



MAY 18-19, 2022

VIRTUAL

POST EVENT REPORT



FORAGER

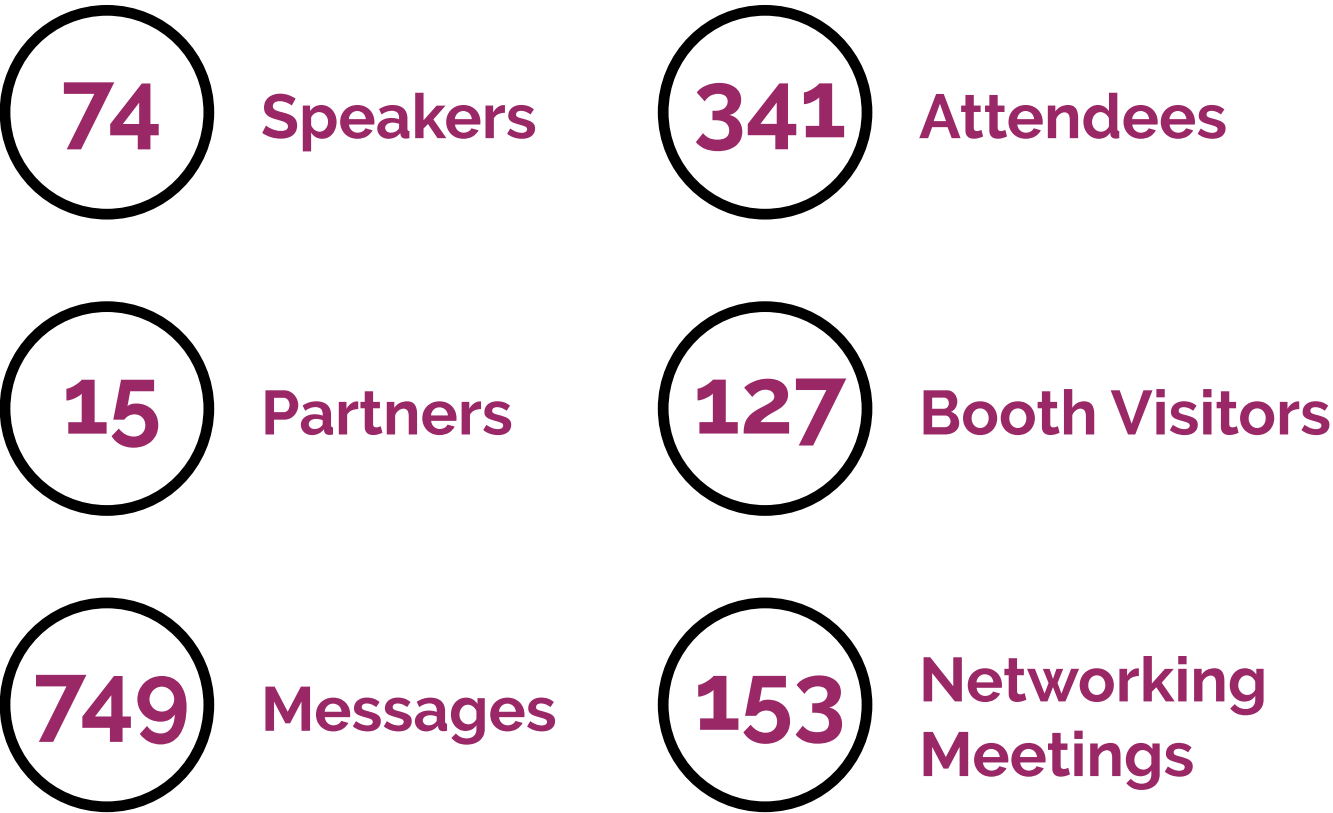


For future partnership opportunities please contact
Anastasia Orth: anastasia@materialinnovation.org

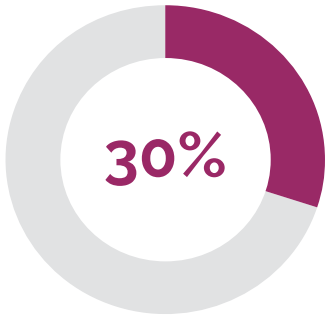
THE MATERIAL INNOVATION CONFERENCE WORKED TO ADVANCE THE NEXT-GEN MATERIALS INDUSTRY BY SHARING VITAL EXPERTISE AND BRINGING TOGETHER ALL KEY PLAYERS ALONG THE INNOVATION PATH FROM CONCEPT TO COMMERCIALIZATION.

With 74 expert speakers from leading brands, investors, next-gen material companies, academics, raw material suppliers, mills, and nonprofits, the event explored opportunities and challenges in accelerating the commercialization of next-gen materials.

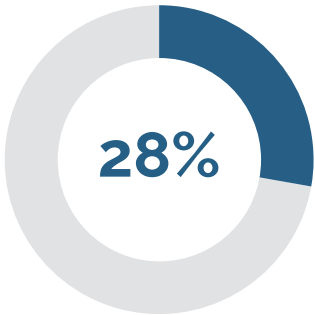
341 attendees came together virtually across 2 days to discuss the development and adoption of next-gen materials that can outcompete their animal-derived counterparts, not only in terms of sustainability and ethics, but also performance, price, and aesthetic.



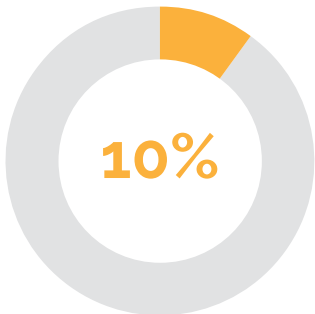
ATTENDEE OVERVIEW



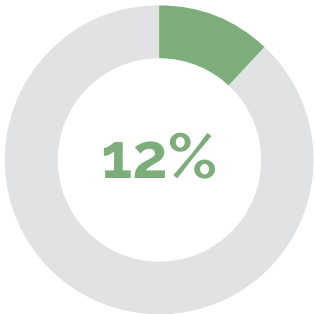
Brands



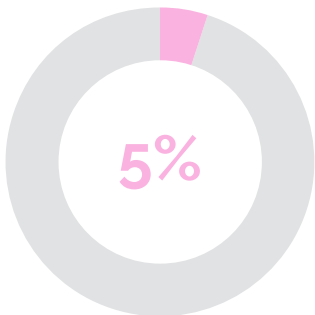
Material
Companies



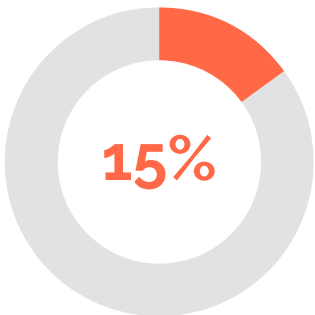
Investors



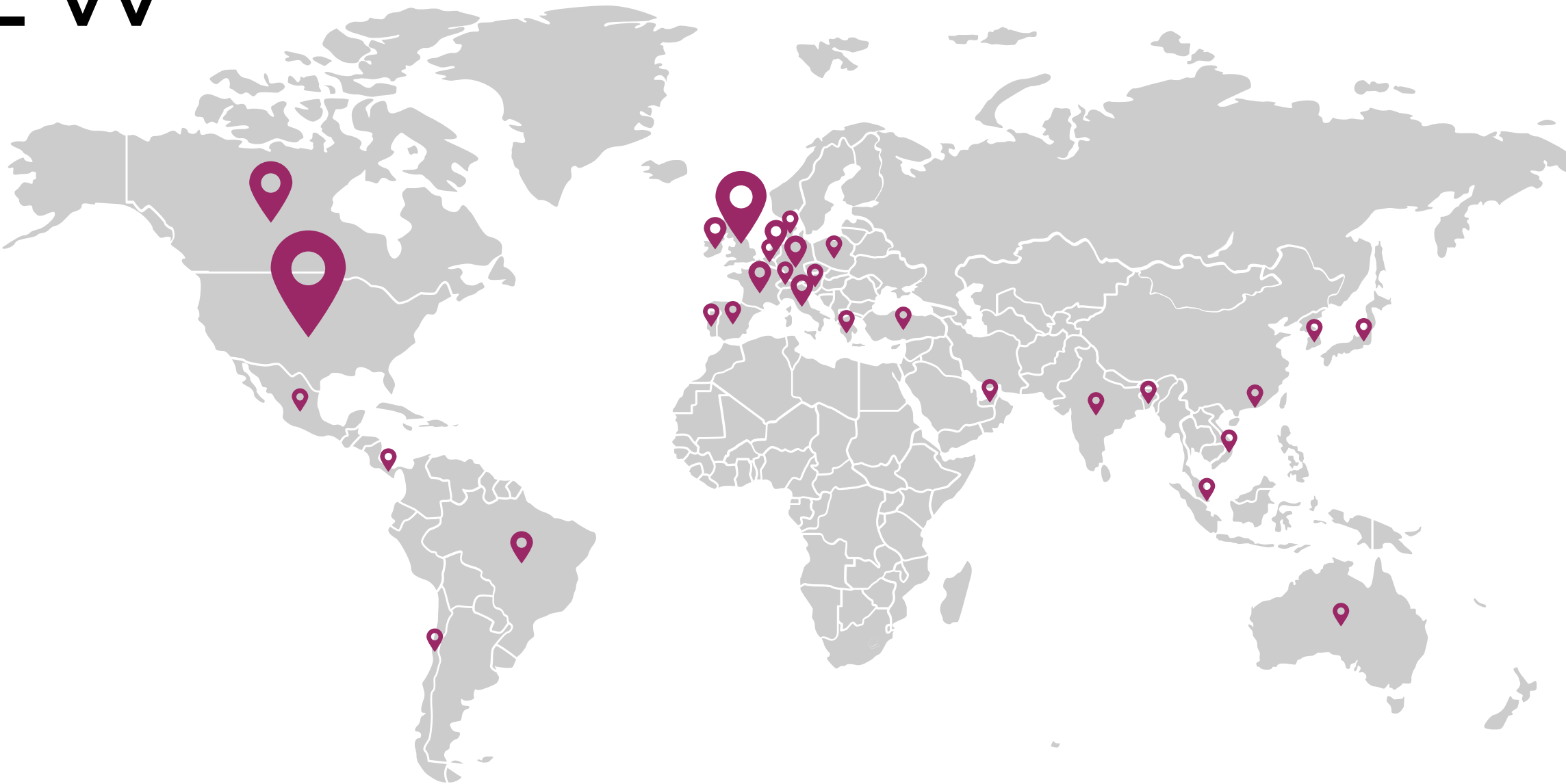
Non-Profits



Press



Other



United States
United Kingdom
Canada
Italy
Netherlands

Brazil
France
Germany
Ireland
India

Spain
Switzerland
Chile
Turkey
Vietnam

Poland
Australia
Portugal
South Korea
Austria

Bangladesh
Belgium
Costa Rica
Denmark
Greece

Hong Kong
Japan
Mexico
Singapore
United Arab Emirates

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WITH THANKS PARTNERS

HEADLINE PARTNER

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PLATINUM



GOLD



E V E R L A N E

VitroLabs Inc

SILVER



POLYBION



BRONZE

CONSERVATION **X** LABS



For future partnership opportunities please contact Anastasia Orth: anastasia@materialinnovation.org

OUR SPEAKERS

Thank you to our conference speakers!
We couldn't have done this without you.



AXEL GÓMEZ-ORTIGOZA
Co-Founder & CEO
Polybion
SILVER PARTNER



GAVIN MCINTYRE
Co-Founder & Chief
Commercialization Officer
Forager
HEADLINING PARTNER



INGVAR HELGASON
Co-Founder & CEO
VitroLabs
GOLD PARTNER



ANDY BASS
Chief Marketing Officer
Forager
HEADLINING PARTNER



DR. REINER HENGSTMANN
Vice President Additional
Materials (COSM)
ISA Tan Tec
SILVER PARTNER



MICHAEL PREYSMEN
Founder, Executive Chair, &
Climate Lead
Everlane - GOLD PARTNER
CONFERENCE CHAIR



HAÏKEL BALTI
CEO & Co-Founder
Faircraft
GOLD PARTNER



ALEXANDER NORMAN
Director of Materials Science
Research & Development
Modern Meadow
SILVER PARTNER



DR. MICHAEL A. SALTZBERG
Global Business Director
DuPont Biomaterials
SILVER PARTNER



SOPHIA WANG
Co-Founder & Chief of Culture
MycoWorks
PLATINUM PARTNER



OIHANA ELIZALDE, PhD
General Manager
MIRUM® BU, NFW
GOLD PARTNER



JOEY PRINGLE
Founder
Veshin Factory
SILVER SPONSOR



ECE GÖZEN AKIN
Founder & CEO
Gozen Institute
SILVER PARTNER



**For future partnership opportunities please contact
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- Daren Abney** Senior Business Development Manager, Lenzing Group
- Jamie Arbib** Founder, RethinkX
- Enrica Arena** Co-Founder & CEO, Orange Fiber
- Alissa Baier-Lentz** Co-founder & COO, Kintra Fibers
- Nicolas Bargi** CEO, Save The Duck
- Tina Bhojwani** Co-Founder & CEO, AERA
- Lauren Bright** Founder & Principal Consultant, Torus
- Melanie Broyé-Engelkes** CEO, Ananas Anam
- Brittany Burns** Director of Strategy & Corporate Development, Fashion For Good
- Kym Canter** Founder, House of Fluff
- Christophe Cappon** Chief Operating Officer, NUVI Releaf
- Rachel Cernansky** Senior Sustainability Editor, Vogue Business
- Stephen Chambers** Partner, SOSV, Managing Director, IndieBio
- Corinna Chen** Partner, Material Impact
- Heather Courtney** CEO, Alwyn Capital
- Charles Dimmler** CEO and Co-founder, Checkerspot
- Thomasine Dolan** Fashion Design Specialist, MII
- Stephanie Downs** Co-Founder & Board Chair, MII
- Casey Dworkin** Founder & Creative Director, Sylven New York
- Julian Ellis-Brown** Co-founder & CEO, SaltyCo
- Yuly Fuentes** Senior Advisor at Closed Loop Partners & Program Manager at Fiber Technologies in MIT, Closed Loop Partners
- Sydney Gladman** Chief Scientific Officer, MII
- Christine Goulay** Global Director, Pangaia
- Zimri Hinshaw** CEO & Co-founder, Bucha Bio
- Aniela Hoitink** CEO, MycoTEX
- David Kaplan Ph.D.** Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Tufts University School of Engineering
- Noëmi Kaufmann** Project Manager, Circular Economy, Buhler AG
- Jessica Kruger** Founder, LUXTRA London
- Karan Kumar** Programme Manager, Laudes Foundation
- Valerie Langer** Fibre, Solutions Strategist, Canopy Planet



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Martin Lankes Senior Product Manager Fiber Business at AMSilk GmbH, AMSilk
David Lee Creative Director, KD New York
Jasmin Malik Chua Sourcing & Labor Editor, Sourcing Journal
Macy Marriott Director, GWS
Barry McGeough Global Vice President of Innovation, Wolverine Worldwide
Alison Melville GM of Product Innovation, Reformation
Joël Mertens Director of Higg Product Tools, Sustainable Apparel Coalition
Rebecca Mink Founder & CEO, MINK
Karla Mora Founder & Managing Partner, Alante Capital
Jeroen Muijsers CEO, Flocus BV
Mira Nameth Founder & CEO, Biophilica
Mark Post Chief Scientific Officer, Qorium
Beth Rattner Executive Director, Biomimicry Institute
Nicole Rawling Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, MII
Claudia Richardson Material Innovation, Allbirds
Kate Riley Fiber and Materials Strategy Lead: Synthetics, Textile Exchange
Brooke Roberts-Islam Founder & Editor, Techstyler; Senior Contributor, Forbes
Kaley Roshitsh Sustainability Reporter, WWD
Lauren Sherman Chief Correspondent, Business of Fashion
Lewis Shuler Head of Innovation, Alpine Group
Elaine Siu Chief Innovation Officer, MII
Libby Sommer Director of Corporate Responsibility, Bolt Threads
Keri Szejda Ph.D. Founder & Principal Research Scientist, North Mountain Consulting Group
Francois Taute Senior Scientist, Qorium
Joshua Teitelbaum Senior Counsel, Akin Gump
Ranjani Theregowda Environmental Data Scientist, MII
Catherine Tubb, Ph.D. Head of Textiles, Planet Tracker
Vicki von Holzhausen Founder and CEO, von Holzhausen
Pasha Whitmire Material Development Lead, Patagonia
Helen Zha, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Chemical & Biological Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

ENGAGEMENT FROM THE PRESS

Media Moderators



RACHEL CERNANSKY
Senior Sustainability Editor

VOGUEBUSINESS



JASMIN MALIK CHUA
Sourcing & Labor Editor



KALEY ROSHITSH
Sustainability Reporter



BROOKE ROBERTS-ISLAM
Founder and Editor



LAUREN SHERMAN
Chief Correspondent



Media Partners



FASHIONUNITED



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Additional Media Mentions

TexFash
“Mega Summit to Accelerate Adoption of Next-Gen Materials; \$2.3 Billion Invested Since 2015”

Vegconomist
“MII’s Material Innovation Conference to Bring Together Leaders in Next-Gen Materials”

FashionUnited
“MII Launches Virtual Materials Conference”

Unchained TV
“Material Innovation: The End of Leather, Wool and Fur”

ATTENDEE & SPEAKER TESTIMONIALS

“We are at the forefront of a revolution in material innovation within the fashion industry. I’m eager to partner and support MII in the critical effort to protect our planet.”



MICHAEL PREYSMAN
Founder, Executive Chair, and Climate Lead

EVERLANE

“The Material Innovation Conference represents the action we need to take in order to change the path of destruction our industry is on. I’m inspired to be a part of this true collaborative effort, to learn from others, and to share my experiences of leading innovation in apparel.”



PASHA WHITMIRE
Material Development Lead

patagonia

“Conferences like the Material Innovation Conference where we can connect and share ideas are critical to moving the industry forward in sustainability and materials innovation. I’m looking forward to engaging with all of the thought leaders and innovators.”



CLAUDIA RICHARDSON
Materials Innovation

allbirds

“This is the most exciting time in biomaterials. It’s critical that we assemble to engage in discussion and share findings in service of advancing the new materials revolution.”



SOPHIA WANG
Co-Founder & Chief of Culture

MYCOWORKS

ATTENDEE & SPEAKER TESTIMONIALS

“It takes a village to change the world — by gathering together the market insights, scientific expertise, and vision to see past the status quo, MII is doing crucial work on behalf of the products and solutions that will meet humanity’s material needs sustainably, ethically, and at scale. Together, we are creating the community that will make it so.”



GAVIN MCINTYRE
Co-Founder & Chief Commercialization Officer

forager 

“We look forward to gathering with our peers and partners in the next-gen materials space to exchange ideas and further our shared goal of advancing the field.”



INGVAR HELGASON
CEO & Co-founder

VitroLabs Inc

“A great opportunity to hear from the innovators that are revolutionizing the fashion industry, changing how we think about sustainability right across the sector.”



STEPHEN CHAMBERS
Partner at SOSV & Managing Director IndieBio

INDIE BIO / SOSV

“This upcoming Material Innovation conference is a game changer to accessing information, understanding what’s out there and therefore changing the world.”



REBECCA MINK
Founder & CEO

MINK 



OUR TEAM

THE MATERIAL INNOVATION INITIATIVE EXISTS TO MAKE THE SUSTAINABLE OPTION THE EASY OPTION.

Anastasia Orth - Partnership Manager
Fernanda Mota - Research Coordinator
Hannah Jurist-Schoen - Art Direction
Joshua Hanosh - Website Design
Cortney Busch - Legal & Finance
Maddie Barone - Social Media
Nicole Rawling - Programming & Host
Sydney Gladman - Programming & Scientific Advisor
Elaine Siu - Programming & Innovation Advisor
Thomasine Dolan - Fashion Advisor
Ranjani Theregowda - Environmental Advisor
The HopIn Team

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SELECT LEARNINGS

Sustainability of Next-Gen Materials

- How next-gen materials, on the whole, are poised to be more sustainable than animal-based and petrochemical based materials.
- How environmental impact assessments are complex and how many industry players are joining a new coalition to address common industry problems.
- How it is necessary to work on progress, not perfection, in advancing a new product.

Industry Disruption

- How the new product must be equal to or better than the incumbent products to disrupt an industry.
- How true industry disruption takes around 15 years.
- How disruption in the materials industry is coming and the industry should prepare.

Partnerships: Fashion Brands and Material Companies

- How key partnerships between fashion brands and material companies have advanced the industry.
- Mutual benefits from partnerships including key advice on performance metrics and aesthetics for the material companies and early access for brands.
- How fashion brands can start to work with next-gen material companies.

The Supply Chain

- How many of the next-gen materials aren't plug-and-play in the existing supply chain.
- The need for additional training and mills working with next-gen materials.
- The value to material companies in working with traditional material artisans in bringing the new materials to market.

Performance of Next-Gen Materials

- How many next-gen materials do not yet meet expected performance and aesthetics.
- How new materials must meet expected performance and aesthetics to meet industry needs although some incumbent materials are "over-engineered" and industry should consider true performance needs for products.
- How innovation takes time and we are currently balancing issues like durability with biodegradability.



JOIN US NEXT YEAR!

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**Sign up for our newsletter to
keep up to date with upcoming
conference announcements.**

Missed the event? You can purchase an on-demand
ticket to access the session recordings through
August 1st 2022.

**Want to accelerate the entire next-gen material
industry?** Help drive material change year round by
joining our family of donors and advocates.



The Material Innovation Initiative is a nonprofit that accelerates the development of high performance, animal-free, and more sustainable materials for the fashion, automotive, and home goods industries. MII partners with scientists, startups, brands, and retailers to bring these next-gen materials to market. Visit materialinnovation.org for more details.