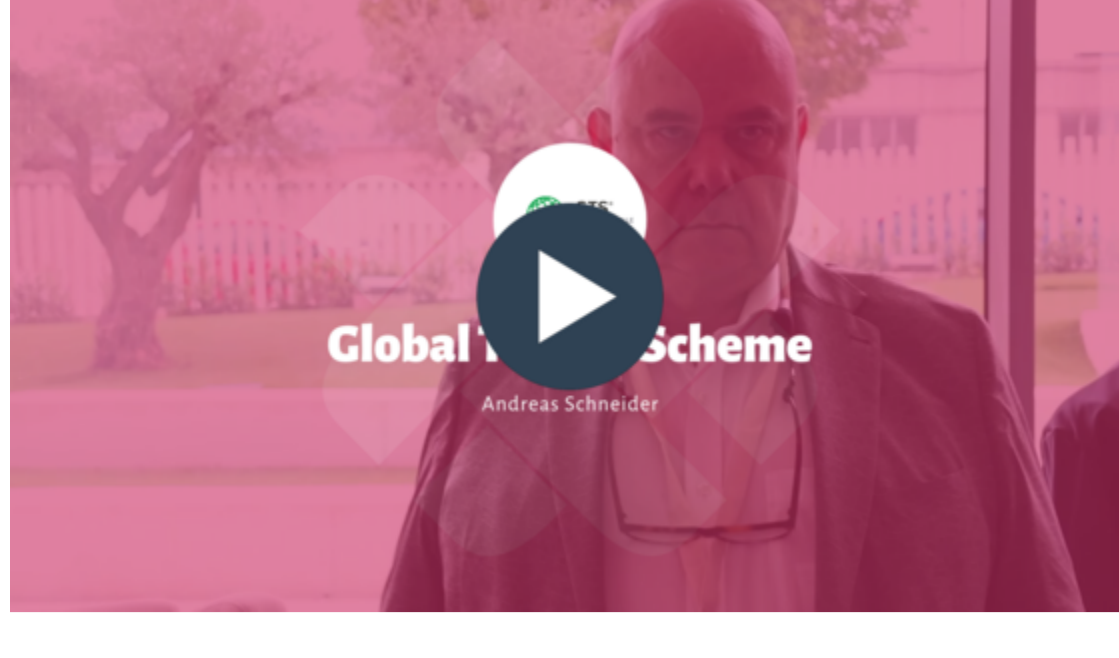



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Follow the Thread

Meet the Textile ETP Members



Meet Andreas Schneider from Global Textile Scheme

Andreas Schneider is a textile engineer and fashion industry veteran who progressed from ladies tailor to technical management and board roles. Until 2020, he was Managing Partner of GCS Consulting GmbH, Munich's leading IT consultancy for fashion and lifestyle companies. Through leadership positions in GS1 and The Consumer Goods Forum, he helped establish key industry standards for RFID, EPCIS, and eBIZ. Since founding the Global Textile Scheme Initiative in 2020, Andreas leads sustainability digitalization efforts through the EU CIRPASS project, developing Digital Product Passports for upcoming eco-design legislation. He manages Textile Expert Group 3 in CIRPASS 2 and serves on multiple DIN, ISO, and EU working groups focused on textile sustainability and circular economy standards. His pioneering work from 2004-2015 with fashionGroup RFID established him as a leader in textile technology innovation, uniquely positioning him to guide the industry's transformation toward sustainable practices.

Want to meet people like Andreas? Join Textile ETP! With our strong community of professionals, you will have access to a vast network of textile experts, opportunities to participate in collaborative research projects, and stay updated on the latest textile trends and developments.

[Join Textile ETP](#)

Textile ETP News and Events



New in our Innovation Hubs: Strategy Co-Creation

Starting next year, our 3 Innovation Hubs introduce a new activity: **strategic co-creation sessions** designed to explore and identify opportunities in bio-based materials and biotechnologies, and translate them into future EU funding prospects. This activity is created specifically for Innovation Hub members and aims to support collaborative, forward-looking strategic development.

Central to this new activity are **two co-creation workshops** per Hub, planned for **Spring 2026** (dates will vary depending on the Hubs), open to all respective subscribers. These sessions will **bring members together in a highly collaborative environment to explore opportunities, challenges, and strategic pathways related to timely issues within the textile sector**.

The outcome of this collaborative process will be strategic papers on:

- **SmartX Innovation Hub: The Future of EU Technical Textiles: Exploring New Opportunities in Protection, Defence and Space**, with a first vision to be presented at **Techtextil in April 2026**, and a full report and dedicated event later in 2026.
- **DigitX Innovation Hub: The Digital Transformation of the EU Textile and Apparel Industry**, to be published in May 2026 and presented at the **Textile ETP Annual Conference 2026** in the Netherlands.
- **Circular & Biobased Textiles Innovation Hub: Bioeconomy Opportunities in the Textile Sector**, to be published in **September 2026** and presented at the **ECOSYSTEM Conference** in Belgium.

These publications aim to reach the wider European textile research and innovation community and key European stakeholders.

[More information and subscriptions to the Innovation Hubs](#)


Join the Textile EPR Masterclass: All you need to know to prepare for EU-wide implementation of textile EPR systems by 2027

We are launching the Textile EPR Masterclass, a 7-session live webinar series designed to help the industry prepare for the EU-wide implementation of textile Extended Producer Responsibility by 2027.

The programme will run from January to June 2026 and was developed in collaboration between Textile ETP, OHANA Public Affairs, and Refashion. Participants will learn the essentials of EPR, understand EU legal requirements, explore expected consumption and waste flows, and gain insights into the development of collection, sorting, textile-to-textile recycling, and the role of ecodesign, repair and reuse in ecomodulated fees.

The Masterclass is part of the Circular Biobased Textiles Innovation Hub. Organisations that are not Innovation Hub subscribers can still join through a one-time subscription to the Masterclass only, giving them full access to the 7 EPR sessions.

[More information and subscriptions](#)


Skills4Circularity project launched to boost textile industry skills

Skills4Circularity, a four-year project designed to reshape the sector's professional skillset, has officially kicked off on 25-26 November in Terrassa, Spain. Over the next four years, the consortium will develop innovative training tools, methodologies, and learning programs tailored to the evolving needs of the sector. As part of a consortium, Textile ETP is leading the project's visibility and awareness-raising campaign, promoting the importance of circularity in textiles and the development of sustainable skills across the sector.

[Learn more](#)


Textile ETP Secretary General at the ADD-ITC 2025

On 28 November, our Secretary General, Lutz Walter, represented Textile ETP at the **2025 Aachen-Dresden-Denkendorf International Textile Conference**. He moderated the plenary session "Durable or Disposable? Fashion's Sustainability Dilemma," guiding a discussion on how EU textile sustainability regulation will shape new technologies and business models for circularity. Panelists included experts from the European Commission, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, and Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences.

[Learn more](#)

Knowledge Centre



Analysis of the European textile & clothing industry in 2024 and prospects (2025-2026)

This report by Euratex offers an insight into the 2024 evolution of the T&C sector and prospects, as well as the general European economic forecast (2025-2026). It also provides detailed country reports written by Euratex Members' Associations.

[More info](#)


Textile Data Best Practices 2025

TEXroad uses the step-by-step approach and data points defined in the Basic Textile Data from 2024 as the basis of collaboration with municipalities and their partners in the post-consumer textile value chain. The 2025 edition includes an update to the Estonian case studies with data from collection activities and key insights.

[Read the document](#)

Coming Up

The Calendar of Events



ECOSYSTEM Insights Series #19

23 January, online
Join us for the 19th ECOSYSTEM Insight Series webinar and dive into the latest EU-funded research & innovations transforming the textile industry: SOLSTICE, REDOL, ECHT and INTEGRANO.

[More info](#)


CBE JU Stakeholder Forum 2026

24 March, Belgium
CBESF26 will focus on a central question: what must still be done to ensure that Europe's high-potential bio-based innovations become large-scale industrial solutions? As bio-based technologies advance and the EU prepares key policy frameworks, including the recently updated EU Bioeconomy Strategy and the upcoming Biotech and Circular Economy Act, the timing could not be more crucial.

[More info](#)


Techtextil 21-24 April, Germany

As the global hub for innovation in textile technology, Techtextil brings together industry leaders, researchers, and visionaries from across the world to showcase cutting-edge materials, smart textiles, sustainable solutions, and advanced production technologies.

[More info](#)

Exploring the World of Textiles

Lutz Walter's Monthly Blogpost



Where does all the polyester go?

"Recycling old discarded clothes into clean materials to make new clothes sounds like a good idea – in principle. And why not, it's done for paper, for glass bottles, for metal cans, so surely it can be done for textiles. But as they say, the proof is in the pudding. So you won't really know until you tryed. Trying is not to take a random t-shirt piece from the nearest home decoration store or a random t-shirt pulled from a bin and shred or dissolve it in the lab. Really trying is to consider the majority of all the real textile products that are used and discarded by real consumers in a market and to understand what it would take to turn them back into clean textile fibres for the next industrial spinning cycle at large, consistent and economically viable scale."

In his latest blog post, our Secretary General Lutz Walter unpacks where all the world's polyester really goes, and why global fibre production numbers tell only part of the story.

[Read "Where does all the polyester go?"](#)

Social Post of the month

