



PRESS RELEASE

‘Couture in Orbit’: Sympatex Technologies collaborates with the European Space Agency (ESA) and European fashion schools

The functional textiles specialist is providing students with innovative materials. The results of the project will be presented at the Science Museum in London at the end of May 2016.

Munich / Unterfoehring, 10 May 2016 – Sympatex Technologies is a sponsoring partner of the new international project ‘Couture in Orbit’. The ecological alternative among functional textile specialists is collaborating with the European Space Agency (ESA) in the first European Space Fashion project the organisation has staged. The project is being sponsored by the ESA technology transfer programme (TTP), by Sympatex Technologies and further sponsors from the industry segment. They provide the students with innovative functional textiles and state-of-the-art space technologies that allow the up-and-coming designers taking part in the project to explore the future of fashion. The task of the young talents is to find inspiration in space technologies and missions and let it flow into their designs.

Each of the fashion schools has been given its own, unique theme – from technology and the environment to innovation, health and nutrition. The design students from the fashion schools taking part include 13 from the ESMOD Berlin. As ESA Project Coordinator Rosita Suenson explains, ‘We have set them the task of developing everyday fashion inspired by Alexander Gerst’s “Blue Dot” mission. At the same time, the topics of earth observation and climate change must also play a role. We think that the environmentally-friendly functional textiles from Sympatex are particularly appropriate to the theme of our project and are very pleased that we have managed to get Sympatex on board as a materials sponsor.’ Haymo Strubel, Director Apparel at Sympatex, adds: ‘We are equally happy to have had the opportunity to join the project as a partner. Sponsoring new talents with projects like ‘Couture in Orbit’ is an integral part of our mission statement.’

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Fashion show in the Science Museum, London

'Couture in Orbit' is not intended to be a competition, its aim is to celebrate the inspirational aspect of space exploration. In addition to ESMOD Berlin, the other fashion schools taking part in the project are ESMOD Paris, the Fashion Design Akademiet Copenhagen, the Politecnico Milan and the Department of Fashion at Ravensbourne in London. A jury of experts will select several designs from each school that the students will then realise for the highlight of the project: a 'Couture in Orbit' fashion show at the Science Museum in London that will take place on the evening of 25 May 2016 as a part of the museum's 'LATES' programme. Every month, this open-night attracts up to 7,000 young people to the Science Museum, London.

Image material with samples of the first design sketches by students from ESMOD Berlin can be accessed by the following link: <http://www.sympatex.com/information/39/presse>

Please click on the following links for further information about the 'Couture in Orbit' project: <http://couture-in-orbit.tumblr.com/> and <http://www.esa.int/ESA>.

About Sympatex

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As one of the worldwide leading producers, Sympatex® Technologies has been a synonym for high-tech functional materials in clothing, footwear, accessories and technical fields of application since 1986. Together with selected partners, Sympatex develops, produces and distributes membranes, laminates and functional textiles as well as finished products worldwide. The Sympatex membrane is highly breathable, 100% wind- and waterproof and regulates the climate. It is 100% recyclable, bluesign® certified, and it received the 'Öko-Tex-Standard 100' certificate. It is also PTFE-free and PFC-free. The technologies and procedures are based on the principles of ecological responsibility and sustainability with a special focus on the optimal carbon footprint. Sympatex is represented worldwide with sales offices and branches. www.sympatex.com

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