

## Preface

The Association of Universities for Textiles (AUTEX) organizes every year a high level World Textile Conference, the most important scientific event in the international community of textiles. There is already a long chain of AUTEX Conferences and the current AUTEX 2017 is the 17<sup>th</sup> edition. It took place in the period 29-31 May 2017 on the island of Corfu, Greece. The responsibility of the organization has been undertaken by the Piraeus University of Applied Sciences.

Scientists from all over the world participated in the conference and they have contributed with the communication of their valuable research work. Representatives from the industry and important decision makers have been together with the academic researchers and the creation and exchange of ideas has formed a fertile community, active from the first until the last moment of the AUTEX 2017 World Textile Conference.

In the AUTEX 2017 Conference some interesting novelties have been introduced:

- Every University member of AUTEX had a participating member in the International Scientific Committee.
- The papers have been peer reviewed in the abstract and full text level and the articles passed both peer review procedures will be published in the Conference Proceedings Series of IOP.
- The concept of the honored country has been probed. The country selected for 2017 was Uzbekistan. The diplomatic mission of Uzbekistan has participated in the conference and an exhibition of Uzbek products has been organized.

The main goal of the AUTEX 2017 conference was to bring together academic scientists and researchers, industrialists and industry engineers, policy and administration specialists to exchange ideas and to share their experiences and results. After the successful organization of the AUTEX 2017 Conference, the feedback received has confirmed that the goal of the AUTEX 2017 has been fully achieved.

We would like to thank all the members of the International Organizing Committee and the International Scientific Committee for their continuous support during the time of the preparation and even after the Conference as well as for their contribution to maintain the high level of the AUTEX 2017 Conference.

Sincere thanks to the members of the International Scientific Committee for their huge efforts in the abstracts review period and then during the full text review of the articles. The big number of the contributions imposed a very high work load in the phase of the reviews, however the members of the International Scientific Committee with the high degree of responsibility have carried out successfully the difficult tasks.

The AUTEX 2017 conference couldn't be successful without the support of many members of the academic and administrative community of the Piraeus University of Applied Sciences. We truly thank all those who made this event happen and among them, Prof. Dimitrios Tseles, Mr. Evangelos Louris, Mr. Ioannis Chronis, Dr. Dimitrios Tassis, Mr. Anastasios Tzerachoglou, Mrs Marisa Sigala, Mrs Elena Gyalinou, Mr. Aristidis Repoulias and Mr. Sotiris Panagou, for the time spent and the insistence to overcome the minor and major difficulties with their hard work. In addition to them, the Atholidays travel agency personnel had guaranteed the quality of the travel and accommodation of the majority of our guests.

Last but not least we thank our sponsors Showroom10, Eventora, Rieter, AutoTech and Saco for their real support and care for the strengthening of the AUTEX 2017 World Textile Conference.



After a very efficient cooperation with the IOP Publishing personnel, we have the pleasure to present to the participants and to the textile academic, research and industrial community the proceedings of the AUTEX 2017 World Textile Conference. Thanks once again for your participation and active contribution to the success of AUTEX 2017.

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