



PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Eco-lingerie: a RadiciGroup and Ritex SpA proposal for sustainable intimatewear.

At Interfilière Paris (7-8-9 July 2012 – STAND R26 - S27) RadiciGroup and its customer-partner Ritex SpA, a European leader in corsetry and lingerie embroidery, are introducing an innovative fabric manufactured using CornLeaf, a RadiciGroup yarn produced from Ingeo™ polylactic acid (PLA) biopolymer (a 100% natural material made from renewable vegetable resources).

In Paris, at the summer Interfilière, the world's leading fabric trade fair for intimateware, beachwear and loungewear, RadiciGroup and Ritex SpA are launching a product that is both high-quality and eco-friendly: a



lace fabric from **Ritex SpA** – an Italian company and European leader in lingerie embroidery, which has among its customers prestigious names such as *Chantelle* and *La Perla*, just to cite a few – manufactured using **CornLeaf**, a yarn made by **RadiciGroup** from Ingeo™ polylactic acid (PLA) biopolymer, a 100% natural material made from renewable vegetable resources. During the last few years, the fashion industry has made progress in its commitment to developing environmentally friendly products. There has been an

increase in the number of big fashion brands that have become aware of not only the environmental impact of the fashion business but also the importance to get final consumers involved and increase their environmental awareness, so as to steer the fashion business towards sustainability. The new lace fabric manufactured with CornLeaf is an example of how RadiciGroup and Ritex SpA, with the collaboration of yarn twister Alcafil Srl, translate their commitment into concrete action on the front of sustainable innovation. The new product will allow the two Italian partners to meet the growing market demand for low environmental impact fabrics that do not compromise on high performance.

CornLeaf yarn properties ...

CornLeaf is a bacteriostatic solution-dyed yarn made of Ingeo™ polylactic acid (PLA) biopolymer, a 100% natural material made from renewable vegetable resources. Because of its properties and the production process used, CornLeaf fully meets eco-sustainability standards, such as lower CO2 emissions and reduced water and energy consumption. Solution dyeing during the spinning stage means that the CornLeaf production process requires less water and energy compared to traditional dyeing and finishing. The yarn is

available in a wide range of lightfast, wash-resistant colours. Antimicrobial functionality is achieved through the use of HEIQ materials, by incorporating a special silver micro-compound into the fibre. Furthermore, its effectiveness has been certified according to ISO 20743:2007 standards. The compound will not interfere with the compostability of the yarn. In brief CornLeaf combines the advantages of natural fibres with those of synthetics: light weight, tenacity, comfort, UV resistance and safety.

Fabric properties ...

Thanks to the use of CornLeaf yarn, the Ritex fabric ensures the highest degree of sustainability together with excellent performance: light weight, softness, durability, excellent colourfastness and a bacteriostatic effect. Since the yarn is derived from a natural raw material, the fabric is anallergic and safe to the skin.

For further information

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RadiciGroup for the intimatewear sector ...

A leading European manufacturer of a vast range of yarn, RadiciGroup offers the intimatewear sector:



Solution-dyed bacteriostatic yarn produced with Ingeo™ polylactic acid (PLA) biopolymer.



Polyamide 6 and 66 continuous yarn available in raw-white and solution-dyed versions.

Production flexibility and know-how make it possible for RadiciGroup to offer a wide range of products that are ideal for a variety of processing technologies.

(The polymer used to manufacture Radilon® yarns is produced using renewable energy - hydroelectric energy)

RadiciGroup for sustainability

Using sustainability as a tool for business, innovation and corporate culture. This is the challenge RadiciGroup is tackling, well aware of the huge environmental, social and economic impact of the activities of an industrial enterprise during its entire life cycle and of the fact that a sustainable approach to doing business can make a real difference. RadiciGroup's commitment to sustainability calls for concrete actions involving its entire production chain: from chemicals to plastics and synthetic fibres.



What are just a few examples of the Group's commitment to sustainable action? Making the transition to reporting corporate responsibility according to [Global Reporting Initiative \(GRI\)](#) guidelines. Establishing a relationship of respect with its stakeholders involving direct and transparent dialogue. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20%. Reducing energy consumption by 20%. Increasing the use of renewable source energy by 20%. Increasing the use of materials from the recycling of both post-consumer waste and its own production waste/rejects by 20%. In 2011 the share of renewable source electric power used by RadiciGroup rose to 40%. In the same year, the share of recycled materials originating from its own polyamide production chain was 15%. RadiciGroup has developed products using renewable source materials: Radilon® D PA610 engineering plastics and CornLeaf, an Ingeo™ polylactic acid (PLA) biopolymer yarn. Moreover, products made from post-consumer recycled materials: r-Radyarn® and r-Starlight® yarns, obtained by reprocessing post-consumer recycled PET bottles. And other products helping to lower CO2 emissions: Radilon® engineering plastics, which can be used as metal replacements in automotive applications. RadiciGroup implements projects that aim at safeguarding natural resources, such as water and air, and uses methods, such as *Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)*, to measure and quantify product performance in terms of environmental impact. The Group is committed to publishing *Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)* for its products, according to the specific requirements set forth in the *Product Category Rules (PCR)*. Also significant is the Group's active participation in sustainability issues as a member of industry associations and organizations, such as Federchimica, particularly its Responsible Care® programme, Assofibre and Plastics Europe. In the communities where its production sites are located, RadiciGroup supports projects and events on environmental protection and sustainability themes and strives to raise the environmental awareness of its employees by promoting a culture of sustainability – all the while, respectful of local communities, people and cultures. What is sustainability to RadiciGroup? An important challenge...

RADICIGROUP FIBRES RadiciGroup is a leading European manufacturer of a vast range of products – from polyamide 6 and 66 yarn to polyester yarn, high-tenacity BCF, polyamide and polyolefin yarn for artificial grass, and acrylic yarn, staple fibre, tow and top. These products are used for applications in the apparel (technicalwear, intimatewear, sportswear), furnishings, consumer goods, automotive, medical, industrial, nautical, sports and leisure sectors. RadiciGroup fibres are part of our daily lives.

WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM/FIBRES

RADICIGROUP 3,500 employees. Production and sales sites in Europe, North America, South America and Asia. Diversified businesses focusing on chemicals, plastics and synthetic fibres. Know-how. Vertically integrated nylon production. Constant commitment to guaranteeing its customers quality, sustainable innovation and reliability. All this is RadiciGroup, a leader in nylon chemicals. RadiciGroup products are used in applications such as apparel, sports, furnishings, automotive, electrical/electronics, household appliances and consumer goods. WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM RadiciGroup, with its Chemicals, Plastics and Synthetic Fibres Business Areas controlled by parent company Radici Partecipazioni SpA, is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery and energy businesses. WWW.RADICI.COM

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