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## NTN, a major partner in the textile machinery market

As a leader in precision mechanics, NTN targets many markets in the industrial sector thanks to its in-depth knowledge of customer applications and the development of solutions tailored to the constraints of each of the machines in these markets.

A look at the textile applications for which NTN has been supporting several key players for over 30 years with high-quality parts.

### A market in full swing

Thanks to its long-standing know-how in the textile machinery market and in the industry as a whole, NTN offers a wide range of products, both specific and standard, dedicated to the production tools of the textile production line. Schematically, this line consists of 3 key stages: yarn preparation, fabric and non-woven product manufacture and finishing operations. Each step requires an analysis of the specific constraints in order to propose the bearings, linear modules or high-resolution absolute sensor systems that meet the exacting needs of the different applications.

These products can then be perfectly adapted to the requirements of each machine and representative.

*"This is a particularly cyclical market. Today, we are seeing a phase of very high activity where we have to support our customers closely in terms of development, quality and availability. Often highly technological, the machines must not be prone to failure. To this end, heavily loaded bearings must offer optimum performance,"* explains Laure Cornand, Marketing Manager for the textile machinery and industrial electric motor markets at NTN Europe.

### Focus on LUBSOLID™: solid lubrication for textile applications with many benefits

Since the 1990s, NTN has developed an innovative product to meet the requirements of the textile sector in particular. The LUBSOLID™ solution is particularly well suited to cope with the constraints of textile applications, such as oscillating movements or polluted environments (e.g. cotton wadding).

Oscillating movements are especially present in weaving activities and are known to be particularly severe. During these movements, the grease that lubricates the space between the ball and the bearing raceway is constantly being forced out, resulting in metal-to-metal contact and failure.

To overcome this constraint, the LUBSOLID™ lubrication technology consists of a porous polymer matrix containing a large amount of oil. It fills the free space of the bearing so that the components are protected. As the rolling body moves, the temperature rises, releasing the right amount of oil to lubricate the contact. All this before being absorbed again by the matrix acting like a sponge.

The benefits of this solution are numerous:

- **Increased robustness and reliability of equipment:** the bearing life is multiplied by

#### WHICH NTN BEARINGS FOR WHICH TEXTILE MARKET CONSTRAINTS?

- **Ball bearings:** among the widest on the market, this range includes technical solutions to respond to the very high speed and load pollution/contamination constraints.
- **Needle roller bearings and cam followers:** covering 95% of the market's needs, this range meets all textile applications where compactness is required.
- **Spherical roller bearings:** essential for textile applications, these bearings are designed to maximise the ability to withstand a high load, compensate for severe misalignment and absorb considerable impacts.
- **Cylindrical roller bearings:** these are designed to withstand high radial loads.
- **Tapered roller bearings:** they are the answer to high axial and radial loads.

In the face of keen global competition for market share, European manufacturers are recognised for their know-how and the versatility and high-tech nature of their machines, which maximise workshop output. At their side for three decades, NTN is establishing itself as a privileged partner thanks to its expertise, which has given it reputation and recognition. This is based in particular on its ability to offer, beyond its wide range of standard products, numerous specific products designed in close collaboration with market players.



delaying premature bearing failure due to metal-to-metal contact.

- **Additional resistance to environmental pollution:** the LUBSOLID™ solution provides further protection additional to the seal of the bearing.
- **Improvement in the cleanliness of the production line:** leaks that can cause oil stains on fabrics are eliminated.
- **Reduction in costs of use and maintenance:** grease leaks are eliminated and regreasing operations are eliminated for optimum availability of production equipment.
- **Contribution to sustainable development:** this solution reduces bearing and grease consumption.

First mass-produced for the textile industry in 2001 and successfully used in the food industry since 2017, this LUBSOLID™ lubrication technology will be extended to other markets in the coming years. Indeed, the oscillatory constraint is also shared by the bicycle and motorbike markets. For its part, the pollution constraint is particularly important in the field of agricultural machinery. These are all sectors that could benefit from this solution.

For more information, visit the [NTN website](#).

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