

PRESS RELEASE

MUNICH FABRIC START: Thinking Tomorrow

- ***Thought Leadership: At THE STAGE, thought leaders will discuss AI, the circular economy, sustainable product development, material innovations and the future of the textile value chain.***
- ***Trend Forecasts: Leading trend experts present the key developments in colour, materials and design for Autumn.Winter 27/28.***
- ***Anniversary Conversations: Managing Director Florian Klinder and long-standing companions at MUNICH FABRIC START discussing the past three decades and look ahead to the future.***

Munich, July 6, 2026. With just a few days to go before the opening of MUNICH FABRIC START, attention is turning to the extensive edutainment programme at the international textile trade show. With a top-class programme featuring keynotes, panel discussions, trend presentations and discussion sessions, **THE STAGE** will once again become the central hub for knowledge, inspiration and interdisciplinary exchange within the European textile and fashion industry.

From July 14 to 16, 2026, MUNICH FABRIC START, together with its integrated show-in-shows BLUEZONE, KEYHOUSE and THE SOURCE, will present the latest developments and innovations from around 650 collections by international fabric, trims and sourcing suppliers at the MOC in Munich. Key exhibitors include, amongst others, **Albini Group, Calik Denim, E. Miroglio (Miroglio Lana, SEM and KBC), Fabric House.com, FSE Franz Schäfer Etiketten, Gottstein, Ipeker, Sharabati and WE Nordic Label Studios**. By combining business, innovation and inspiration, MUNICH FABRIC START continues to cement its position as one of Europe's leading textile trade shows in its 30th year.

THE STAGE: Thinking about the future together

How are artificial intelligence and digitalisation transforming materials development? What impact do new regulatory frameworks have on the textile value chain? And how can we successfully transition to a functioning circular economy? These questions feature on the three-day agenda of THE STAGE, which centres on sustainable materials development, the circular economy, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), digital product development and AI across the textile value chain. A particular highlight is the **Anniversary Conversations**. Long-standing partners of MUNICH FABRIC START will look back on three decades of the trade fair's history, before **MFS Managing Director Florian Klinder** turns his attention to the future.

Presentation: The latest findings on EPR

With the first-ever presentation of the "System Design Report for Textiles EPR in Germany", the audience will gain an exclusive insight into the future structure of extended producer responsibility (EPR) in Germany. The report was developed by **Circular Republic** in collaboration with more than 20 stakeholders across the textile value chain. The findings provide concrete recommendations for action for policymakers and industry, and bring one of the European textile industry's most pressing regulatory issues to life.

MUNICH INTERNATIONAL FABRIC TRADE SHOW START

Trends on Stage: Forecasts for Autumn/Winter 27/28

The trend presentations cover everything from major societal developments to their concrete application in colour, material and silhouette. Whilst **Volker Orthmann and Katharina Majorek from o/m Collective** unpack the overarching theme “TASTE.” for Autumn/Winter 27/28, **Karin Schmitz from Peclers Paris** offers insights into the season’s key womenswear trends. **Muchaneta ten Napel from Shape Innovate** adds another highlight with her keynote speech on the changing perception of luxury and its impact on material development, transparency and sourcing. The presentations complement the trend forums and provide designers, product developers and buyers with guidance for the development of future collections. Other speakers include **Antoine Doubacis (The PatternClub)**, **Nicole Espey (ITA Aachen)**, **Gökçe Aydan Işık (MIMBIOSIS)**, **Georg Kühne (Decathlon)**, **René Lang (VDMD/designformen)**, **Toby Moss (Worn Again)**, **Sofia Strazzanti (Future Fashion Assembly)**, **Phoebe Yu (PLNTmatter)** and numerous other experts from the fields of research, industry, technology and design. The full programme is available at: www.munichfabricstart.com/the-show

ART & TEXTILES and the new labels of the DESIGN AREA

Alongside the programme of talks, MUNICH FABRIC START is expanding its content offering with the new exhibitions ART & TEXTILES and the DESIGN AREA. The line-up has now been finalised: ART & TEXTILES will feature the large-scale textile works “Children of Sky” and “Riders of Silence” by French artist **Julien Jaca**, as well as **Richard Nadlers’** monumental embroidery “Sanctum Carnis”. The third project is a video art presentation normally on display at the Museum of Craft and Design in San Francisco. **Jodie Mack** is showing “Blanket Statement #2, All or Nothing”, **Kate Nartker** is presenting “Green Screen”, and **Greg Climer** rounds off the line-up with his “Animated Quilt Film”. The DESIGN AREA, meanwhile, offers inspiration through the three design labels **Fade Out (Andrea Bonfini)**, **Buki Akomolafe** as well as **Faible and Failure**, which open up new perspectives on contemporary fashion through sustainable materials, precision craftsmanship and innovative design approaches. ART & TEXTILES and DESIGN AREA complement the trade fair’s business offering with curated spaces for creative perspectives and cross-sector exchange at the interface of materials, design and art.

AFTERSHOW DRINKS: “Cheers, MUNICH FABRIC START“

MUNICH FABRIC START will round off the second day of the show with the **AFTERSHOW DRINKS**, together with exhibitors, visitors, partners and media representatives. To mark its 30th anniversary, the show is hosting a summery aperitivo on Wednesday, July 15, from 6.30 pm. Over drinks, food and music, this is the perfect opportunity to continue the day’s discussions in a relaxed atmosphere, make new contacts and celebrate the international MUNICH FABRIC START community.

THE NEXT TRADE SHOW DATES:

MUNICH FABRIC START | THE SOURCE | BLUEZONE & KEYHOUSE
AUTUMN.WINTER 27/28
14 – 16 July 2026

VIEW PREMIUM SELECTION
AUTUMN.WINTER 27/28
8 + 9 September 2026

www.munichfabricstart.com | www.bluezone.show | www.viewmunich.com