

Business Unit KM.ON: expanding the portfolio of digital solutions

At ITMA ASIA 2018, KARL MAYER launched its own digital brand, KM.ON, the associated digital solutions portfolio, which is divided into eight product categories, and the first solutions. KM.ON's range of features has been extended considerably in time for the next ITMA trade fair in Barcelona.

The k.innovation covers the first software developments, which will enable customers to shorten their time-to-market considerably by adapting their workflows and processes. To do this, a complex theme was upgraded to the latest technical standards. For example, the software is not installed in situ but is used via a browser. This enables several users to cooperate. Further details on this innovative software and the benefits for customers will be showcased at ITMA 2019.

k.production is also launching its first products. This new digital tool combines a PDA system with a ticket system to enable any disruptions in production to be managed efficiently. The relevant information can be input easily and quickly at the machine and forwarded to the appropriate location in

real time. Any problems can be dealt with quickly, and the root cause can be tackled rapidly by displaying the relevant sequence. This system is very easy to operate, which means that this new development can be used immediately.

k.management enables the current production process to be viewed remotely and now includes a greater range of parameters. The key performance indicator, warp beam running time, is a new feature. This performance parameter provides information quickly and clearly on imminent beam changes, and thus contributes to reducing downtimes and maintenance times. If the k.production and k.management systems are combined, the remotely available information can be expanded: in addition to status reports, details of the causes are also available.

The new features in the k.maintenance system focus on the topic of planned maintenance. With specified maintenance plans and active reminders of pending jobs, this tool should help to minimise the risk of machine breakdowns.



The key for accessing all the KM.ON solutions, k.ey, has also been upgraded. This box is used to network machines, and the latest version also enables KARL MAYER's older machines, equipped with KAMCOS® 1, to be integrated.

The features of KM.ON are aimed at customers of KARL MAYER, as well as all the other manufacturers in the sector, including warp knitting, warp preparation and technical textiles. As well as offering more features, KM.ON is also aiming to be closer to its target groups. Subsidiaries of KM.ON will also be available in China and Hong Kong in the future.

Spare parts procurement simple and convenient – WEBSHOP SPARE PARTS continues to expand



The range and functions of KARL MAYER's WEBSHOP SPARE PARTS have been continuously extended since its launch at ITMA in Milan four years ago. The strategic objective of these changes is to deliver maximum benefits for its customers. Customer-oriented, cross-selling services with product-related purchasing recommendations and the scan-to-order function as a new and simple way of replenishing stocks using a smartphone and QR code were introduced at ITMA ASIA 2018. Another stage in the expansion of the Webshop will be presented at ITMA 2019.

The stocks held by KARL MAYER's distributors are now integrated into the Webshop, which is now available in 11 languages. This means that the spare parts can now be seen in local warehouses by customers and can be ordered virtually via the Webshop. This new function further simplifies the ordering process for customers, and guarantees that the spare parts are delivered in the fastest possible time. Once the spare part has been ordered via the Webshop, the order is processed in the usual way, i.e. simply and efficiently by the local distributors.

Ecological solutions from the machine to the textile

KARL MAYER assumes responsibility for the future, and keeps the focus on the topic of sustainability. Already at ITMA 2015 in Milan and 2018 in Shanghai, this manufacturer presented novel solutions and concepts in this respect. The innovation story will be continued in Barcelona.

In the course of the generation change of the high-performance warp-knitting machines, almost all models have been equipped with LEO. The LOW ENERGY OPTION enables an average energy saving of 10% compared to conventional counterparts, thus, helping to reduce the consumption of resources.

Moreover, it is possible to process resource-saving yarns on KARL MAYER machines. In Barcelona, a HKS 3-M EN will work a textile completely from a recycled filament yarn on the basis of bottleflakes, produced by Trevira. The article carries the new SINFINECO label, which is granted by the fiber manufacturer for textiles made from his sustainable products. Furthermore, the filaments have been awarded the certificates Global Recycled Standard (GRS) and Recycled Claim Standard (RCS-NL).

A selection of sustainable warp-knits and application concepts is offered by KARL MAYER's Application Show under CLEANER.PRODUCTIONS. Here you can find warp-knitted articles as ecologically beneficial alternative to woven fabrics for modern streetwear; and TERRY.ECO represents an efficient technological solution for more sustainability, energy and resource saving during terry fabric production. Target groups are the companies belonging to warp knitting and warp preparation for weaving. The topic of SUSTAINABLE DENIM is especially addressed to the manufacturers belonging to the denim sector. With the new ISODYE technology, KARL MAYER presents an indigo dyeing process in nitrogen atmosphere, which ensures an optimum setting of the dye, at the same time requiring less dye bath volume, chemicals and water.

Besides, the new system LINK-MATIC® will be presented to show the considerably simplified link of the beams during lot changes in the dye section and in the sizing machine. In this way, especially in the denim sector, it is possible to reduce retooling times of up

to 1.5 hours to a few minutes. The almost continuous production increases efficiency, and reduces waste, the share of second-grade goods and personnel expenditure.



The latest upgrade also extends to the integration of a WEBSHOP for spare parts for the Warp Preparation Business Unit. Customers can now order spare parts from all three of KARL MAYER's Business Units via the online tool that has been assigned to them.

Access has also been simplified. The user is transferred directly to the WEBSHOP that has been activated for him via the newly setup central access address, shop.karlmayer.com, or else he can select the Webshop he wants to use via a landing page.

The WEBSHOP SPARE PARTS continues to be available to our Chinese customers at shop.karlmayer.com.cn.

Aside from the Webshop, KARL MAYER's Spares Department in Obertshausen is continuing to develop ways of optimising the organisation and technology of its technical support operations in general.

These employees, together with their service and sales/marketing colleagues, are part of a new, specialist team. As a central point of contact, this group can provide rapid, expert help with virtually every question and problem – from making new investments

to after-sales service. Personal contact with customers and distributors, with no language barriers, is especially important for understanding their needs better and dealing with them even more effectively. When supplying spare parts, this means an even greater focus on speed when processing and delivering the parts, and also provides the best possible support when dealing with complex, technical queries. The consultancy group can be contacted easily via modern, online media and is also happy to help with using the WEBSHOP or apps, such as [k.maintenance](#) and [k.service](#).

