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# FOREWORD

INDA and EDANA are pleased to publish this **fifth edition** of the Worldwide Outlook for the Nonwovens Industry. It is amazing to believe this multi-billion dollar industry had its modern start only fifty years ago. Until the last decade, the nonwovens industry was primarily based in Europe, North America, and Japan. It is in those three regions that modern nonwoven technologies were conceived and developed. Now, nonwovens are produced on thousands of lines around the world. The nonwovens industry is now truly global. The worldwide nonwovens industry's **prospects continue to be favorable**, and it remains a **rewarding and dynamic industry** in which to be involved.

By fulfilling fundamental and more sophisticated needs, nonwoven-based products bring value and benefits to society in a variety of applications from personal to health care, filtration to transportation, and construction to apparel.

This report presents detailed production data by region for the global nonwovens industry for 2009 and 2014, and a forecast for 2020. Specifically, the goals of the report were to

- provide economic and demographic trends, as they are significant drivers of demand within the nonwovens industry;
- explain industry trends within regions, processes, end-uses, raw materials, and trade flows;
- present industry production for region by process and end-use markets;
- provide an overall picture of global nonwoven roll goods trade; and
- define and clarify production processes and end use market segmentation to provide greater clarity in the industry.

EDANA and INDA are allies in a strategic partnership to create an environment beneficial to the sustainable and profitable growth of the nonwovens industry. It is also our role to **provide credible statistics to our members and the overall industry**. To that end, we are publishing this report to provide a benchmark of the industry's progress through the years. This information is intended to assist those in the nonwovens industry in making better business decisions.

It is our intention to continue to **improve the quality** of data and industry information. Your comments are what drive change, and we would appreciate your suggestions for

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information you would like included in future reports of the nonwoven industry. Please feel free to contact either of the report authors (Brad Kalil, INDA and Jacques Prigneaux, EDANA) regarding any aspect of this report.



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