

**Project title:** SozioTex – New Socio-technical Systems in the Textile Industry

**Partner:** Institut für Textiltechnik (ITA) in cooperation with the Chair of Sociology of Technology and Organization (STO) at RWTH Aachen University

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### Mission Statement

In order to address the topic "Human-Technology Interaction for Demographic Change", taking into account the ethical, legal and social implications of technological developments in the textile industry, an interdisciplinary research group was established at the Institut für Textiltechnik (ITA) in cooperation with the Chair of Sociology of Technology and Organization (STO) at RWTH Aachen University.

The research focus is on the analysis of sociotechnical systems in dealing with new technologies in the aging textile industry. The heterogeneity of employees in the textile industry has increased the most compared to other industries. At the same time, the orientation towards new production technologies such as those of industry 4.0 is increasing. Contents are, with focus on co-workers of all age groups, the conception, development and introduction of technical and social innovations (authority structure and machine organization) for the textile industry which are necessary for a successful human machine interaction.

Industry 4.0 can only work if employees are considered from the outset, as they are the ones who integrate and use the systems.

### Approach

The research focus is on the analysis and targeted design of socio-technical systems for an aging workforce, especially when dealing with innovative and networked production steps. One focus is on the implementation of intelligent human-machine interfaces, e.g. for operating and support systems. But per-

sonnel, organisational and training issues must also be integrated into research from the outset as so-called "soft" factors. The approach is to be transferred to other sectors in the future.

### Acknowledgement

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<https://www.technik-zum-menschen-bringen.de/projekte/soziotex>



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