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.
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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Techtera is supported by: