

OGTC ICAHT 2014 urges the industry to focus on planning and training from the owner to operator

Celebrating a decade of knowledge sharing, ICAHT 2014, an initiative of Okhla Garment and Textile Cluster (OGTC) saw many learned speakers from across the world take the mike on key issues under the umbrella theme of 'Commitment to Excellence'. Over the years, OGTC has evolved as a collective initiative to build and sustain competitiveness and each year the conference brings together representatives of many Okhla based manufacturers and students to get an update on industry trends over two days of deliberations. The topics covered this year included diverse subjects from supply chain management, opportunities in the export and domestic market, human resource management to lean implementation.

Laying the foundation of what was in store for the conference, the first session chaired by **Deepak Mohindra, Editor-in-Chief, Apparel Online (India & Bangladesh) and StitchWorld** had experts speaking on 'Strategy for Growth' with emphasis on training, supply chain management and opportunities in the export market. Setting the ball rolling Deepak related an extended version of the famous rabbit and tortoise story, stressing that it is no longer just about the slow and steady winning the race, "rather it is now the fast, consistent and reliable who wins the race, or individuals and companies who work on their strengths can also win the race and finally those who are able to work in a team and harness each other's strengths and abilities, win the race," he said. Agreeing that collaborative efforts have the best chance of success, **R Dhamotharan, V-P & Head Buying & Merchandising at ITC,**

explained in detail how the supply chain has bigger challenges today. "Profits are derived from inventory turnovers and if an apparel manufacturer is able to maintain a consistent lead time of 120 days throughout the year, it can turnover its inventory thrice. This is the basic minimum as the lower the inventory turnaround time the higher the operating overheads, higher shipment delays and lower sales," pointed out Dhamotharan, while deciphering how to manage the supply chain for profitability.

Representing one of the benchmark companies in India, **Prasad Narayan Rege, Chief Operating Officer at Intimate Fashions** (a unit of MAS Holdings), highlighted the various aspects of training processes from planning, execution to sustaining the training efforts. "The success of a company's training process depends on the company identifying its Vision, Mission, Objective, Strategy and Tactics. With these aspects in place,

"The success of a company's training process depends on the company identifying its Vision, Mission, Objective, Strategy and Tactics. With these aspects in place, the company can plan its training program."

Prasad Narayan Rege



ICAHT 2014: A knowledge sharing platform – (L - R) Prasad Narayan Rege, COO at Intimate Fashions; Anant Sadana, CEO, United Apparel; Deepak Mohindra, Editor-in Chief, Apparel Online (India & Bangladesh) and StitchWorld, chairing the first session; and R Dhamotharan, V-P & Head Buying & Merchandising at ITC

