



**HOTEL GRANDIOR
NA POŘÍČÍ 1052/42
PRAGUE**

ETSA CONGRESS 2-3 MAY 2024

Welcome:

12:00 - 13:30 Registration & Networking Lunch at Hotel Grandior (Na Poříčí 42, 110 00 Prague, Czech Republic)

14:00 Welcome by **Elena Lai**, Secretary General at the European Textile Services Association

14:05 - 14:15 Opening Remarks by ETSA Chairman **Dr Thomas Neyers** (Alsco) and APAČ (Asociace prádelen a čistíren) President **Jana Puškáčová** (ELIS)

14:15 - 15:00 PANEL 1

Global Threads: Unraveling the Role of Textile Services in World Affairs

Keynote speaker: Mr Paulo Portas: Former Deputy Prime Minister of Portugal and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Second Speaker: Mr Joseph Ricci: TRSA President and CEO

The geopolitical situation and world economy are experiencing crucial changes, with economic downturns taking place in the US and Europe, and with China's ever-growing influence. Geopolitical tensions are not diminishing, with energy and climate change continuing to be politically polarizing issues, especially before the EU elections in early June. What will happen to climate transition and climate adaptation? What incentives for renewables and investment opportunities can the industry expect? What important challenges lie ahead of us? Can business decisions save the planet?

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15:00 - 16:15 PANEL 2

Key collaborations for winning partnerships in the textile service sector. What is the winning approach in the new art of recycling?

The new recycling models characterizing many aspects of our European businesses have highlighted the importance of strong collaborations and partnerships within the textile and textile services value chain. Today, more than ever, it has become imperative to build solid and dynamic partnerships, increasingly focusing and committing to sustainable fibers, as well as providing training both internally and externally for new business and customer perspectives. What can our companies do when the demand for raw materials grows faster than its production? What will recycling mean for textile services, especially for personal protective clothing? What will be the key to recovering fibers and closing the circularity loop? How can we best build 'good customer training experiences'?

Moderator: Andreas Holzer: Founder of holzer.solutions and former ETSA Chairman

Panelists:

Anna-Kaisa Huttunen: Director of Partnerships at Rester Oy (Keynote speaker)

Chris Deloof: Executive Director of Rehubs Europe

Tosin Trim: Chief Product Officer at Deploy London

Soon Joo Bovenschen: Director of Product Innovation, TenCate Protective Fabrics

16:15 - 16:45 Networking coffee

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16:45 - 17:45 PANEL 3

From a green to a digital transition - what opportunities and challenges to navigate and shape textile services 2.0?

Against the backdrop of a rapidly evolving sector, our panelists will explore the potential of digitalization and AI. They will meticulously address the critical need to safeguard sensitive data and tackle cybersecurity challenges. Through insightful discussions, real-world applications, and expert perspectives, this session offers a unique opportunity to navigate the intricate balance between innovation and protection, ultimately shaping the future of the textile service industry in the digital age.

Moderator: Lisa Lang: Director for EU Affairs & Policy Orchestrator for EIT Climate KIC

Panelists:

Martina Ritzer, Chief Information Officer at CWS

Ralf Schadowski, Data Protection Expert at ADDAG GmbH

Victor Ioane: CEO at Salesianer and co-founder of Linen2go

Mads Andresen: Director at Inwatec ApS

Andreas Schneider: CEO at Global Textile Scheme

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17:45 - 18:15 PANEL 4

30th anniversary of the European Textile Service Association

Moderator: Thomas Neyers: ETSA Chairman (AlSCO)

Panelists:

Christina Bardusch-Haupt, Owner of Bardusch

Xavier Martirè: CEO at ELIS

Juha Laurio: President and CEO at Lindström Group

Jesper Jensen: CEO at JENSEN Group

Charles Betteridge: Non-Executive Director at Christeyns and Chairman of the Textile Services Association

CLOSURE OF DAY 1

20:30 APERITIVE & DINNER at Mlýnec Restaurant (Novotného lávka 9, 110 00 Prague, Czech Republic)

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9:00 - 9:35 PANEL 1

ETSA Climate Ambassadorship and Together.eu campaign: participate in shaping the future of Europe

Welcome video by Kurt Vandenberghe, Director General of DG CLIMA
Matthias Zoch, ETSA Chair of the Environment WG(MEWA) & **Nelly Le Devic**,
EU Affairs Manager at the ETSA Secretariat: Reporting on 3 years of ETSA Climate
Ambassadorship
Jindrich Pietras, Communication Officer at the European Parliament Liaison Office
Czech Republic

9:35 - 9:45 ETSA Manifesto- Autumn event to re-launch the textile service sector

Nikolas Schulze-Makuch: Communications Coordinator at the ETSA Secretariat

9:45 - 11:00 PANEL 2

**Shaping a diverse and inclusive workplace at the core of companies' plans.
Is managing D&I the next ingredient for success?**

From sharing success stories of companies that champion gender equality and inclusiveness to real challenges, to addressing the barriers that still persist, our panelists will provide invaluable insights into fostering a diverse and inclusive work environment.

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By examining the multifaceted benefits of diversity and discussing actionable strategies for progress, this discussion aims to inspire change and empower all attendees to play an active role in shaping a more inclusive future for the textile service industry.

Moderator: Elena Lai: Secretary-General of ETSA

Panelists:

Nadine Nembach: International Co-President at European Women's Management Development Network (Keynote speaker)

Gerda Jank: Director of Corporate Alignment at JENSEN-GROUP

Harald Goost: CEO at Bierbaum-Proenen

Anles Cabrera: Group International Marketing Manager at Carrington Textiles

Emma Kiviniemi Andersson: Director of Finance and Members at the Textile Services Association

11:00 - 11:30 Networking and coffee break

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11:30 - 12:45 PANEL 3

Businesses and national associations in the textile services sector are searching for skilled workers across various roles. What new ways forward for attracting high-skilled and low-skilled workers could be instrumental for the textile services sector to flourish? What communication narrative and positive stories can help the image of our industry?

In order to solve the ongoing skills gap which has been persistent among a litany of European industries, the textile services industry is putting a lot of effort into marketing its offerings and creating new job possibilities in 2024 and beyond. Upskilling programs and developing relationships within the companies and in synergy with educational institutions are also critical to this endeavor. With so many different job options available, our industry highlights the necessity of ongoing skill development to keep up with its changing needs. In addition, educational initiatives and scholarships provided by different industry actors are vital in enabling people to overcome financial obstacles and pursue their dreams of a better education and a job. Through the integration of proactive recruitment methods with educational support mechanisms, the textile services industry seeks to provide a trained and resilient workforce prepared to face the demands of a fast-changing market, in addition to bridging the skills gap.

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Keynote speaker:

Moderator: Daniel Dalkowski: Deputy Managing Director at DTV

Panelists:

Natalie Matignon: Director-General at GEIST

Claire Bottineau: Sustainability Director at ELIS

Jan Lamme: CEO at Cibutex

Bob Morrish: Director of Corporate Accounts & Sales Manager Uk/Ireland, ECOLAB

13:00 Networking lunch

14:00 Coffee break

END OF THE MEETING

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