

# Press

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## **Techttextil North America Names Georgia Institute of Technology Official Academic Partner for 2020 Edition**

Techttextil North America 2020 has announced that the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) will serve as the Official Academic Partner for the 2020 edition, taking place alongside Texprocess Americas in Atlanta May 12-14, 2020.

Located in the heart of Atlanta, Georgia Tech is one of the South's largest industrial and engineering research agencies, ranked as the nation's #8 Top Public University, #4 Most Innovative School, and #71 (out of 1,000) Best Global University. The Materials Science and Engineering Program (MSE), has repeatedly made the 10 best list for both its undergraduate and graduate programs.

Originally called the School of Textile Engineering, the State of Georgia established the program in 1897 to address the state's then current demand for education in cotton-based manufacturing technology. Since then, the MSE has had a huge impact on the economic development of Georgia as a result of its work with the textile mills and the education of mill leaders. Today, faculty are advancing fuel cell technology, nanotechnology, bio-inspired manufacturing, photonics, light emitting diodes, electronic packaging, hypersonic materials, bionics, nanocomposites, light weight nano-actuators and nano-sensors. Numerous companies have evolved from technologies developed within the School, thus continuing to positively impact Georgia's economy.

“Georgia Tech is the perfect partner for the 2020 edition of Techtextil North America” said Kristy Meade, Show Director, Technical Shows: Textiles, Sewn Products, Equipment and Technology at Messe Frankfurt North America.

“Not only are they the leading university for material science and engineering nationwide, but they are a key player when it comes to industry research and innovation, with a focus on initiatives in Georgia and the Southeast. The value of this partnership lies in the connections it creates - by serving as a bridge between leaders in the industry and students interested in pursuing a career in textiles, our goal is to influence the generation of ideas that lead to exciting research, new careers, and advancement of the industry as a whole,” said Meade.

The multi-faceted partnership will continue its mission in benefitting the university, the city of Atlanta and the North American textile industry by:

- Utilizing expertise from the College’s world-renowned faculty and staff to provide top of the line educational opportunities for all Techtextil North America attendees
- Providing exhibiting and visiting companies with direct access to the latest research coming from the world’s leading materials programs
- Gaining exposure for the College’s undergraduate and graduate research programs and their industry contributions through special feature areas on the Techtextil North America show floor
- Facilitating future careers and strategic partnerships through collaboration with the university’s administration
- Shining a spotlight on the high level of global innovation and industry development coming from all levels of the North American Textile Industry

“The School of Materials Science and Engineering at Georgia Tech is pleased to partner with Techtextil North America,” said Dr. Sundaresan Jayaraman, Kolon Professor in the School of MSE. “Our School has been at the cutting edge of research in technical textiles and has pioneered the smart textiles revolution that is transforming lives in today’s connected world. Our world-class faculty and research staff expertise spans the continuum of advanced fibers, materials, technologies, and informatics that is enhancing the quality of life for individuals while creating a more sustainable

environment. We are uniquely positioned to train the next generation of materials engineers and scientists for the industry and graduate studies through our innovative curriculum that blends engineering with hands-on experience in a student-run materials learning laboratory. Our School collaborates extensively with the fiber, textiles, carpet, apparel, and materials industries to enhance their competitiveness in today's global marketplace. We are looking forward to this partnership with Techtextil North America for 'creating the next' for the textile industry by bringing about the convergence of advanced fibers, textiles, materials, and technologies," said Professor Jayaraman.

MSE at Georgia Tech is one of the largest materials programs in the country in terms of faculty numbers and the most diverse in terms of research areas which focus on all classes and forms of materials, including metals, ceramics, polymers, fibers, composites, nanostructures, and bio-enabled/biomimetic materials. The MSE faculty are ranked among the top leaders in attracting research funding at Georgia Tech, and head over 15 major interdisciplinary centers dedicated to industry research, including centers devoted to Nanotechnology, Bioengineering, Microelectronics, Materials Processing, Rapid Prototyping and Manufacturing, Molecular Design, Composites Manufacturing and more.

For more information on the upcoming edition of Techtextil North America, May 12-14, 2020 in Atlanta, Georgia, please visit [www.techtextilna.com](http://www.techtextilna.com). And to explore the co-located event, Texprocess Americas, visit [www.texprocessamericas.com](http://www.texprocessamericas.com).

To learn more about Georgia Tech and the School of Materials Science and Engineering, visit <http://www.mse.gatech.edu/>.

#### **Background information on Messe Frankfurt**

Messe Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organizer with its own exhibition grounds. With more than 2,400 employees at 30 locations, the company generates annual sales of around €669 million. Thanks to its far-reaching ties with the relevant sectors and to its international sales network, the Group looks after the business interests of its customers effectively. A comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility

when planning, organizing and running their events. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. With its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent).

For more information, please visit our website at:

[www.messefrankfurt.com](http://www.messefrankfurt.com) | [www.congressfrankfurt.de](http://www.congressfrankfurt.de) | [www.festhalle.de](http://www.festhalle.de)

Messe Frankfurt North America is a subsidiary of Messe Frankfurt and is headquartered in Atlanta, GA. Messe Frankfurt North America produces nine shows within the United States, Canada and Mexico. In addition to Techtextil North America and Texprocess Americas, the North American portfolio of events includes Waste & Recycling Expo Canada, Home Textiles Sourcing Expo, Apparel Sourcing USA and Texworld USA, INA PAACE Automechanika Mexico City and NACE Automechanika.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.us.messefrankfurt.com](http://www.us.messefrankfurt.com).

#### **Background Information on the Georgia Institute of Technology and the School of Materials Science and Engineering**

The Georgia Institute of Technology, also known as Georgia Tech, is one of the nation's leading research universities — a university that embraces change while continually creating the next. The next generation of leaders. The next breakthrough startup company. The next lifesaving medical treatment.

Georgia Tech provides a focused, technologically based education to more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Georgia Tech has many nationally recognized programs, all top-ranked by peers and publications alike, and is ranked among the nation's top 10 public universities by U.S. News & World Report. It offers degrees through the Colleges of Computing, Design, Engineering, Sciences, the Scheller College of Business, and the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. As a leading technological university, Georgia Tech has more than 100 centers focused on interdisciplinary research that consistently contribute vital research and innovation to American government, industry, and business.

Materials science and engineering (MSE) focuses on the design, selection, and development of materials. It is a field that deals with “stuff” -- the polymers, fibers, textiles, metals, ceramics, and composites that surround us. It looks beyond the question of what materials these things are currently made from and imagines what they should be made from. From there, it explores whether structures can be modified to alter the properties and design materials to achieve better performance for specific applications. MSE at Georgia Tech is one of the largest materials programs in the nation, and its students and faculty are exploring alternative energy sources, developing smarter, stronger and lighter materials, creating novel electronic devices and wearable textile-based intelligent systems, developing new materials for medical implants and more.

