

Luxury Apparel Brands - World

Market Analysis – 2015-2020 Trends – Corporate Strategies

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Exclusive extracts from this 243 page-long report:

- What is the business?

Luxury fashion has a high break-even point, and haute couture is generally an unprofitable activity. Collections presented by top labels during major fashion shows are usually not destined for sale, but are key to shaping a label's image, building its brand, and affirming its identity against other brands. Strong brand value in turn allows the marketing of more profitable ready-to-wear fashion collections. Strong brand value also facilitates labels' expansion to other businesses with lower break-even points (i.e. higher margins and greater profitability) such as accessories, leather goods or perfumes. Brand line extensions are among the industry's key strategies [...]

- Who are the key players?

The global luxury apparel market is dominated by a handful of multinational conglomerates with large portfolios of specialised luxury brands. The majority of leading luxury apparel groups and brands are concentrated in the United States and Western Europe, especially in France and Italy. In other key luxury markets such as the US, Japan and China, only a few brands are established luxury companies. Companies analysed in the report include: LVMH, RICHEMONT, KERING, MICHAEL KORS, RALPH LAUREN, HERMES, PRADA, BURBERRY, HUGO BOSS, PVH, GIORGIO ARMANI, CHRISTIAN DIOR COUTURE, SALVATORE FERRAGAMO and CHANEL.

- How intense is competition?

Rivalry among leading luxury groups is based on brand value, product quality and innovation, all of which contribute to product differentiation. Although price-based competition is reduced by the market's broad segmentation and the specialisation of most companies, in the last years competition has increased as a result of the declining demand in some fast-growing markets. Labour cost and supplies management are also intensifying rivalry.

- What are the main markets?

Western Europe remained the largest regional luxury apparel market by total sales in 2014. Italy and France in particular are Europe's key markets, partly owing to the relative importance of tourist purchases in these countries, while other large mature luxury markets include the US and Japan. Large emerging countries such as China, Russia, Brazil and India still represent small luxury markets but are rapidly catching up.

To find out more on the sector and its leading corporations, please find enclosed the order form to obtain this exclusive report by Xerfi Global.

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