



**KLOPMAN, THE EUROPEAN LEADER IN THE PRODUCTION OF FABRICS FOR WORKWEAR, CREATES A DEGREE AWARD ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE TEXTILE SECTOR**

**Members of the company, of the CRUI (Conference of Italian university rectors) and of the CNR (National Research Council) will award a thesis in engineering or chemistry with an internship worth €15,000**

**Marra (CEO Klopman): "The old model of linear economy is no longer sustainable. Circular economy represents the future."**

**Frosinone 5th October** - Klopman, Europe's leading manufacturer of fabrics for workwear, has launched, in collaboration with the CRUI (Conference of Italian university rectors) and with the Department of Chemical Sciences and Materials Technologies of the CNR (Council National Research), the first edition of a degree award for the best thesis on "Environmental sustainability and/or circular economy in the textile sector" within the Engineering and Chemistry departments of the Italian universities.

A panel made up of company managers and members designated by CRUI and CNR will assign the award to the best project in terms of validity, feasibility and replicability.

Klopman will offer the winner a six-month paid internship, inclusive of room and board, with a value of around €15,000 and the opportunity to see their project realised. Theses must have been produced during the period between January 1, 2018 and July 26, 2019, the deadline for entering the award, and the works must be sent to the email address [hr@klopman.com](mailto:hr@klopman.com). The call is open to all Italian universities and addressed to all graduates and undergraduates of the specified courses who are interested in pursuing a career in the textile industry with a leading company in the sector and with a strong and long-standing presence in global markets.

The degree award is only the latest advance in Klopman's drive to enhance sustainability in all its forms. In fact, the initiative follows other social responsibility projects collected in the CSR document which the company presents each year to all its stakeholders. Besides meeting the most rigorous worldwide environmental standards, the company boasts among its range of products, fabrics made with organic or fairtrade cotton or with fibre derived from the pulp of trees or from recycled plastic bottles. Fabrics as good as those produced by traditional raw materials but with the guarantee of significant environmental benefits. Furthermore, Klopman has just started work on a new cogeneration plant which will allow the recovery and reuse of almost all the thermal energy produced in the combustion process, with a reduction of 4500 tons a year of CO<sub>2</sub> and 60% less dust.

*"Klopman is extremely mindful of its impact on the environment, committed to innovation and sensitive to the needs of the younger generation, and the award is a very important initiative for us because it perfectly puts together these characteristics of our company," said Alfonso Marra, CEO of Klopman. "The old model of linear economy based on consumption and waste is no longer sustainable from both an environmental and an economic point of view and the conversion to a circular economy model calls all companies, especially those in the textile sector, to a strong commitment in terms of innovation and planning. As a leader in its field, Klopman is setting out the path and we hope that our example will be followed by a growing number of actors."*

## **Klopman International – Company profile**

Klopman International s.r.l. has been a European leader in the production and marketing of technical fabrics for workwear for over 50 years, with three business areas dedicated to the different fields of application: Workwear, Protectivewear and Corporatewear. The company was the first to introduce the use of polyester/cotton, gaining a third of the European sector in some sectors and producing fabrics in over 130 styles and different colour shades, some even designed ad hoc for the individual customer. Advanced technologies and centralised process control, which monitors and simultaneously corrects 3,800 machine stitches, are just some of the advantages that make Klopman an industrial jewel and that make its fabrics more resistant to wear shrinkage and colour alterations.

Klopman has its headquarters and production site in Frosinone, Italy, with a plant covering 70,000 square metres, approximately 400 employees, an annual production of 42 million metres of fabric and a turnover of 138 million euro. The CEO, Alfonso Marra, recently launched a global expansion plan which saw the company, which has commercial branch offices in Dusseldorf, Lyon, Moscow, Borås (Sweden), Dubai and Bangkok, opening another production site in Jakarta to serve the Asian market directly.

In addition to the ISO 9001:2008 certification, Klopman International works in compliance with European quality management standards and is BS EN ISO 14001:2004 and BS OHSAS 18001:2007 certified.

### **KLOPMAN and the commitment to sustainability**

Klopman also recently obtained the maximum level of the **STeP - Sustainable Textile Production certification**.

Klopman fabrics are certified Oeko-Tex. The Oeko-Tex standards regulate and control the use of harmful substances in textile production. Approval under this standard ensures fabric poses no risk to human health and will provide skin-friendly clothing, even for babies with Oeko-Tex Class 1.

Klopman fabrics can be produced with **Fairtrade**-certified cotton: Blended fabrics using 100% Fairtrade certified cotton meet Fairtrade standards validated by Fairtrade (as audited by FLOCERT). Buying products made from Fairtrade-certified cotton ensures that the farmers receive a fair and stable price for their cotton, guaranteeing a better livelihood for their families.

Klopman supports the **BCI** (Better Cotton Initiative), a no-profit association responsible for ensuring that the cotton present in the work of those supporting the initiative is produced with constant attention to the environment, to farming communities and the economies of cotton.

Klopman also offers its customers the possibility of using recycled polyester rather than virgin polyester. The yarn is made with **PET** water bottles. The recycled polyester is applicable to all Klopman product range, ensuring to the customer Klopman's high quality standards in terms of comfort, image and durability, while increasing sustainability and respect for the environment.

**All Klopman's packaging is made of recyclable cardboard**; all paper materials used for communication are printed on FSC paper in order to support the promotion of a global forest management that is adequate from an environmental point of view, and advantageous from a social and economically viable point of view.

The best way to respect the environment is to produce products that last over time. Klopman fabrics are designed to offer long durability, ensuring that the wearer always looks professional.