

## PRESS RELEASE

### Philippe SANIAL, elected President of TECHTERA, the French textile industry's competitiveness cluster

**At the Board of Directors meeting on July 21, TECHTERA announced the appointment of Philippe Sanial, Technical Director of the CHOMARAT group, as President of the cluster, succeeding Louis Vovelle.**

Philippe Sanial succeeds Louis Vovelle, Senior Vice President Innovation and R&D at Elkem, who has been involved for 10 years in the cluster's presidency and has helped to establish Techtera on a sustainable path.

Philippe Sanial, is Technical Director in charge of R&D, industrialization, and methods at CHOMARAT, the French industrial textile group specialized in reinforcements for Composite materials, reinforcements for Construction materials, coated textiles & technical films. The group has been a member of TECHTERA since its creation. Philippe Sanial has initiated partnerships between the CHOMARAT group and national and international research centers.

#### Philippe SANIAL, new president of Techtera



**Technical Director** in charge of R&D, industrialization, methods and **Quality Director of CHOMARAT**

**Education:** ITECH engineer, Master in composite materials (University of Lyon), management training (INSEAD)

**1991 -2021:** CHOMARAT

**2016-2019:** IFTH Administrator

#### A context favourable to the new challenges of the textile sector

Philippe Sanial has an in-depth knowledge of the levers of collaborative innovation, particularly for SMEs and ETIs. He will also be able to rely on a solid base within TECHTERA, both in terms of structure and teams, and on the legacy of Louis VOVELLE and the governance bodies.

3 challenges for the new president

- To contribute to the federation of the means and resources of the textile industry to meet future challenges, particularly environmental ones,
- To include the trades, products and projects of the sector in the panorama of France 2030,
- To link the challenges of the sector (digitalization, circular economy) with those of France 2030.

This ambition will be reflected in the construction of Techtera's new roadmap.

## About Techtera



TECHTERA is the European innovation cluster of the textiles sector. The cluster runs a network of **more than 258 members** (companies, research laboratories, technical centers, universities and schools), with the main objective of **boosting competitiveness through collaborative innovation**.

The members of the cluster are thus accompanied on:

- Innovation and **collaborative R & D projects**, from the idea to the dissemination of the results
- The increase of the **levers of innovation**, with keys of reading on the current scientific and economic environment
- **French and international events and shows**: collective spaces, communication, regional financial support
- **Business development** in France and abroad, through monitoring and collective missions and support on the market of innovative products
- Strategy, creation and anticipation of **trends** in decoration
- Showcasing of eco-responsible materials in the Techtera fabric library

The cluster is also involved in **structuring actions**, for the textile industry and in connection with related sectors and application markets, through interpolated partnerships or European projects. Since 2005, more than **244 collaborative R & D projects** labeled and supported by TECHTERA have been funded, for a total budget of nearly **€ 623,2 million**.

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