

ANDAM
FASHION INNOVATION
AWARD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

SQIM WINS THE 2023 ANDAM INNOVATION AWARD & AN INCREASED GRANT OF 100.000€

Launched in 2017, the ANDAM Innovation Award is intended to support and encourage the technological innovations that contribute to transforming and reinventing today's fashion industry.

This prize will reward a start-up, French or international willing to develop their project in France, which already has or is willing to have an application in the fashion sector. The company has to offer innovative technological solution for a fashion industry more respectful of human beings and the planet, this in the following fields: bio-tech, new materials, production, distribution and circular economy.

Made of professionals of the fashion and tech industry, the Expert Committee gathered on Wednesday, April 19 at LA CASERNE Paris to select the finalists and, among them, the winner of the 2023 edition.

Winner of this 2023 edition, the materials' company SQIM is developing with ephea an unprecedented class of biofabricated materials, made with pure mycelium - the first of its kind to be cultivated on a pure basis, eliminating the use of contaminating chemicals along the growth process, and guaranteeing consistency in quality.

«For the first time since its creation, I am delighted to have been able to raise the ANDAM Innovation Prize to 100,000 euros, as it is essential to highlight and support the technological innovations that will contribute to the transformation of the fashion industry.

This year's selection showed how much biotechnology, recycling and traceability are central to innovation and scientific research.

I congratulate our 2023 winner, SQIM, which proposes, through ephea and the use of mycelium, a new innovative material, that fully represents the current paradigm shift which consists of placing the living at the center of production processes;

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as well as the two other finalists:

Materra, which contributes to the necessary ecological and social transformation of the cotton industry, which today represents 30% of fiber production,

and Idelam, a project from the CNRS that addresses the major challenge of delamination and recycling of multi-materials, a challenge that is still unsolved and yet crucial in the objective of achieving industrial-scale circularity for the ever-increasing complex products that we produce.»

NATHALIE DUFOUR, FOUNDER AND GENERAL MANAGER, ANDAM

« With **ephea** we are finally demonstrating that, by partnering with Nature through biofabrication-driven processes, it is possible to deliver truly responsible yet highly functional innovative products, that allow matching sustainability, technical performance, and aesthetics, as key ingredients to drive effective positive impact.

Particularly, our technology allows for delivering the highest quality of mycelium materials and products in the market, which are also entirely free from any animal-derived content.

Thanks to the ANDAM Fashion Innovation Award, today we further consolidate our unique positioning in the luxury segment, setting a solid basis for the upcoming industrial developments. »

STEFANO BABBINI, CO-FOUNDER AND CEO, SQIM/ephea

THE TWO OTHER FINALISTS ARE:

IDELAM develops an innovative process using CO₂ to separate, in a clean and fast way, glued materials, in order to enable their proper recycling. IDELAM's technology addresses the issue of recycling complex multi-material wastes currently not recycled.

MATERRA's mission is to transform natural fibres into a force for systemic environmental and social change, starting with cotton. They design and implement innovative and regenerative farming initiatives supercharged by their AI-powered digital tool, empowering farmers with tailored support and brands with green claims compliant datasets.

The finalists will benefit from a privileged access to the ANDAM Expert Committee and network so as to help them in the development of their structure and strengthen their link with the fashion industry.

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THE EXPERTS COMMITTEE

CAMILLE BENECH, Google ATAP Global Marketing and Partnerships EMEA

VINCENT CRÉANCE, Director - Design Spot, Université Paris-Saclay

MARIE-CLAIRE DAVEU, Chief Sustainability and Institutional Affairs Officer, KERING

FRANCK DELPAL, Director of the Specialized Master., Institut Français de la Mode

PASCAL DENIZART, CEO, CETI

JÉRÔME DOUCE, Scientific Director, IFTH

NATHALIE DUFOUR, Founder and General Manager, ANDAM

ÉRIC DUPONT, Director Sustainable Development, Business Transformation, Supply Chain,
CHANEL

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CHRISTIAN KUNZ, Director, Plug and Play Brand & Retail Europe

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GILLES LASBORDES, General Manager, Première Vision

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PASCAL MORAND, Executive President, Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode

VIOLAINE GRESSIER, Global Luxury Industry, Meta

FLEUR PELLERIN, Founder and CEO, Korelya Capital

CLARISSE REILLE, Executive Director, DEFI

YANN RIVOALLAN, President, FFPAPF

PHILIPPE RIBERA, Vice-President Innovation, Lectra

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ABOUT ANDAM

Founded in 1989 by Nathalie Dufour and chaired by Guillaume Houzé, the annual ANDAM Fashion Awards offer, for the first year, a global financial support reaching 700.000€ and a dedicated mentorship to 5 companies chosen after a long and in-depth process of selection.

Since 34 years, ANDAM brings together institutional and major private actors of the industry to develop strategies and transversal actions towards fashion talents. Its major role as agent and coordinator is made possible thanks to the commitment of:

- its two historical partners and main financial sponsors: the French ministry of Culture and DEFI (Committee for the Promotion and Development of the French Fashion Industry)

- as well as private sponsors, which renew and increase their support annually, including BALENCIAGA, BUREAU BETAK, CHANEL, CHLOÉ, FONDATION PIERRE BERGÉ YVES SAINT LAURENT, GALERIES LAFAYETTE, GOOGLE, HERMÈS, INSTAGRAM, KERING, LACOSTE, LONGCHAMP, LVMH, L'ORÉAL PARIS, MYTHERESA, OTB, PREMIERE CLASSE, SAINT LAURENT, SWAROVSKI AND TOMORROW.

