CIRFS
European Man-made Fibres Association

CIRFS aisbl
Av. E. Van Nieuwenhuyse 6
B – 1160 Brussels
Tel. +32 2 676 74 55
Fax +32 2 676 74 54
info@cirfs.org
www.cirfs.org

PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION ON MAN-MADE FIBRES:

LATEST PUBLICATION FROM CIRFS

December 5, 2018

CIRFS: European Man-made Fibres Association, the Brussels-based association representing the European man-made fibres industry, is glad to announce the publication of its latest statistical report on developments in the world man-made fibres industry.

The report, "***Information on Man-made Fibres***", is the 54th edition of this valuable summary of all available information about this dynamic and growing industry. It gathers data on



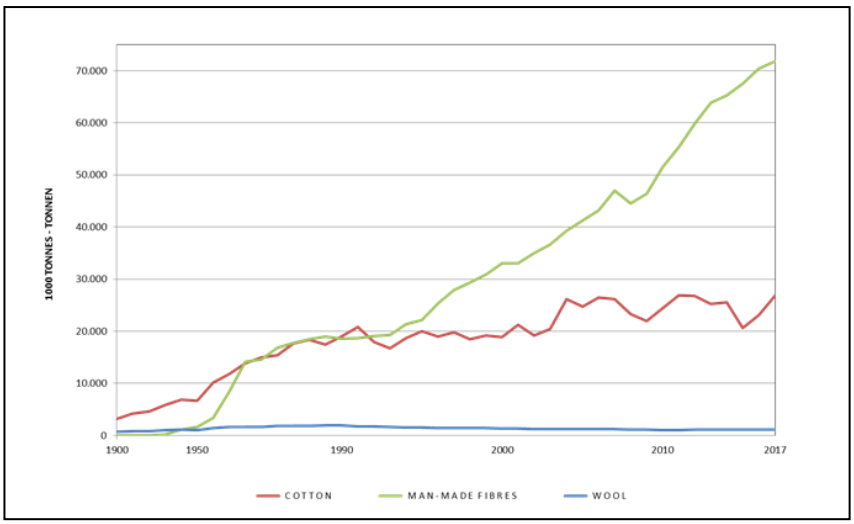
- ✓ Production of acrylic, cellulosic, polyamide, polyester, polypropylene, wool and cotton, in the world as a whole and in all the countries for which data exists;
- ✓ Consumption;
- ✓ World trade in man-made fibres, yarns and fabrics.

CIRFS Director-General **Frédéric VAN HOUTE** comments:

"This CIRFS report shows continued and solid growth of the world's man-made fibres industry while cotton and wool shares stagnate. It confirms the strength of global production of man-made fibres, and their dominant share in world demand for fibres. In 2017, MMF represented 72% of all textile fibres produced worldwide, this percentage going up to 79% in Europe."

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"During the last 10 years, man-made fibres production grew by around 4 % annually while cotton fluctuated and wool decreased by 1.0%. This shows the uninterrupted success of man-made fibres. Europe is the world's largest exporter of cellulosic fibres and the biggest producer of ultra-high strength fibres and of polypropylene fibres. It is one of the global leaders in man-made fibres innovation and quality. Its output is used in a huge variety of applications, including not only fashion, but also home textiles and a rising number of different technical uses. The European man-made fibres industry is the largest supplier of raw materials to the European textile industry."

"Europe is the worldwide leader in sustainable production of man-made fibres, using clean energy sources, with many raw materials based on renewable or recycled resources. Man-made fibres do have a low carbon footprint. They are light, durable, and their production requires little land and water compared with alternative products. They are extensively used in many environmental protection applications and projects, such as filtration, erosion prevention and protection of crops from climatic conditions."

"In this vast global industry, every producer and user of man-made fibres, as well as governments, financial and economic actors, investors, academia and consultants can benefit from the best possible information about industry trends and market size. This CIRFS publication is an important resource for all concerned, and CIRFS is pleased to make it available."

The report is available from:
CIRFS Statistical Department

Candide Dufloucq - Statistics Manager

6, avenue E. Van Nieuwenhuyse
B- 1160 Brussels (Belgium)
duf@cirfs.org
Tel: +32 2 676 7455
Fax: +32 2 676 7454

New address and phone/fax number
On January 1, 2019 CIRFS will move to :
40, rue Belliard – 1040 Brussels
Tel. +32 2 436 96 32 – Fax +32 2 436 96 38

Price: PDF file by e-mail €330, Book by post €370.

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Note to editors:

1. **CIRFS** is the association for Europe's € 9.5 billion man-made fibres industry, representing the industry to the European authorities and providing the industry with a wide range of services. Its members cover about 80% of European man-made fibres output.

2. The European man-made fibres industry, with a total production in 2017 of ca. 4.6 million tonnes, is the world's third largest in terms of output and one of the global leaders in terms of innovation and quality.

3. Man-made fibres are used in every aspect of daily life: not only in apparel and furnishings, but also in automotive applications (interiors, insulation, seatbelts, airbags, tyres,…), industrial uses (conveyor belts, ropes, bulk containers, hoses, cable reinforcement, etc.), construction (e.a. geotextiles, cement reinforcement, insulation, weather protection), agriculture (agrotextiles) and much else. They can be precisely engineered with characteristics such as flame retardancy, bioactivity, strength, waterproofing, moisture management and warmth.

4. Please contact Candide DUFLOUCQ (duf@cirfs.org) if you would like a copy for press purposes.

5. For further information, please contact the CIRFS Director General, Frédéric VAN HOUTE: fvh@cirfs.org or +32 2 676 74 60.