UNLEASHING THE POWER OF WOOL

Empower Sustainable Innovation with IWTO Membership

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The Power of Wool

Renewable, recyclable and biodegradable, wool fits perfectly into the new circular economy. Grown on a diet of sunlight, water and grass, wool delivers a supreme sustainability message. And because wool is made of protein, it does not contribute to microplastic pollution.

Wool’s applications range from the personal to the industrial, and lanolin, its by-product, is a highly desirable ingredient for cosmetics.

Hand knitters swear by it. Designers adore it. In a world awash in synthetic fibres, wool is still the one they most want to be. Much imitated, never duplicated, the power of wool continues unsurpassed.

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WHAT WE DO
IWTO is the recognized global authority for standards in the wool textile industry. Since 1930, IWTO has represented the interests of the wool textile trade at a global level. Our worldwide membership encompasses the entire wool textile pipeline, from farm to retail. By facilitating research and development, wool textile education and knowledge sharing, IWTO ensures a sustainable future for wool.

OUR ACTIVITIES
- The annual IWTO Congress – a key event for the global wool textile industry
- Research key topics such as sustainability, sheep welfare, and biosecurity
- Work with governments, NGOs and other stakeholders on topics of joint concern
- Ensure a level playing field for wool in legislation, regulation, and policy
- Provide a platform for projects of common interest to the global wool industry
- License wool testing laboratories
- Publish wool trade standards, arbitration rules, and wool market statistics

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OUR VISION
A sustainable, profitable, international industry working together for the future of wool.

OUR MISSION
To connect all parts of the wool supply chain in order to strengthen wool’s credentials as the world’s leading sustainable fibre.

OUR CORE VAUES
Global thinking
Transparency
Sustainability
Profitability
**NETWORKING**
We foster industry-wide relationships through IWTO working groups and events. Through our members-only platform, connecting with the wool community is easy.

**STRATEGY**
Our on-going industry forums review marketing, R&D and trends affecting the wool textile pipeline. By acting together, members can inspire new marketing strategies.

**WOOL TRADE REGULATIONS**
We maintain the global standards for wool testing methods and arbitration, and publish annual wool production & market statistics.

**WOOL ADVOCACY**
We promote the interests of the global wool trade with governments and international organisations.

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1797 The first Merino sheep arrives in Australia.

1924 The IWTO is conceived, in an arbitration agreement between the British and French wool textile industries.

1925 The first IWTO conference is held.

1930 The official statutes of the International Wool Textile Organisation are adopted.

1964 The Woolmark logo is born.

1975 The IWTO sets up offices in Brussels.

1998 The China Wool Textile Association joins IWTO.

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2016 Benetton becomes IWTO’s first commercial retail member.

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2020 The first full wool LCA, analyzing the life cycle of a 300-gram wool sweater, is published.

2021 IWTO joins Make The Label Count to engage with EU textile policy.
Our Members

The IWTO’s members represent all stages of the wool pipeline. Our 33 members can be found in 22 countries, growing and producing wool for clothing, interiors, handknitting yarns, industrial applications and more. By coming together, the wool industry can create a more sustainable industry focused on ensuring a viable future for wool and promoting the wool fibre’s value. Wool growers, processors, brokers, spinners, weavers, brands and retailers – all have a place at the global table that is the IWTO.

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Partners

The IWTO partners with global stakeholders to drive innovation, sustainability, and business opportunities for members. These partnerships are a key part of the extended IWTO network.
The WOAH works to improve animal health and welfare across the globe. By collecting, analysing and disseminating veterinary scientific information, the WOAH supports international solidarity in the control of animal health risks.

The Campaign for Wool aims to highlight wool’s natural eco properties, including its biodegradability, along with circular economy, regenerative farming and feed management in relation to reducing carbon and methane gas emissions.

Changing times means changing how we work, how we use materials and how we design processes. DNFI encourages innovation at all levels to help the natural fibre community, delivering the benefits to everyone along the way.
Benefits

As an IWTO Member, you’ll be connected with the global wool trade like never before. We offer two high-level wool events each year in industry-relevant locations around the world, and of course, Members attend these events at special rates. In between there are options for further engagement through committee and working groups.

Year-round, Members receive wool news and policy reports, annual wool trade statistics, and communications tools. The IWTO works on behalf of its Members to promote a sustainable future for wool. As a Member, you’ll have a say in shaping this future. Find out more on the next pages.

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IWTO MEMBERS HAVE A GREATER INDUSTRY IMPACT AND INFLUENCE BY WORKING TOGETHER.

Benefit from: joint research; access to a global network; industry-led engagement with legislators and policymakers.
BENEFITS

**BUSINESS VALUES**
- Share Costs
- Drive Innovation
- Maximise Resources
- Stay Informed
- Reduce Risks
- Connect

**INFLUENCE**
- Drive Change
- Ensure Credibility
- Develop Demand
- Wool Advocacy
- Shape Policy

**LEADERSHIP**
- Gain Recognition
- Build Capability
- Have a Voice

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ARBITRATION AND TRADE STANDARDS
- Advice & access to arbitration
- IWTO Blue, Red & White Books

COMMUNICATIONS
- Annual Market Information
- Monthly Wool Policy Report
- Fact sheets
- Members-only platform
- Bimonthly Ticker newsletter
- www.iwto.org
- Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube accounts)

ANNUAL EVENTS
- Members enjoy special rates
- Brand visibility opportunities
- Networking with the global wool industry
Membership Fees

Annual fees for national committee and associate members are based on a scale of approximate wool turnover in mkg. Partner category fees are fixed at a set rate.
Working Groups & Committees
The engine of IWTO is fueled by its Working Groups. Participation is active and robust. New members are highly encouraged to get involved!

**WOOL FOR WELLNESS**
Better sleep – skin health – breathability – cognitive benefits

**SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES**
Life cycle assessment – recyclability – traceability – carbon cycle

**WOOL INTERIORS**
Carpets and rugs – bedding – home furnishings – new markets

**WOOL SHEEP WELFARE**
Sheep care – best practices – maintains the Wool Sheep Welfare Specifications

**WOOL TRADE BIOSECURITY**
Animal health – transport – export and import of greasy wool

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CONTRACTS & SPECIFICATIONS

Trading instruments are at the heart of the wool textile industry, while wool test methods and regulations underpin all that we do. The C&S Committee maintains and updates these tools.

GROWER MEETING

This is IWTO’s forum for woolgrowers. Held once a year, the meeting welcomes growers from around the world to share knowledge and best practices.

MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Wool market intelligence is vital for everyone working in the wool industry. This committee provides insight into economic trends and indicators, and compiles an annual report of the global wool market’s production statistics.

WOOL RETAIL FORUM

Trends in retail echo back upstream through the insights provided by this forum. Its panel discussions are a regular part of the annual IWTO Congress.
IWTO Events
We look forward to working with you.

Click here to join: www.iwto.org