



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Registration Now Open for Functional Fabric Fair Fall 2026 in Portland, Featuring New Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference with Outdoor Industry Association

NORWALK, CT (July 28, 2026) – Registration is now open for the Fall 2026 edition of Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS®, taking place October 27-28 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, opening with the debut of the **Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference** on October 26, 2026.

New this season, is the Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference, developed in partnership with the Outdoor Industry Association (OIA). Designed for both attendees and exhibitors, the conference precedes two full days of exhibit hall sourcing and Expert Talks education programming on October 27 and 28, bringing together designers, product developers and material decision makers focused on performance, sustainability and innovation for the Fall 2027/2028 seasons.

Founded in 1989 and headquartered in Boulder, Colorado, OIA is the leading membership driven trade organization and collective voice for the active outdoor recreation business, serving thousands of manufacturers, suppliers, distributors and retailers across the country.

"Our exhibitors and attendees have been asking for more than just depth on supply chain sustainability and compliance, they've wanted more peer-to-peer engagement, and OIA is the right partner to help us deliver both. The Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference gives our community direct access to regulatory expertise, practical tools, and each other, sparking new ideas and stronger collaboration across the industry," said Steve McCullough, Event Vice President, Functional Fabric Fair.



Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference

Developed in response to attendee feedback, the Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference offers pragmatic approaches to foundational sustainability topics, the latest regulatory updates, real world case studies and interactive breakout rooms to support informed decision making across the supply chain.

Headline sponsor is *GORE-TEX® Brand*, with support from *Hyosung TNC*. and *The Climate Label Certified*. The conference is the outdoor and performance industry's destination for tackling critical

sustainability challenges, connecting with peers committed to protecting the people and places touched by their products, and gaining actionable insights to stay ahead of emerging trends.

2026 Day 0 Conference Agenda

Welcome & Keynote - Julie Brown, Sr. Director of Industry Engagement and Impact, Outdoor Industry Association
Todd Copeland, Owner & Founder, *Copeland Consultancy LLC*

Compliance on the Horizon: Navigating the Regulatory Landscape for Outdoor & Textile Brands - Keelin Kelly Christensen, Sr. Manager of Sustainability, *Outdoor Industry Association*; Jessica Matlock, Government Relations Manager, *Landbell USA*; Guru Larson, Director of Sustainability, *Columbia Sportswear*

Nearing 2030: Strategies for Reaching Climate Targets - Gabriel Mens, Sustainability Manager, *Brooks Running*; Jay Creech, Net Zero Lead, *REI Co-op*

Hidden in Plain Sight: Understanding and Reducing Solvent Risks in Supply Chains

Made to Last: Durability as a Cornerstone of Circularity - Marie Mawe, Sustainability Stakeholder Engagement Director, *GORE-TEX® Brand*; Kristen Bandurski, Sustainability Program Manager, *Red Wing Shoe Company*

Compliance in Practice: A Peer Workshop on Navigating Sustainability Regulations - Keelin Kelly Christensen, Sr. Manager of Sustainability, *Outdoor Industry Association*

From Data to Action: How AI is Powering, and Complicating, the Next Era of Sustainability - Karla Mora, Founder & Managing Partner, *Atlante Capital*

The Business Case: How to Win Budget and Buy In for Sustainability – Kerry Summers, Sustainability Champion, *W.L. Gore & Associates*; Ken Ratterree, Chief Financial Officer, *KEEN*

Closing Remarks - Kent Ebersole, President, *Outdoor Industry Association*

For more information visit [here](#).

Exhibit Hall and Features

The Fall 2026 exhibit hall will feature more than [275+ sustainable certified suppliers](#) presenting functional fabrics, finishes, trims, accessories and material innovations. Attendees will have access to daily Expert Talks education sessions, live demonstrations, and curated discovery areas including the Forums (Cellulose, Wool and Trend) Bodywear Collective, Innovation Zone and Future Fabrics Expo Innovation Hub. Dedicated networking spaces such as the Sustainability Lounge and Italian Bar, along with happy hours and social gatherings, will further support meaningful industry connection.

"Functional Fabric Fair is a one stop destination for discovering innovative fabrics, connecting with suppliers, and staying ahead of material trends," said Jeanine Gaudet, Sr. Manager, Material Innovation, New Balance.

Registration Information

Functional Fabric Fair is a trade only event and is free to verified designers, product developers, purchasing agents, material managers and students in the outdoor, performance and lifestyle apparel sectors. The Day 0 OIA Catalyst Conference requires separate registration and seating is limited.

[<< Register for Media Here >>](#)

[<< Register to Attend Here >>](#)

For travel and discounted hotels, visit [here](#).

For full show information, registration links, and updates on all 2026 editions, visit www.functionalfabricfair.com.

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Functional Fabric Fair Images can be found [here](#).

About Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS®

Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS® is a trade-exclusive event and platform showcasing the latest trends in textile development for the apparel industry. In addition to a curated marketplace dedicated to the responsible sourcing of high-performance functional fabrics and accessories, Functional Fabric Fair provides expert-led education, supplier recommendations, and a university program that exposes students to textile and apparel developers. FunctionalFabricFair.com

About RX

RX is a global leader in events and exhibitions, leveraging industry expertise, data, and technology to build businesses for individuals, communities, and organisations. With a presence in 25 countries across 41 industry sectors, RX hosts approximately 350 events annually. RX is committed to creating an inclusive work environment for all our people. RX empowers businesses to thrive by leveraging data-driven insights and digital solutions. RX is part of RELX, a global provider of information-based analytics and decision tools for professional and business customers. For more information, visit <http://www.rxglobal.com>