dyeing, through maintenance and, of course, hosiery. In 2019, the **export** value of hosiery was **480 million euros** (CERSI elaboration on ITC data).

ABOUT FIMAST

FIMAST, the **international tradeshow dedicated to the entire hosiery industry** is a **biennial B2B** event now in its **fifth edition**. It will be held in the Brixia Forum Expo Center in Brescia (Italy). **Opening hours:** from Tuesday October 19th, 2021 to Thursday October 21st, 2021 from 9am to 6pm; Friday October 22^d, 2021 from 9am to 2 pm. Unique in Italy for the sector, it offers the latest world news on textile machines for socks. Thanks to the presence of large hosiery factories, it opens scenarios for the major yarn producers in the key districts of this sector in Italy: in Brescia, the headquarters of the main machinery district for this type of article, and in Mantua for the finished product. www.fimast.eu

FOCUS ON ITALIAN EXHIBITION GROUP

Italian Exhibition Group (IEG), listed on the Screen-based Share Market (MTA) organised and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A., is a leader in Italy in the organisation of trade fairs and one of the main operators in the trade fair and conference sector at European level, with structures in Rimini and Vicenza, as well as further sites in Milan and Arezzo. The IEG Group is notable in the organisation of events in five categories: Food & Beverage; Jewellery & Fashion; Tourism, Hospitality and Lifestyle; Wellness, Sport and Leisure; Green & Technology. In the last few years, IEG started a significant expansion process abroad, also through the conclusion of joint ventures with local operators (for example, in the United States, Arab Emirates and in China). IEG closed the 2019 financial year with consolidated total revenues of € 178.6 million, an EBITDA of € 41.9 million and a consolidated net profit of € 12.6 million. In 2019, IEG totalled 48 organised or hosted fairs and 190 conferences. <https://www.iegexpo.it/en/>

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