EXPO-ANFRAPIEL

Expo-Anfrapiel is organized by the Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de Ropa y Artículos en Piel, National Association of Leather Clothing and Accessories Manufacturers. It was started in 1990 to promote a central venue to show leather goods made in Mexico, with the exception of footwear. The companies are primarily from the five largest leather producing cities — León, Guadalajara, Monterrey, Tijuana and Mexico City. In 1994, for the first time, exhibitors from foreign countries including, Italy and Colombia were invited to exhibit. It attracts about 120 exhibitors and 3,000 visitors.

LA FIESTA DE LOS NIÑOS

Participants in *La Fiesta de los Niños* are Mexican and foreign companies supplying apparel, toys, games and educational material for children up to age eight.

FASHION SHOWS

Fashion shows are an integral part of the *Exhimoda* and the *Expo-Fashion Mexicana* where imported and domestic designers and manufacturers exhibit their lines. Fashion shows are also popular among specialty boutiques which carry big names of European designer labels. For example, *Frattina* recently hosted a show for Escada. Hugo Boss has an annual show as do other designers such as Gianni Versace. Most of these shows are held at the *Hotel Nikko* in Mexico City.

El Palacio de Hierro also hosts fashion shows for its customers of its major designers. Recently they had a show featuring Manuel Méndez and Enrique Martínez at their *Calle Durango* store. Fashion shows for charity events or as entertainment are not common in Mexico.

FASHION AND TRADE PUBLICATIONS

Trade publications provide both a source of information about apparel trends and a medium for promotion. Consumer fashion magazines are also useful for both research and advertising. The two main trade journals in Mexico are *Apparel Industry Internacional* and *Women's Wear Daily Fashion International*. Contact information for these and other trade journals are included in the Key Contacts Mexico section of this profile.

OPPORTUNITIES IN MEXICO: THE APPAREL MARKET