

**NEW REPORT FROM DRA URGES THE CHEMICAL AND FIBRE INDUSTRY TO PLAN FOR GROWTH IN TECHNICAL TEXTILES AND NONWOVENS**

David Rigby Associates, a leading authority in the technical textile industry, has produced an in-depth report which, for the first time, quantifies the global market for fibre and yarn types consumed in technical textiles and nonwovens.

The report, '**Technical Textiles and Industrial Nonwovens: World Market Forecasts to 2010**', advises the chemical and fibre industry to expect the technical textiles and nonwovens market to increase by an average 4.0% per year in volume over the period 2002 to 2010. This results in a forecast market for fibres and yarns of 23.8 mn tonnes with a value of \$47bn by 2010. There has been lower growth of 2.1% per annum between 2000 and 2002 due to adverse world economic conditions.

The report reveals that by 2010 man-made fibres will have increased their share of usage in the technical sector from 77% to 81%; the main loser will be cotton. Inorganic fibres will show the fastest growth (4.5% per annum to 2010) and the use of woodpulp will also grow strongly from a low base.

The report also highlights the significant increase in demand for polymer chip to 2010 as nonwovens increase their share of fabric usage (by weight) from 34% to 39%. This growth will be largely at the expense of woven fabrics, which will in turn force down demand for staple and multifilament yarns.

The largest application areas for fibres and yarns by value in 2000 are transport, industrial and sports-related products. The fastest growing sectors up to 2004 are medical/hygiene, geotextiles, building/construction and products used in industry.

Market growth will be strongest in Asia, which will account for 45% of the overall market by weight in 2010 compared with 23% for Europe and 29% for the Americas.

David Rigby, Chairman of DRA, said: "We believe that this is the first attempt to quantify the global market for fibres and yarns consumed in technical textiles and nonwovens to this level of detail. Our report shows that the market will grow rapidly from \$33bn to \$47bn from 2000-2010. For the first time, we are providing detailed forecasts for the different types of fibres, yarns and final textile products used in a comprehensive range of technical products and end-use applications. This will be invaluable information for producers of chemicals, fibres and machinery targeting this important and growing branch of textiles".

For more information on 'Technical Textiles and Industrial Nonwovens: World Market Forecasts to 2010' or to buy the report visit DRA's website: [www.davidrigbyassociates.com](http://www.davidrigbyassociates.com) or contact:

Barry Davies, David Rigby Associates, 26, Cross Street, Manchester M2 7AF, UK.

Tel: +44-161-839-0990, Email: [ttr@dratex.co.uk](mailto:ttr@dratex.co.uk)

**Word Count: 406**

Notes to Editors:

1. Summary tables of forecasts to 2010 are available at [www.davidrigbyassociates.co.uk/buy.html](http://www.davidrigbyassociates.co.uk/buy.html)
- 2 Further details can be obtained from David Rigby at the above address.
3. An email version of this release and the tables is available on our website (see above).