



PRESS RELEASE
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PICANOL LAUNCHING NEW RAPIER WEAVING MACHINE GTMAX-I 3.0 AT ITMA-CITME 2018

A world premiere: the new rapier GTMax-i 3.0

Picanol's newest rapier, the GTMax-i 3.0, will be shown for the first time to the textile world. The GTMax-i 3.0 is building further on the success of GT-Max and GTMax-i. The combination of a redesigned gripper drive and extra reinforced sley drive as well as the integration of the future-oriented BlueBox electronic platform allow for even higher production speeds. Moreover, the look of the machine has been reworked completely, with a special focus on ergonomics and user friendliness.

In total 4 machines of this type will be on display at the show. On the Picanol booth, a GTMax-i 3.0 will be weaving a denim fabric, another one will be weaving a zebra style curtain fabric. On the Bonas booth a decoration fabric is running on a GTMax-i 3.0 with jacquard, whereas on the Tongxiang booth a GTMax-i 3.0 will be weaving label.

Product portfolio at ITMA-CITME

Next to the all-new GTMax-i 3.0, four more machines will be present, completing the Picanol weaving machine range on display.

On the Picanol booth two OptiMax-i 190 cm weaving para-aramide and shirting are being presented. As for the airjet machines, two OMNI*plus* Summum will be shown, one weaving a bottomweight fabric and the other weaving sheeting. On the Stäubli booth a TERRY*plus* Summum with jacquard is weaving a high quality terry fabric.

So in total 9 Picanol machines will be on display, of which six on its own booth (Hall H3, booth F01). One Picanol TERRY*plus* Summum with jacquard will be on display at the Stäubli booth and one GTMax-i 3.0 on the Bonas booth. On the booth of Tongxiang a GTMax-i 3.0 will be weaving label.

Picanol in China

As one of the world's leading weaving machine manufacturers, Picanol has always had a very close relationship with the Chinese textile industry.

Picanol sent its first pioneers to explore the possibilities in the Far East, already in the early 1950s. Picanol took part in one of the first international exhibitions held in Beijing.

The growing installed base of Picanol machines in China, as well as the increasing demand for a higher level of service and support resulted in the establishment of the Picanol Service Centre, which was set up in Shanghai in 1987.

The next step, in 1994, was the start of PST, Picanol Suzhou Textile Machinery Works, being Picanol's first production line outside Belgium. The technology and organisation were based entirely on the assembly concept and quality standards applied at the company's headquarters in Ieper.

Today PST houses a complete production unit with assembly lines, a mechatronics division, and a sales, service and spare parts organization. The Chinese management, engineers and technicians have been trained in Belgium.

Headquarters in Belgium

One of the big assets of this cross border entrepreneurship is the mixture of drawing upon the know-how and quality standards from the Picanol Group, combined with good understanding of its local customers' needs.

With more than 100 engineers headquartered in Belgium, Picanol invests heavily in R&D activities every year, resulting in the most advanced and performing weaving machines program available in the market. Picanol's airjet and rapier technology covers the full spectrum of textiles including apparel, household and technical fabrics. The high degree of digitization of all these machines, together with their Sumo main drive, ensures a lower weaving cost, higher quality of the fabrics produced, greater flexibility and exceptional ease of operation in comparison with other weaving machines.

The Picanol Service Team is offering on site technical support in every corner of the world. Our local service teams are being trained on a permanent basis in our training centers in Ieper (Belgium) and Suzhou (China).

Original Picanol Parts to ensure a high performance throughout the whole lifetime of your machines. The Picanol Aftermarket Sales Team is ready to advise you on how to optimize the preventive maintenance of your machines, proposing spare parts packages tailored to your specific needs.

Flexibility is more than a buzz word at Picanol: more than ever, we realize that it is a bare necessity to adjust to the changing market needs at any moment and to be ever more successful. So Picanol also offers "Weave Up" upgrade kits, maximizing the performance and widening the weaving range of your Picanol machines during their entire lifetime.

Let's grow together!

Picanol weaving machines on display at ITMA Asia + CITME 2018

1. OMNIplus Summum 4-P 190 weaving a bottomweight fabric

This airjet combines performance, flexibility and energy effectiveness. Waste control and style changes are simplified thanks to the Blue22 EasySet prewinders.

Warp	Yarn count	Ne 10/1
	Material	Polyester/Cotton
	Density	23.7 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	Ne 16.1/1
	Material	Polyester/Cotton
	Density	25 picks/cm
Drawing-in width		167 cm

2. OMNIplus Summum 4-P 280 weaving a sheeting fabric

This machine brings the answer to the increasing demand to weave sheeting fabrics on a type 280 at the highest speeds thanks to the air tucking version for continuous reeds.

Warp	Yarn count	Ne 60/1
	Material	Cotton
	Density	72 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	Ne 40/1
	Material	Cotton
	Density	45 picks/cm (double pick)
Drawing-in width		274 cm

3. OptiMax-i 8-R 190 weaving a fancy shirting

Machine specified to show the top performance achievable with the new OptiMax-i.

Warp	Yarn count	Ne 100/2
	Material	Cotton
	Density	47 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	Ne 120/2
	Material	Cotton
	Density	35 picks/cm
Drawing in width		178 cm

4. OptiMax-i 2-R 190 weaving para-aramide

The OptiMax-i, also perfect solution for a range of technical fabrics, such as Para-Aramide fabric. Warp and weft provided by Teijin Aramid

Warp	Yarn count	dtex1,680f1000
	Material	Aramide
	Density	6.7 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	dtex1,680f1000
	Material	Aramide
	Density	6.7 picks/cm
Drawing in width		163 cm

5. GTMax-i 3.0 8-R 340 weaving a zebra fabric

The new generation of GTMax-i 3.0 in wider width execution. Weaving a high versatility article.

Warp	Yarn count	dtex 78
	Material	Polyester
	Density	24 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn Count	5,5Nm / 10/2Nm / 2,5Nm
	Material	Various filling material
	Density	18 picks/cm
Drawing in width		327 cm

6. GTMax-i 3.0 6-R 220 weaving a denim

Thanks to the technological evolutions this machine continuous to set the standard for denim as well as shirting fabrics.

Warp	Yarn count	Ne 16
	Material	Cotton
	Density	35 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	15den + 30den /200den + 40den
	Material	Lycra
	Density	30 picks/cm
Drawing in width		214 cm

Stäubli booth:

7. TERRYplus Summum 6-J 260 weaving a Terry fabric.

Warp	Yarn count	Ground Ne 30/2
	Pile	Ne 30/2
	Material	Cotton
	Density	26 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	Ne 14/1
		Ne 58/2
	Material	Cotton
	Density	22-80 picks/cm
Drawing in width		256 cm

Bonas booth:

8. GTMax-i 3.0 8-J 340 weaving a decoration fabric

Warp	Yarn count	30den
	Material	PA monofil
	Density	64 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	300d / 120d
	Material	PES FDY (7 colours) / Lurex
	Density	72picks /cm
Drawing in width		310 cm

Shanghai Tongxiang Booth

9. GTMax-i 3.0 weaving labels

Warp	Yarn count	50den
	Material	Polyester FDY
	Density	43,4 ends/cm
Weft	Yarn count	50den
	Material	Polyester DTY
	Density	31,4 picks/cm
Drawing in width		170 cm

Teaming up with Picanol is the best guarantee for weavers of being competitive and profitable – now and in the long term. So come and see us at booth F01 in Hall H3 to see how we can grow together!

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THE PICANOL GROUP

About the Picanol Group

The Picanol Group is an international, customer-oriented group specialized in the development, production and sale of weaving machines (division Weaving Machines), engineered casting solutions and custom-made controllers (division Industries). In 2017, the Picanol Group realized a consolidated turnover of 688.93 million euros. The Picanol Group employs almost 2,300 employees worldwide and is listed on Euronext Brussels (PIC). Since 2013, the Picanol Group has also had a reference interest in the Tessenderlo Group (Euronext: TESB).