



**Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS returns to Portland, Oregon for its winning Spring 2023 edition.**

**NORWALK, Conn. (April 13, 2023)**—The Spring edition of Functional Fabric Fair powered by PERFORMANCE DAYS® returned to Portland, Oregon on April 4-5 to reconnect Outdoor and Sports Apparel Brands with suppliers showcasing the latest trends and innovations in textile development for the Spring 2024/2025 seasons.

This year at Functional Fabric Fair, over 200 exhibitors, including *brr*, *drirlease* and Hemp Fortex, showcased their latest products, making this the largest show floor yet. Over the two-day event, 1,100 attendees visited the fair and helped generate 3,250 total leads for exhibiting companies. “We are so pleased with the number of attendees and all the positive feedback they have been giving us. We’re honored to have returned exhibitors and excited to showcase new brands to the outdoor textile industry,” says Steve McCullough, Functional Fabric Fair Event Director.

Sustainability continues to be of the utmost importance across all editions of Functional Fabric Fair and this Spring’s event was no different. The exhibitor booths and all other aspects of the fair were created from 100% recycled materials aiding in the fair’s commitment to generating a 0% carbon footprint. Functional Fabric Fair also moved into part 3 of its Focus Topic, which distinguishes between three separate categories to obtain a differentiated overview of CO2 emissions and thereby increase transparency and comparability. These categories are synthetic fabrics separate from cellulosic and animal fibers. In this edition, there was a push to get everyone to use similar metrics (so that realistic comparisons can happen.)

Functional Fabric Fair equipped attendees to put sustainability into action through the 2023 Spring Education Program, which consisted of 13 sessions led by knowledgeable industry experts. Nora Kuehner presented PERFORMANCE COLORS: UNFOLDING PATHS Colors & Trends Winter 2024\*25, an in-depth look at color and trend perspectives from a trans-seasonal angle, combining extensive research on socio-cultural developments and user mindsets. Additionally, a panel led by John Frazier, Senior Technical Director at Hohenstein, explored why PFAS pose such a risk to people, the planet and brands and how the industry can find solutions. Charles Ross from the Royal College of Art in London returned to his role as the education moderator for the Spring edition, providing valuable insight alongside our distinguished speakers.

Two popular show floor features returned to the Spring edition, the PERFORMANCE FORUM and Outdoor Innovators Spotlight. The PERFORMANCE FORUM creates a one-of-a-kind platform where designers and managers can view the latest textile and accessory innovations and trends in active and outdoor apparel. The fabrics included in the PERFORMANCE FORUM cover all the essential areas in functional fabrics, divided into 13 main categories, to serve every need of the industry.

The Outdoor Innovators Spotlight, in conjunction with Utah State University, is a gallery that examines the rich history and ingenuity of the pioneers who started the Outdoor Fabric Industry. The Spring edition showcased the stories behind the development of the Pop tent, the Brandy tent, and North Face’s Geodome 4.

After the great success of the Spring, Functional Fabric Fair now looks to the next edition. If you are interested in attending our Summer event on July 18-19 at the Javits Center in New York, registration is now open. [ffsummer2023.com/NewYork](https://ffsummer2023.com/NewYork)

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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.

The Portland Spring edition is dedicated to functional textiles and accessories for outdoor, lifestyle, and activewear and focuses on trends for the Spring 2024/2025 seasons. It is where fashion and athletic apparel designers come together to source high-performance functional fabrics, trim, and accessories and learn to see beauty in functionality. [FunctionalFabricFair.com](https://FunctionalFabricFair.com)

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