

Future of Manufacturing Unveiled at CISMA?2025 with Smart Automation and AI

Published on 13 Jan 2026 | By IFI Correspondent



The **China International Sewing Machinery & Accessories Show (CISMA 2025)** underscored a profound shift in how garments and textiles will be produced in the years ahead, with **automation, artificial intelligence (AI) and precision engineering taking centre stage**. Held in Shanghai, this year's exhibition brought together technology leaders, equipment manufacturers and industry stakeholders from across the globe to showcase an array of innovations that promise faster, smarter and more efficient production systems.

From Manual Labor to Automated Precision

A key theme at CISMA?2025 was the diminishing role of traditional manual processes in favour of **highly automated and intelligent machinery**. Exhibitors highlighted equipment that integrates AI?driven control systems, sensor feedback and precision automation to reduce the need for human intervention while improving consistency and quality across operations.

Advanced lockstitch machines, AI?powered sewing units and fully automated auxiliary systems such as pocket setters and hemming robots demonstrated how manufacturers can achieve optimal stitching consistency and reduce errors at high speeds — outcomes once thought achievable only with large skilled workforces. Even small components, like digital needle handling platforms, were shown to significantly elevate production reliability.

Smart Factories and Digital Integration

Beyond individual machines, CISMA?2025 also showcased **integrated smart factory solutions** that connect processes across design, cutting, sewing and finishing. Platforms such as *Valia Fashion* by Lectra use **IoT, cloud computing and digital twin technology** to link workflow stages — enabling real?time data visibility, automated production scheduling and optimized fabric use. Such digital solutions help factories respond quickly to demand changes and reduce waste.

These connected systems are part of a broader push toward *Industry?4.0*?style manufacturing, where data flows seamlessly across equipment and decision?making is supported by analytics and automation rather than manual oversight.

AI and Automation: Business Imperatives

Many industry analysts at the exhibition stressed that rising labour costs, labour shortages and the need for operational agility are pressuring apparel manufacturers to adopt **AI and automation as strategic necessities** rather than optional upgrades. AI?enabled visual recognition, predictive maintenance and automated motion systems — now more cost?competitive than ever — promise to help factories maintain consistent quality and scale production with fewer

disruptions.

Companies such as Groz-Beckert, Bullmer and JWEI demonstrated equipment where **AI and precision engineering directly translate into better material usage, reduced waste and enhanced output** — critical factors for competitiveness in today's global market.

Global Participation and Industry Impact

CISMA 2025 drew record participation from manufacturers, global buyers and technology developers, reflecting the sector's growing interest in smart manufacturing solutions. The breadth of innovations — from intelligent sewing systems and fully automated cutting tables to energy-efficient finishing lines — illustrated a shared industry consensus: the future belongs to factories that can integrate **automation, data and AI** throughout their production footprint.

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