

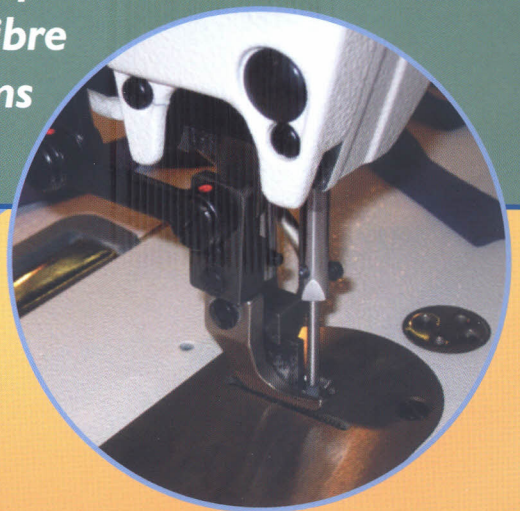
safety and protection
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TECHNICAL *Textiles* international

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014



- *Race begins to recycle carbon fibre reinforcements*
- *Discarded nets made into polyamide fibre*
- *Ultrasonics for high-performance seams*
- *Alternative joining technologies*



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The environmental benefits of lightweight, electrically powered cars could finally be realized now that BMW has started series production of its i3 model. Attention is now turning to recovering the valuable carbon fibres at the end of the vehicle's life, reports Adrian Wilson pages 11–16.



In a similar vein, Aquafil is exploiting the value of fishing gear discarded at sea to make the raw materials it needs to manufacture polyamide fibres as good as any made with virgin materials pages 17–21.

Amet

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The growing use of carbon fibre has prompted parts of the industry to explore ways to recycle this valuable material after use. Two of the pioneers in the field are aircraft manufacturer Boeing of Chicago, Illinois, USA, and its partner, the UK's University of Nottingham. Currently, they are working to recover more than 3 t of carbon fibre from the yacht that won the 2013 America's Cup, USA-71

pages 11–16.

In two articles, pages 23–29 and 31–35, Niki Tait reviews currently available alternatives to sewing as a means of joining fabrics.



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