

company profile

ITALIAN
CONVERTER®



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01. HISTORY

Founded in 1994 by Costantino Karazissis, current CEO of the company, Italian Converter® is now an international corporation in the production of fashion and hi-tech fabrics for the best brands of footwear, leather goods, clothing and furniture in the world.

The successful adventure undertaken by Karazissis was inspired by a great passion for the world of fabrics and the result of a deep knowledge of the sector, gained through years of experience in the field.

"I represented large and small companies; I perceived the need for innovative products that met the specific needs of my customers. I traveled the world looking for new solutions and opportunities. Hence the intuition to create an entrepreneurial company capable of responding to these needs, with a vision capable of combining creativity and continuous attention to research and technological innovation in fabric development."

New materials, new processes and processing technologies with a high-quality standard and a pioneering attention to eco-sustainability have all contributed over the years to the creation of collections that have anticipated and created new trends in fashion and design. Today the company, which is based in Vigevano (Italian province of Pavia) and occupies an area of about 11,000 square meters, has over 120 employees, including the founder's children, who are committed to giving continuity and a future to this project.



POINT VELOCITY
OFF ON

CONTATOR
OFF ON



02. VALUES: INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Research and technical innovation are at the heart of the Italian Converter® strategy. Over the years and in a rapidly changing world of textiles, the company has become a reference point for the big names in footwear, accessories, fashion and international design, thanks to the ability to imagine visionary solutions and to develop new materials and high-quality standard processes.

Since 2017, Italian Converter® has embraced the challenge of environmental sustainability, by engaging and raising awareness, at all levels, of its supply chain by sharing a chemical management protocol and adhering to the company supplier code of conduct. It was a strategic choice strongly desired by the Board of Directors, made up of the Karazissis family, led by founder & CEO Costantino Karazissis Dolzanelli:

"I firmly believe that a business, to be successful, must also create value for the community. This is why Italian Converter® has been moving towards sustainable industry for some time, by adopting environmentally virtuous production processes with high social value.

A radical transformation and unprecedented commitment from the entire industry is needed. On the other hand, being an innovator properly means accepting and overcoming the greatest challenges. And eco-sustainability is the great challenge of our present, to build a beautiful and conscious future."



Traceable raw materials and transformation processes with low environmental impact guarantee safe products. From the strategic choices in 2017, the first collection of eco-sustainable fabrics "E.C.O. Kosmos" (in full: Ecologic, Conversion, Optimization) was born and dedicated to the fashion world, certified according to the following certifications: GRS, RCS, GOTS, OCS, STANDARD 100 by OEKOTEX®, BCI, FSC®. In 2021 the company decided to take a further step towards environmental protection and social commitment, drafting policies and starting the process of obtaining the ISO 14001: 2015 (environmental management system) and SA8000: 2014 certifications (social responsibility) which, together with the certifications already obtained, outline an important path towards the values of the circular economy.



03. THE GROUP

In addition to Italian Converter®, the group also includes:

Future, a company present since 1998, which is a point of reference for big brands in the sector for the study of innovative and alternative materials to leather, specializing in the transformation, finishing and distribution of high-quality polyamide microfiber.

The production of microfiber requires careful control of the purity of the polymer and of the extrusion and cooling conditions of the filaments. For this reason, continuous research and innovation are our mantra to obtain unique products that guarantee high performance.

SolTex is a flexible structure specialized in digital printing and decoration on carpet, coir, fur and leather. The fluids used by SolTex machines allow bleaching, corrosive and additive treatments, which transform the surface of the material itself, as well as change its color, creating effects such as wear, aging or three-dimensional motifs. SolTex offers a wide variety of solutions and services in addition to this, as the work machines are assembled according to the specific needs of the customer.





Future

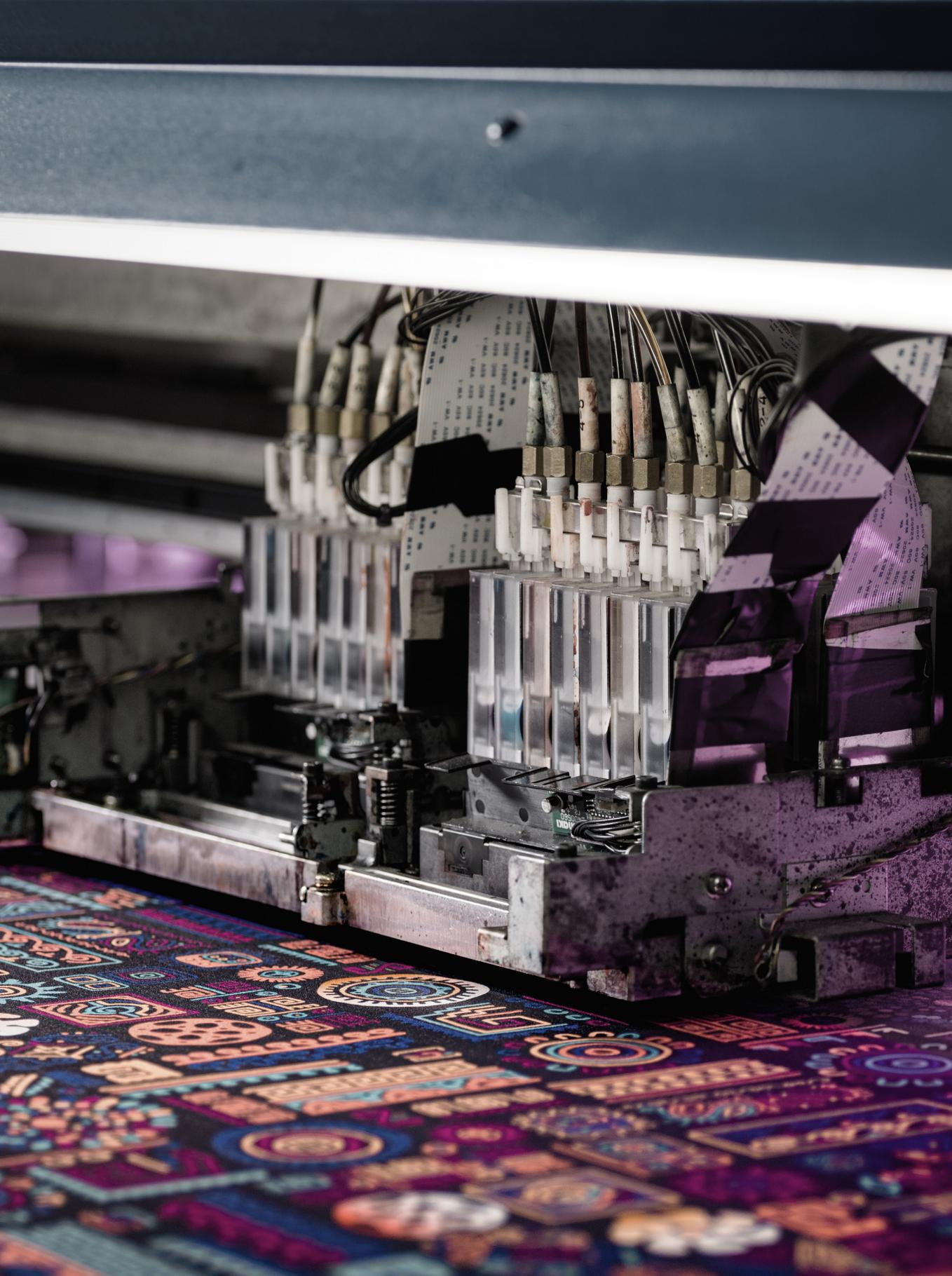
Future has been present on the market since 1998. A point of reference for major brands in the creation of innovative alternative materials to leather, it specializes in the development, transformation, finishing and distribution of high-quality polyamide microfiber.

The production of this fabric requires a high level of know-how to ensure accurate control of the purity of the polymer and of the extrusion and cooling conditions of the filaments. The company has achieved these objectives by strategically investing in research and innovation.

Thanks to its appearance and technical characteristics, Future microfiber is the material of choice of the most prestigious brands and lends itself to multiple applications in different product sectors, such as:

- Technical and fashion footwear (for uppers, linings and insoles/orthotics)
- Leather goods
- Clothing
- Furniture
- Sport apparels
- Labels

FUTURE
FOR FUTURE



Soltex

Soltex is a flexible structure specialized in digital printing and decoration on carpet, coir, fur, and leather. With the conception and development of digital printers and technologies specifically designed for the treatment of these particular materials, the company has achieved excellent results in defining the design, in the brilliance and penetration of colors on the surface. The fluids used by Soltex machines also allow bleaching, corrosive and additive treatments, which transform the surface of the material itself, as well as changing its color, creating effects such as wear, aging or three-dimensional patterns. Soltex machines are assembled according to the specific needs of the customer.

It offers a wide variety of solutions and services, including spinning, extrusion and winding.





04. R&D LAB

R&D LABORATORY

Italian Converter® is equipped with an internal R&D laboratory that operates daily in search of new raw materials and in the development of materials, articles and processes, in order to create innovative products in terms of appearance and technical characteristics. The R&D team allows the company to offer solutions for any customer's bespoke request and works in synergy with the internal test laboratory in translating ideas and insights into concrete and cutting-edge solutions.

THE COMPANY'S INTERNAL TEST LABORATORY

Consisting of a team of experts from the industrial chemical sector, the internal laboratory analyzes and tests the materials developed, in full compliance with the quality and sustainability standards established by ISO regulations.



THE ADVANTAGES OF AN INTERNAL LABORATORY

The test laboratory team works to analyze the characteristics of each item, drawing indications to allocate each product developed to the best context of use. This allows us to quickly accommodate every customer need, creating tailor-made products, designed in relation to the final use.





05. OUR SERVICES

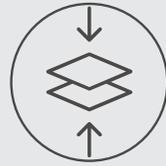
In Italian Converter[®], there are entire production departments and highly qualified personnel who, every day, dedicate themselves to these types of processes. The advantage of an internal ENAMELING production structure is that of controlling processing at every stage.

Italian Converter[®] guarantees:

- a unique service of its kind, the company is able to carry out any textile project;
- greater development speed and subsequent production;
- flexibility, the company can even satisfy small requests;
- constant quality control throughout the production chain;
- cost savings, the product is processed by Italian Converter[®] from beginning to end.



3D EMBOSING



COUPLING



COATING



CALENDERING



PRINTING



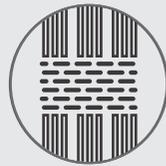
ANTI-STAIN



WATER REPELLENT TREATMENT



LAMINATION



EMBROIDERY



RESIN FINISHING



ANTI-FRAY



SOFTNESS TREATMENT



UNDER GLASS







06. INNOVATIONS

Over the years, Italian Converter® has invested energy and resources to better meet customer needs and offer an increasingly personalized and complete service. A story of constant growth and success, thanks to the choice to bet, from the very beginning, on innovative products, to have inside machinery and know-how to carry out those processes necessary for fabric transformation, which in textile jargon are called ennobling treatments. The internal production structure of finishing offers the advantage of managing and controlling every stage of processing.



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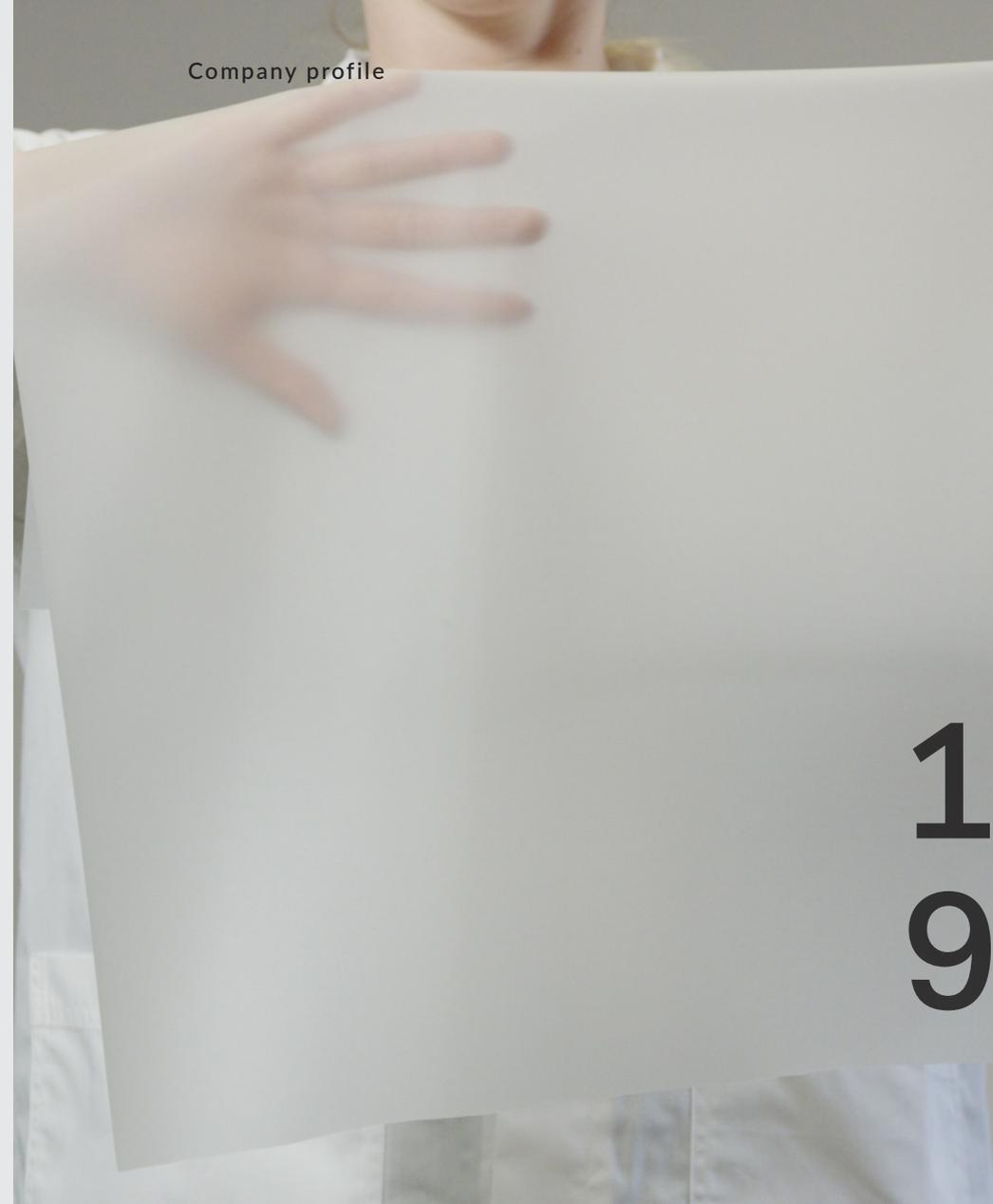


ELASTIC FABRIC

Fabrics suitable for the production of a wide variety of products, the stretch fabrics contain a certain percentage of elastomer, which allows elongation and return to the original shape without compromising structure and appearance. They can be elasticized in the warp, in the weft or in both. In the latter case they are defined as Bi-stretch.

Among stretch fabrics today, eco-sustainable is the protagonist.

19 96



POLYURETHANE

Thanks to know-how and experience, Italian Converter® has interpreted this material in an unprecedented way, creating products that are unique on the market for their high quality in terms of resistance, color rendering, and full creative expression.

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98



NEOPRENES

Breathability, an absolutely new feature in the world of neoprene, is the trademark of these products. A further distinctive element is the fabric's resilience, which is also preserved at different thicknesses.

20
01



STEEL

Metallized laminated materials with unmatched performance in resistance to bending (up to 150,000 cycles), abrasion (over 100,000 cycles), heat and malleability tests.

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02

EMBOSSING

The first company to also offer this process on elastic materials, Italian Converter® guarantees permanent 3D reliefs, unmatched for design definition and detail rendering, thanks to specialized machinery and the experience of a highly qualified team.

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10

PRINTING

Processing offered by the company since the beginning, printing has made great strides thanks to the incredible evolution of digital technology over the last decade. Italian Converter® digital printers guarantee brilliant colors and high-definition designs on numerous types of fibers.

07. BESPOKE MACHINING

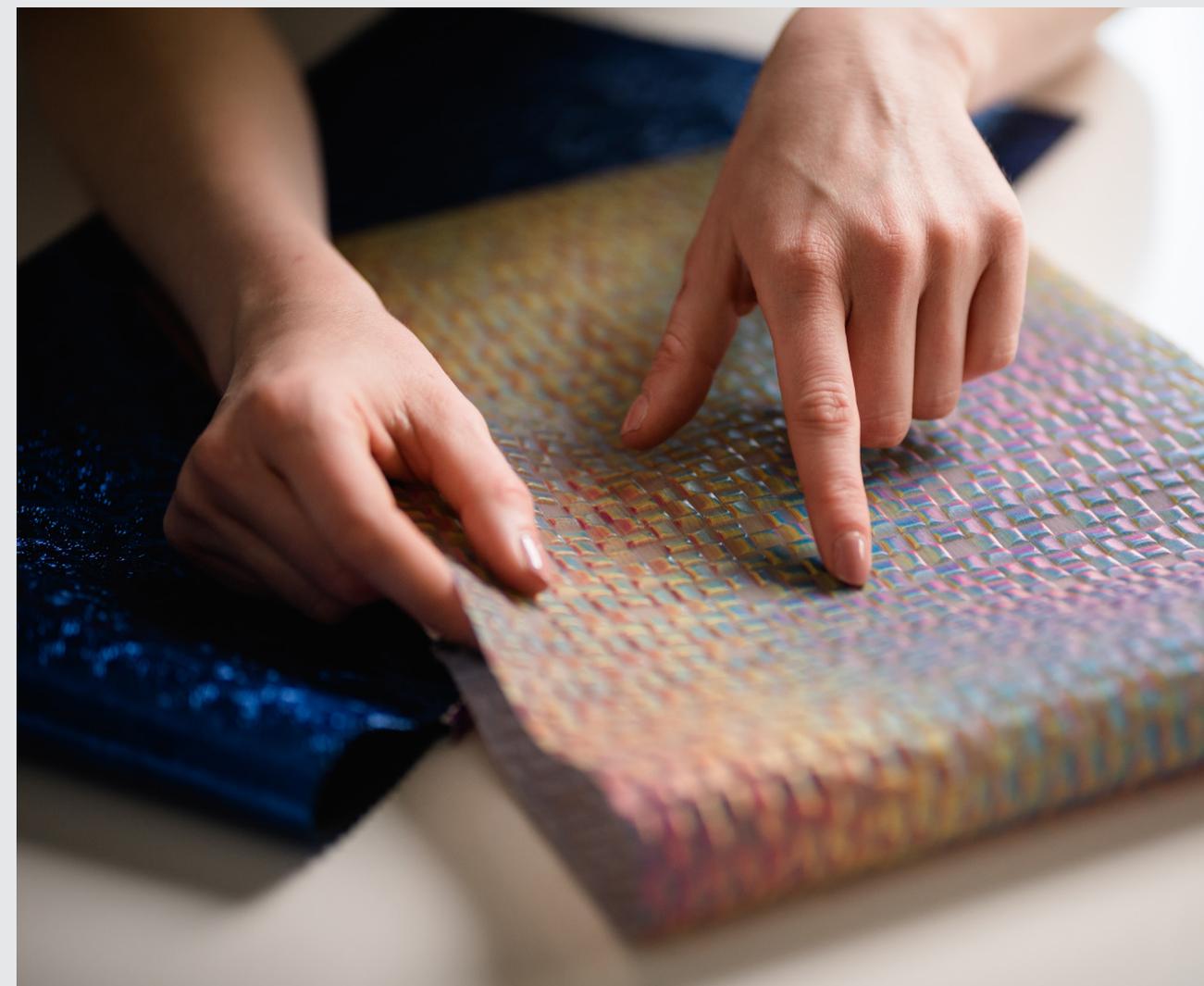
For over 25 years, Italian Converter® has never stopped reinventing itself. The production departments equipped with highly qualified personnel, the internal laboratories and the know-how gained over many years allow the company to develop innovative fabrics and offer an authentic bespoke service, which includes every phase of production and processing of materials: from the initial studying to the final development of the product, through the test phases and the finishing processes.

In addition to making samples and fabrics at the customer's request, to obtain a product tailored to every need, Italian Converter® is able to customize its systems to recreate the patterns created by the customer on a wide variety of media.

The goal of Italian Converter® is to translate the needs, desires and aspirations of customers into inimitable fabrics.

The company guarantees:

- know-how and production structure capable of carrying out any textile project;
- rapidity of development and subsequent production;
- flexibility and bespoke approach to customer requests, with an accurate customization and the ability to fulfill large or small orders;



- constant quality control in all phases of the production chain and of the eco-sustainability standards adopted;
- cost containment as a result of a service that includes the entire production cycle of the fabric.



08. CERTIFICATIONS



Certified by ICEA
GO0871

GOTS CERTIFIED BY ICEA GO0871

The **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)** is the world's leading textile processing standard for organic fibers, including ecological and social criteria, supported by independent certification of the entire textile supply chain. GOTS certified final products may include fibers, yarns, fabrics, clothing, home textiles, mattresses, personal hygiene products, as well as textiles for contact with food and more.



Certified by ICEA
GR0549

GRS CERTIFIED BY ICEA GR0549

The **Global Recycle Standard (GRS)** is promoted by Textile Exchange, one of the most important international non-profit organizations for responsible and sustainable development in the textile sector. The standard recognizes the importance of recycling for the growth of a sustainable production and consumption model, with the aim of promoting resource consumption reduction (virgin raw materials, water and energy) and increasing the quality of recycled products.



Certified by ICEA
ICEA-TX-1289

RCS CERTIFIED BY ICEA ICEA-TX-1289

The **Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)** is promoted by Textile Exchange, the standard recognizes the importance of recycling for the growth of a sustainable production and consumption model, with the aim of promoting the reduction of resource consumption (virgin raw materials, water and energy). The Recycled Claim Standard guarantees: products containing at least 5% of pre-consumer and post-consumer recycled material, manufacturing activities and processes through which the recycled material is used to make intermediate products (for example: yarns and fabrics) or finished products intended for the consumer, using models and management procedures that comply with the established requirements.



**STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®
CERTIFIED BY CENTROCOT**

The **STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®, ANNEX4** is an independent and uniform international control and certification system for raw materials, semi-finished and finished products in the textile sector at every level of processing, as well as for the accessory materials used.

Italian Converter® has obtained three STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® certificates:

STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® 20CX00031 (FABRICS), ANNEX4, CLASS II.

STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® 20CX00030(PVC), ANNEX4, CLASS I is an independent and uniform international check and certification system for raw materials, for the PVC family, semi-finished products and finished products for the textile sector at every processing level, as well as for accessory materials used.

STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® 20CX00085(TPU) ANNEX4 CLASS II is an internationally independent and uniform control and certification system for raw materials, semi-finished and finished products of the textile industry at all processing levels, in addition to the accessory materials used.



**OCS
CERTIFIED BY ICEA
ICEA-TX-1289**

The **Organic Content Standard (OCS)** is promoted internationally by the Textile Exchange, one of the most important international non-profit organizations for responsible and sustainable development in the textile sector. Textile products and manufacturing activities can be OCS certified. The Organic Content Standard guarantees: Textile products containing at least 5% of certified organic natural fibers; Textile manufacturing activities and processes, starting from ginning, spinning, weaving and all subsequent finishing processes, which use models and management procedures that comply with the established requirements.

Italian Converter Srl. has passed the Better Cotton Initiative training and has access to the Better Cotton Platform BCI

BCI

The **Better Cotton Initiative (BCI)** is a global non-profit organization and the largest cotton sustainability program in the world. The BCI exists to improve global cotton production for the people who produce it, for the environment in which it grows and for the future of the industry. BCI aims to transform cotton production around the world by developing Better Cotton as a sustainable traditional product.



FSC®

The **Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)** is a global non-profit organization dedicated to promoting responsible management of the world's forests. The FSC® label guarantees that products are made of wood, cellulose, and paper from forests and through a responsibly managed supply chain.

09. PUBLICATIONS & COLLABORATIONS



MARIE CLAIRE MAISON
N.9/2019



LIVING CORRIERE
N.6/2019



MARIE CLAIRE MAISON
SALONE DEL MOBILE 2019





ARCHIPRODUCT
MILANO DESIGN WEEK 2021



YPSILON CONNECT
PEDRALI

H+O
MILANO DESIGN WEEK 2021



YKK



abk-
Staatliche Akademie
der Bildenden Künste
Stuttgart



GILBERTO CALZOLARI
MILANO FASHION WEEK 2020



NADIR YATCH
TURIN 2019





Sponsor
VOLLEY 2001
(Garlasco)



«PROGETTO SCUOLA»
(Garlasco)



Main Sponsor
MP RACING VARESE
(Varese)



Main Sponsor
«TENNIS IN CARROZZINA»
(Vigevano)



Sponsor
DUATHOLN
(Vigevano)



Sponsor
COOPERATIVA GIRASOLE
(Varese)

10. SPONSORSHIP AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

Italian Converter® promotes and supports numerous sports and social realities in the Pavia and Lombardy area. It is the main sponsor of S.S.D. Volare, a non-profit amateur sports club of "wheelchair tennis," and the MP Racing workshop in Varese. Still in the sports field, it is a partner of the Garlasco 2001 men's volleyball team. In 2019 the creative team of Italian Converter® conceived and created "Progetto scuola," a creative laboratory in which the children of the primary school of Garlasco (PV) took part, inspired by the pedagogical method of the great artist Bruno Munari.

Together with other companies, it sponsored the final of the 10th DUATHLON in Vigevano at the Santa Maria sports center. The competition was organized by the ASD Junior Club and was reserved for the youth categories.



ITALIAN CONVERTER SRL

Str. Fogliano S. Marco, 76/78
27029 Vigevano PV
T- +39 0381 348120
E- info@italianconverter.it

FUTURE SRL

Str. Fogliano S. Marco, 72
27029 Vigevano PV
T- +390381 348175
E- info@futuremicrofiber.it

SOLTEX SRL

Str. Fogliano S. Marco, 120
27029 Vigevano PV
T- +39 0381 451693
E- info@soltex.info