



For Immediate Release  
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## DNFI Innovation in Natural Fibres Award 2018 Velener Textil Wins 2018 Award

**“As close as it gets to no-waste textile manufacturing.”**

**Velener Textil GmbH**, located in Velen, Germany, has won the Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI) Innovation in Natural Fibres Award for 2018.

The winning process, “WECYCLED® - Real added value for weaving mills and our partners in the textile chain,” was submitted by **Mr. Ernst Grimmelt**, CEO and Sales Manager Yarns under the category of Innovative processes/procedures.

Waste is inevitable in any industrial process, and up to 30% of yarn used in weaving mills, knitting mills and confection processing remains unused.

Under the WECYCLED® system ([www.wecycled.de](http://www.wecycled.de)), Velener Textil collects spent cones from partner mills and separates the unused cotton yarn in special sheltered workshops that meet the highest standards of employee safety and environmental protection. Velener Textil has developed a sophisticated method to recycle the recovered cotton into new yarns that fulfill the requirements for color fastness, strength and other attributes in high-quality consumer products. Commercial applications include the production of bed linen and knitted clothing.

Dalena White, Secretary General of the International Wool Textile Organization (IWTO) commented that the sheltered workshop to ensure employee safety used in the WECYCLED® system is an innovative component of sustainability often overlooked.

Mr. Grimmelt emphasized that WECYCLED® is, “as close as it gets to no-waste textile manufacturing.” He said that the closed-circuit principle of the WECYCLED® system contributes to sustainable textile manufacturing with a traceable process.

Representatives of Velener Textil will be officially recognized for their achievement at the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) annual conference 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya during 7-9 September. The WECYCLED system will also be discussed during the next meeting of DNFI in Chemnitz, Germany on 10 September 2018.

### About DNFI

The Discover Natural Fibre Initiative (DNFI) was created in January 2010 as an outgrowth of the International Year of Natural Fibres 2009, declared by the United Nations General Assembly. The purposes of DNFI are to advance the interests of all natural fibre industries and to encourage increased use of natural fibres in the world economy. DNFI is a voluntary association of individuals and organizations with interests in promoting natural fibres through collaboration, consultation and cooperation. The Organization ([www.dnfi.org](http://www.dnfi.org)) works to further the interests of natural fibres by serving as a platform for information exchange, by providing statistics on fibre production and use, and by working to raise awareness of the benefits of natural fibre industries to the world economy, environment and consumers.

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