

The Billie System's Ronna Chao Honoured at the 2019 Global Wellness Summit

Novetex Textiles Chair Receives the 2019 Leader in Innovation Award

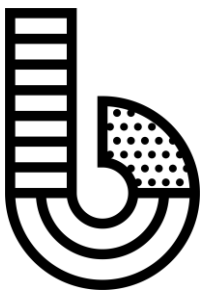


From left: Nerio Alessandri, Founder, Technogym; Ronna Chao, Chair, Novetex Textiles and The Billie System; Jean Sung, Head of The Philanthropy Centre, Asia, J.P. Morgan Private Bank; Cathy Feliciano-Chon, Founder and Managing Partner, CatchOn – A Finn Partners Company

(HONG KONG, 18 October 2019) – Ronna Chao is the recipient of the **2019 Leader in Innovation Award** at the Global Wellness Summit, held 15 to 17 October, 2019, in Singapore.

Sponsored this year by Gharieni Group, the Global Wellness Award: Leader in Innovation is presented to a true global innovator committed to meaningful social impact in a wellness sector. The Chair of Novetex Textiles Limited, creator of The Billie System, Chao presented on the topic of Fashion and Sustainability at the power-packed conference at the Grand Hyatt Singapore.

The three-day summit is the largest wellness conference in the world, where leaders from sectors including travel, beauty, nutrition, fitness, lifestyle and more, present their knowledge and insights on an invitation-only basis to an audience of over 600 delegates. “I’m just a small needle trying to make a difference in a much bigger problem,” said Chao upon receiving the award. “Don’t ever think you’re too small to make a difference.”

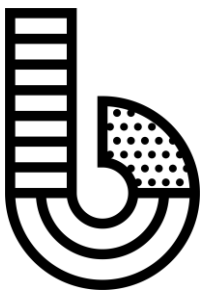


The Billie System’s Ronna Chao (*far right*) and fellow panelists Christina Schiavolin, Noel Asmar, Jessica Jesse, and Elaine Yan Ling Ng trade insights during a panel discussion titled “Look Around, Not Ahead: The Art of Sustainable Style” on Day 2 of the Global Wellness Summit in Singapore.

Earlier this year, Chao spearheaded the formal launch of **The Billie System**, an upcycling factory in Tai Po, Hong Kong, with the purpose of addressing Hong Kong’s textile waste situation. The patented system uses no water and produces no hazardous discharge throughout the process of converting discarded textiles and excess garment inventory into recycled fibres which can then be re-spun into yarn to create new products. The patented upcycling system has been recognised in innovation awards globally, winning a Gold Medal at the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva and a Bronze prize at the 2019 Hong Kong Green Innovations Awards (HKGIA).

For high-resolution images, please access: <http://ftp.catchonco.com/GWS2019>

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About Ms. Ronna Chao

Ms. Ronna Chao is Chairman of Novetex Textiles Limited, CEO of Novel Investment Partners Limited, and a Director of Novelpark Investments Limited. Her responsibilities in these various capacities cover investment and portfolio management, property redevelopment, and textile manufacturing. She is also CEO of Bai Xian Asia Institute (BXAI), which is funded by the charitable organisation, Bai Xian Education Foundation (BXEF). She holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Brown University, and an M.B.A. from Stanford University.

About Novetex Textiles Limited

Established in 1976 and part of the Novel Group, Novetex Textiles Limited is recognised as one of the leaders and pioneers in the textile industry. Founded by renowned Hong Kong entrepreneur and textile industry pioneer, Mr. Kuang Piu Chao, the Hong Kong-based company has over 500 employees and extensive operations in multiple cities across China and Asia. Clients include a number of global high-profile brands. The group is currently led by Chairman and third-generation family member, Ms. Ronna Chao.

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