



8:00 - 8:30 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 8:35 am	Welcome Maureen Azzato, Publisher, Home Textiles Today Jennifer Marks, Editor in Chief, Home Textiles Today
8:35 - 9:00 am	Biosynthetic Raw Materials: How Close Are They To Scaling Up? Sugars, algae, fungi, plants and bacteria ... could tomorrow's soft home goods really be made from these materials? Take a step into the future and learn about the rapidly developing technologies in biosynthetic raw materials from Celeste Lilore, Director of Industry Engagement at Textile Exchange . A global non-profit that identifies and shares best practices regarding farming, materials, processing, traceability and product end-of-life, Textile Exchange helps reduce the textile industry's impact on the world's water, soil and air, and the human population. Lilore will present the very latest from Textile Exchange's just concluded global conference and share her insights in this groundbreaking field impacting the fiber industry.
9:00 - 10:00 am	Keynote - Revolutionizing Transparency: The Exciting Case Study of Supima and Oritain Interest in product transparency of premium materials is growing exponentially by retailers, brands and consumers concerned with sustainability and authenticity. It's no longer an option to be transparent, but a new model of business to survive. How do you fare, and what are you doing to gain (or even keep) your customers' trust? Learn what Supima, the world's finest cottons, has done and how they've partnered with tech company Oritain, along with cotton growers and brands to provide accountability through the supply chain. Buxton Midyette, VP Marketing & Promotions at Supima, and Ben Tomkins, Business Development Manager at Oritain , will share details on their process of verifying authenticity and quality of Supima products.
10:00 - 10:30 am	Networking Break
10:30 - 11:00 am	Tariffs and Textiles: Ask the Expert Reports indicate that if the planned meeting in late November between President Xi Jinping of China and President Trump does not go well, the U.S. may issue 25% tariffs on all products imported from China – including home textiles. Robert Leo, Partner at Meeks, Sheppard, Leo & Pillsbury , which specializes in customs and international trade issues, will discuss strategies to minimize their impact and field questions about Prop 65 as well as U.S. enforcement regarding product claims.
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Panel Discussion: Sustainability/Traceability – Where are we now? Whether or not certifications and other forms of product validation are consumer-facing, they are certainly in demand by many key retailers of home textiles. Learn how to authenticate sustainability and traceability for greater return on investment in product development by a panel of experts, moderated by Jennifer Marks, Editor in Chief of Home Textiles Today . Elana Taylor, Account Executive for Hohenstein Institute America , and Nina Nadash, Home & Interiors Senior Marketing Manager – North Americas for Lenzing , will share their knowledge on the latest in sustainability, traceability and the quest for circularity. A not-to-be-missed session!
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Developments in Smart Apparel and Medical Textiles Self-adjusting clothes and smart clothing are the cutting-edge in apparel, while producers of medical textiles are innovating around technologies that combat infection and potentially heal the skin. We've snagged an expert in the field – Preeti Arya, PhD, assistant professor in the Textile Development and Marketing Department at NYC's Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) – to share the latest innovations in smart apparel and medical textiles from around the world. Developments that will likely impact home textiles and revolutionize the way we think about and use our soft home products!
1:30 - 2:15pm	Sea Change: The Industry Confronts Its Microfiber Pollution Problem Three U.S. states have proposed legislation to reduce water pollution caused by the shedding of microfibers from synthetic textiles during routine laundering. The action is part of a larger global effort involving textile researchers, trade associations and NGOs to address the dilemma proactively. Mary Ankeny, Vice President of Product Development & Implementation Operations at Cotton Incorporated , will discuss the work being done by stakeholders in the textile supply chain to confront the problem.
2:15 - 2:30 pm	Wrap-Up & Adjourn