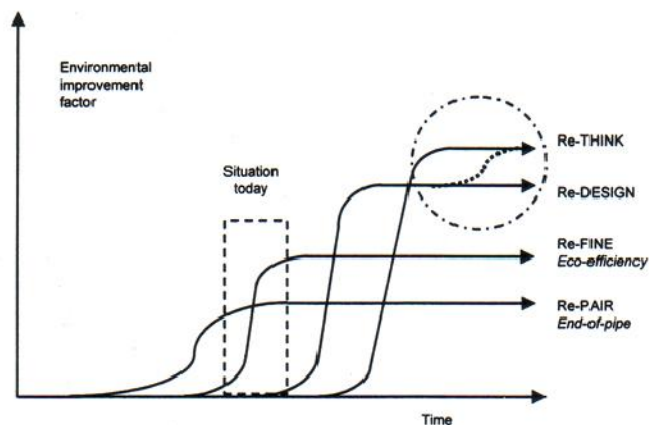


ECOTEXTILE '98

- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

edited by
A Richard Horrocks



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Proceedings of the Conference,
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edited by

A Richard Horrocks
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PREFACE

The papers in this edited text comprise those presented at the recent international conference **ECOTEXTILE'98**, which was organised jointly by **Bolton Institute** and the **British Textile Technology Group** and took place on 7 & 8th April, 1998 at The Bolton Moat House, Bolton, UK.

The conference received sponsorship and support from Dorma (CV Home Furnishings Ltd.), Terram Ltd., Courtaulds Textiles, TNO (Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research), EMPA (European Manufacturers Association) and the (UK) Government Office North West.

The theme of the conference was **Sustainable Development** and followed on naturally from the earlier conference **ECOTEXTILE'95 – Wealth From Waste In Textiles**, which was published in 1996 by Woodhead Publishing Ltd as “**Recycling Textile and Plastic Waste**”. This theme follows the realisation in the late 1990s that environmental awareness and practice by industry and commerce lead to financial savings if properly managed. Furthermore, if textile manufacturing processes and products are to be “fully green”, then it is essential that both financial and environmental sustainability are achieved. This means that the simple “end-of-pipe” solutions considered and implemented during this last decade of the twentieth century will not be acceptable for the twenty-first century. Both consumer pressures and legislation will force manufacturing industries to become environmentally sustainable, whether they are sited in Europe and the USA or are elsewhere and export into these areas.

The proceedings comprise thirty-six papers, which are divided into the five areas:

- **Waste Minimisation**
- **Process Optimisation**
- **Recovery, Recycling and Re-use**
- **New Products and Processes**
- **Environmental Impact Analysis**

and provide sufficient coverage of each for the reader to grasp and understand the current main issues as well as pointing towards future solutions. It is hoped that the content and balance of papers, which include overviews, personal opinion and original research, will go some way to increasing our knowledge of achieving full environmental sustainability of the textile and related industrial sectors.

Richard Horrocks
Bolton Institute

July 1998