Spinning of yarn was one of the key technologies for further development of mankind. Selfactor spinning and later ring spinning have led basis for industrialisation together with mechanical weaving. After almost 100 years of smaller improvements a new dimension in development started. Rotor spinning was followed by compact spinning and now air-jet spinning. Each system has its owns advantages, each will have a certain market share in the future. The speech will reflect upon the differences and the limits of each system.

The long-term positioning and bench-marking set by ring yarn, which was partially replaced by rotor yarn in the later years of the last century before a renaissance, especially in denim, swashed back to ring yarn. The properties of ring yarn have not changed within this time but the market requirements did. This is a good example for the dedication of yarn due to its properties. Rotor yarn shows advantages not only when an even surface is required but also higher weaving efficiency. Ring yarn shows more character and gives a softer hand and properties required for the denim market of today.
Compact yarn was a revolution regarding brilliancy in optics. The reduction in hairiness and the significant increase in strength resulted in definitely higher weaving efficiency in fine counts as well as a long-lasting attractive visual appearance. Such yarns can withstand the loss of tenacity due to iron-free finishing. These are the main reasons for the high market penetration in shirting and bed linen.

Air-jet yarn now gives an additional new character. Low pilling tendency and very good dye-stuff take up in combination with the very high spinning speeds make this alternative interesting for many applications. Artificial cellulosics made the key market at the beginning and now market gets wider in terms of fibre application.
As cotton is limited in world production area, the importance of blends and man-made fibres get more and more significant. The four spinning systems are not suitable in the same way for all fibres. As the supplier of all four systems, we will give an overview of advantages and possibilities as well as their limitations.