

## Datatex Users Gather At Chateau Elan

*Datatex presented new tools and solutions during its first US users group meeting in North Georgia*



**A**fter posting 25-percent growth in total sales in 2004 — and posting its best year yet in US sales — Switzerland-based Datatex AG gathered current and prospective clients at Chateau Elan in Braselton, Ga., for its first US user's group meeting. Jim Noble, director of sales and marketing at Alpharetta, Ga.-based Datatex-TIS Inc. — the company's US subsidiary — welcomed the attending companies, which ranged from one of its oldest clients — Swift Textile Inc., Columbus, Ga. — to one of the newest — Brookwood Co. Inc., New York City. Long Beach, Calif.-based Texollini traveled the furthest to attend the event.

Datatex offered breakout sessions on information technology (IT) issues, and presented Machine Queue Management (MQM) — a planning and sequencing tool that provides visibility to a shop floor schedule. The tool provides versatility in how and what it plans, and fits applications across the textile spectrum. MQM offers manual and automated planning, which can be run with varied rules creating options for the planner. The focus is on meeting customer dates, maximizing machinery and labor utilization while minimizing idle time, overtime, step-up delays and lead times. MQM utilizes user-configured compatibility rules to aid in job-to-job, job-to-resources, job-to-capacity, and job-to-jobs for grouping issues.



**Jim Noble, Datatex, Togar White and Stephanie Bowen, Russell Corp.**

“Datatex also officially introduced its Network Oriented World (NOW) solution, which is a browser-based, use-anywhere-at-anytime software. This software offers a new range of flexibility in a Web-based architecture. The platform independence offered by NOW complies with Java 2 Enterprise Edition standards, is object-oriented and can be accessed by all browser-enabled devices.

According to the company, NOW features easy integration, a new level of personal productivity, application flexibility and a host of new functions.



**Bill Wilson presented information on the company's MQM solution.**

Well-known textile companies such as Wellstone Mills, Greenville; Syntec Industries, Rome, Ga.; Avondale Mills Inc., Monroe, Ga.; Belton Industries Inc., Belton, S.C.; Milliken & Company, Spartanburg; Precision Fabrics Group, Greensboro, N.C.; Trio Manufacturing, Forsyth, Ga.; Russell Corp., Atlanta; and Parkdale Mills, Gastonia, N.C., attended the meeting.

Datatex has four group members: Datatex S.r.l., Italy; Datatex-TIS Inc.; Datatex Ltd., Israel; and Datatex Automation, Germany. The company had 106 employees including development resources at the end of 2004.



Datatex users attended various sessions to learn about new tools and solutions, and discuss IT issues.

Datatex CEO Ronnie Hagin spoke of research and development investment reaching 13 percent of total worldwide sales, with continued investment in software and enhanced modules such as MQM. Hagin also discussed improved garment functionality, which has garnered international interest from vertical manufacturers.

“It is our commitment to remain a stable and predictable business partner for our customers,” Hagin said.



Shannon J. McCarthy (left) and Ronnie Hagin, Datatex