

Westminster Media Forum Keynote Seminar:

Prospects for the British fashion industry - domestic manufacturing, skills and wearable technology

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 21st October 2014

Venue: The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR



WESTMINSTER
MEDIA FORUM

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
David Ward MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Textile Manufacturing
- 9.05 - 10.00 **Great British fashion revival - domestic manufacturing, export markets and the ethical dimension**
How can designers and retailers further capitalise on the unique selling point of British-made clothing to increase customer spend on items? Following the Dhaka factory collapse and many more unreported incidents in Asia, to what extent is reshoring production back to Britain becoming part of corporate responsibility strategies within the industry and how is this likely to develop in future? What role do major brands play in supporting the drive for change and investing in Britain's garment manufacturing base to increase its scale and competitive offer? Should UK or EU policymakers consider regulation for brands to source and manufacture more ethically in developing countries in future? Which markets present the best potential for future export growth? What are the next steps for Government to market and harness the full potential of British clothing manufacturing internationally? What effect has the Intellectual Property Act had on the protection of design rights in this sector?
Sally Britton, Partner, Mishcon de Reya
Kate Hills, Founder and Editor, Make it British
Tamsin Lejeune, Managing Director and Founder, Ethical Fashion Forum
Stephen Taylor, Senior Manager, Kurt Salmon
Dids Macdonald, Chief Executive Officer, ACID (Anti Copying in Design)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.00 - 10.05 **Chair's closing remarks**
David Ward MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group for Textile Manufacturing
- 10.05 - 10.30 Coffee
- 10.30 - 10.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Stone of Blackheath, Member, International Trade Council
- 10.35 - 10.55 **Prospects for the British Fashion Industry**
John Miln, Chief Executive Officer, UK Fashion and Textile Association (UKFT)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 - 11.05 **Supporting the next generation of British talent**
Michelle Emmerson, Chief Executive Officer, Walpole British Luxury
- 11.05 - 11.55 **Sector skills, competitive advantage and emerging British talent**
What are the key challenges for meeting the increased need for highly-skilled workers as a result of reshoring manufacturing? In light of recent developments in industry accredited apprenticeship schemes, what are the next steps for increasing industry links with education and expanding skills development into the areas of production, textiles and post-graduate courses? What are examples of best practice in established British brands identifying and supporting emerging design talent? How might industry and Government work to improve the perception of manufacturing amongst young people - particularly women - in order to inspire the next generation of British start-ups? What impact is the growth in domestic production having on business models as the need for a diverse and multi-disciplinary workforce becomes more essential?
Kate O'Connor, Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Creative Skillsset
Professor Frances Corner, Head of College, London College of Fashion
Jenny Holloway, Director, Fashion Enter
Bill Macbeth, Managing Director, Textile Centre of Excellence
Questions and comments from the floor with **Michelle Emmerson**, Chief Executive Officer, Walpole British Luxury
- 11.55 - 12.10 **The wearable technology revolution**
Lasse Wassermann, Senior Programme Manager, Google X
- 12.10 - 12.55 **Wearable technology trends and opportunities for the British fashion industry**
What are the likely developments in wearable technology, and how far are these pieces going to be woven into our everyday lives? How well is the UK positioned to compete in this market? In light of Intel's strategic collaboration with CFDA to create a community for technology developers and fashion designers to unite on wearable technology, what are the options for British companies to follow this example? What are the implications for managing and valuing IP as fashion and digital converge?
Marief Brown, Associate Director and Head of Trends, Seymourpowell
Simon Bennett, Partner, Fox Williams
Amy Winters, Director, Rainbow Winters
Questions and comments from the floor with **Lasse Wassermann**, Senior Programme Manager, Google X
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Media Forum closing remarks**
Lord Stone of Blackheath, Member, International Trade Council
Peter van Gelder, Director, Westminster Media Forum