



DUBLIN, Ireland - (Business Wire) Research and Markets, ([http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/7cd016/global\\_markets\\_for](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/7cd016/global_markets_for)), has announced the addition of the "Global Markets for Smart Fabrics and Interactive Textiles, 2008 Edition" report to their offering.

The market for smart fabrics and interactive textiles (SFITs) is likely to exceed US\$640 mn by the end of 2008. This figure is well in excess of the figure of US\$485 mn predicted in our previous report, published in 2005. Moreover, the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 18% which we forecast for 2004-08 has, in the event, turned out to be as high as 27%.

The bulk of turnover in SFITs is generated in the production of intermediate components, or SFIT modules—a sector involved in combining base electronic components into a textile substrate. However, this sector is growing by a relatively slow 19% per annum whereas finished SFIT-based textiles are growing by 76% per annum.

The biggest single end use for SFITs continues to be heated automotive seating. But other applications are expected to catch up and overtake it, particularly textiles for physiological sensing. Demand for SFITs for military use also continues to be strong.

One of the most important technical developments in SFITs has been the replacement of metallic fibres with conductive polymers—such as polypyrrole and polyaniline. In addition, there have been important developments in fibres coated with conductive metals. A further area of major promise is the use of nanotechnology, including carbon nanotubes—provided concerns over potential health hazards can be resolved.

The SFIT industry is characterised by the presence of a large number of relatively small companies. This is a consequence of the diversity of technical expertise involved and the wide variety of developments which have emerged. In this business environment, smaller enterprises are able to occupy profitable technological niches. Larger companies, by contrast, have been reluctant to enter the SFIT market. The industry is also characterised by strategic alliances and partnerships—despite low levels of competition. These have been seen as solutions to problems arising from limited production capacities and high costs of research and marketing.

For the future, a number of issues will need to be addressed as the industry develops. One is the lack of industry standards. Another is the need for more professional marketing. Of particular importance is the need to bring down the cost of manufacture—and hence selling prices.

#### Key Topics Covered:

- SUMMARY
- INTRODUCTION
- ADVANCED MATERIALS AND COMPONENTS USED IN SMART FABRICS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES (SFITs)
- TRENDS IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE SMART FABRICS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES (SFITs) INDUSTRY
- SMART FABRIC AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILE (SFIT) BASE TECHNOLOGIES AND INTERMEDIATE MODULES: PROFILES OF LEADING SUPPLIERS AND THEIR PRODUCTS
- SMART FABRIC AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILE (SFIT) APPLICATIONS: PROFILES OF LEADING SUPPLIERS AND THEIR PRODUCTS
- DRIVERS AND INHIBITORS OF THE MARKET FOR SMART FABRICS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES (SFITs)
- MARKET FORECASTS TO 2010: SMART FABRICS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES (SFITs)

BY MANUFACTURING SEGMENT MARKET FORECASTS TO 2010: SMART FABRICS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES (SFITs) BY FUNCTION

- MARKET FORECASTS TO 2010: SMART FABRICS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES (SFITs) BY APPLICATION

List of tables

- Smart fabrics and interactive textiles (SFITs): sales by manufacturing segment, 2006-10
- Smart fabrics and interactive textiles (SFITs): sales by function, 2006-10
- Smart fabrics and interactive textiles (SFITs): sales by application, 2006-10
- List of figures
- Drivers of the market for smart fabrics and interactive textiles, 2007
- Inhibitors of the market for smart fabrics and interactive textiles, 2007

Companies Mentioned:

- Apple
- Burton
- d'Appolonia
- Eleksen
- Grado Zero Espace
- Hugo Boss:
- Outlast Technologies
- QinetiQ
- Rosner multimedia
- Sensatex
- The North Face
- University of Wollongong Intelligent Polymer Research Institute (IPRI)
- Violich Architecture
- VivoMetric
- WET Automotive Systems

For more information visit

[http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/7cd016/global\\_markets\\_for](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/7cd016/global_markets_for)

Research and Markets

Laura Wood

Senior Manager

[press@researchandmarkets.com](mailto:press@researchandmarkets.com)

Fax from USA: 646-607-1907

Fax from rest of the world: +353-1-481-1716

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/examine-the-global-markets-for,597587.shtml>