



**ISPO**

## **Sustainability Hub**

### **BIOTEXFUTURE x Material Lab**

**ISPO Munich is the world's largest sports trade show for the global sports industry, taking place every year, beginning of December. In the framework of the show, the “Sustainability Hub” is large marketplace to display, exchange and learn about the latest environmental and social developments and insights for the sports community. This year, BIOTEXFUTURE was proud to be part of this “green” get together, showcasing project results in the adjacent exhibition area “Material Lab”.**

The Material Lab is an exposition of innovative bio-based materials as part of the Sustainability Hub presenting real eco-innovations like algae, fungi or birchwood as well as various already established primary sources for the bio-polymer production like raps-seed, castor-oil or sugar-cane. In the exhibition, the various stages of their material development from bio-feedstock through different intermediate steps

to the end product have been displayed in a tangible and transparent way to demonstrate that a future for the textile industry, beyond the current crude-oil-based fiber technologies is a real possibility. The whole area is curated by Leonhard Nima, founder of Studio-Nima and his team, who pursue the objective to foster fascination and exchange among the visitors for these new textile bio-solutions, providing an inspiring and positive outlook on tomorrow's bio-economic potentials for the textile and footwear sector.



The BIOTEXFUTURE projects BIOTURF, LIGHT LINING and FUNGAL FIBERS have been part of this year's Material Lab exhibition, showcasing the broad range of natural-based solutions for sport and outdoor textiles as well as in the case of BIOTURF the potentials of bio-polymers for sport-turf production. The later being already available on the market as "playable" bio-option for artificial football-fields, which even get by without any harmful micro-plastic infill granulate. This very practicable concept combines "fun and benefit" and emphasizes the high-potential of forward-looking ideas when it comes to new sustainable market innovations.

The two other projects LIGHT LINING and FUNGAL FIBERS a dedicated to new bio-material development. LIGHT LINING, being the result of a research project into a super-insulating and lightweight cellulose-based nonwoven material for sports and outdoor apparel, whereas in "FUNGAL FIBERS" the potential for the production of biodegradable, antibiotic solution-spun chitosan fibres has been



proven. In the Material Lab, LIGHT LINING showcased a "white vest", equipped with the cellulose insulation, suitable to substitute down and feather or polyester-based infill in the future. Fungal Fibres, on the other hand, stands for the ground-breaking potential of fungal-based feedstock not only for pharmaceuticals, but also for consumer goods such as textile fibre, illustrated in the exhibition by a pair of "black leggings" made of a blend of fungal and cotton fibres.



Overall, this exhibition has been a huge success, generating a very positive response among the visitors. In the three days we gained deep insights into the potentials of new bio-based textile-materials and are convinced that further research and specifically industrial upscaling is of utmost importance for this bio-innovations!

The BIOTEXFUTURE team would like to thank the whole "Studio Nima Team" for this extraordinary exhibition and Messe München for their excellent support.

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