



## Factsheet ecology

Sympatex Technologies GmbH:

### **Eco-friendliness as self-conception**

When it comes to functional textiles, Sympatex Technologies proves that high-tech and the protection of the environment perfectly complement each other. Responsibility for nature and mankind is part of the actual corporate philosophy of Sympatex.

#### **The Sympatex copolyester membrane: top performance and highest level of ecology**

The Sympatex membrane is made of polyether-ester, a compound of polyester and polyether molecules that represents no health hazard, which is therefore absolutely environmentally friendly and skin-friendly as well as recyclable like a PET bottle.

The advantages at a glance:

- Made of perfectly safe polyether/ester without any health hazards
- 100% recyclable like a PET bottle
- PTFE-free
- PFC-free
- Öko-Tex Standard 100 certified: completely health-friendly textile products
- bluesign® approved: as free of harmful substances as possible and produced in a safe way while saving resources
- Absolutely eco-friendly and skin-friendly
- Reduced carbon footprint in the polymer production

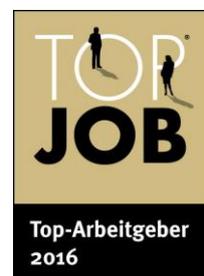
#### **Copolyester vs. PTFE**

Other membranes like Gore-Tex or eVent are made of PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene). The production, the landfilling and the combustion of PTFE can create compounds that are ecologically harmful.

PTFE has been criticised increasingly in recent years, because the fluorine compounds that are used for producing PTFE are suspected to be harmful.

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Perfluorinated compounds can also be released into the environment during the burning or depositing of PTFE. There, they can accumulate due to their long-life cycle. The Sympatex membrane is completely PTFE-free and PFC-free.

### **Textiles free of fluorocarbon**

Fluorocarbons that have been used for more than 30 years for the water-repellent equipment of textiles. These substances accumulate in the environment, and it takes a long time for them to decompose.

Sympatex has found the ideal partner with Rudolf Chemie, a specialist for bionic textile finishes. This cooperation created a combination of Sympatex laminates with the eco-friendly Bionic Finish® Eco laminating technology. The results are remarkable: 100% waterproof and windproof as well as optimal breathability without any ecological compromises. Thus, Sympatex can offer the first fluorocarbon-free laminates worldwide that meet these requirements.

### **Öko-Tex Standard 100 certified**

The Sympatex membrane was awarded with the Öko-Tex Standard 100 certificate. Independent test facilities of the international Öko-Tex community award this prize. Textile products of all sorts are tested for possible harmful substances according to very strict rules. The certificate proves that the Sympatex membrane is absolutely health-friendly. It even meets the strict requirements for baby products.

### **bluesign® approved**

As a bluesign® system partner, Sympatex meets the strictest requirements worldwide regarding the environment protection, health and safety. The aim is to reach a high and eco-friendly level for the complete production chain.

Sympatex is among the few producers of recyclable polyether-ester membranes with the highly-regarded bluesign® certificate. Numerous well-known companies of the sports, leisure and contract as well as workwear sector can see the benefits and already use the eco-friendly Sympatex membrane.

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