



Factsheet Sympatex membrane

Sympatex Technologies GmbH:

The Sympatex membrane: maximum performance, minimum cost to the environment

As one of the world's leading suppliers, Sympatex Technologies has been a byword for high-tech functional systems in clothing, footwear accessories and workwear for decades.

In addition to its standard functions (optimal breathability, 100% waterproofness, 100% windproofness), the Sympatex membrane is also 100% recyclable, PTFE-free and PFC-free as well as Oeko-Tex® Standard 100 certified and bluesign® approved.

Performance

At Sympatex, superior quality and well-thought-out technology are essential building blocks for optimal performance and comfort. With this in mind, Sympatex developed a non-porous membrane consisting of billions of hydrophilic molecules which uses a physiochemical process to rapidly transport moisture from the inside to the outside. It ensures that the body always remains dry – even in extreme situations. Not only that, the membrane also provides effective protection against rain.

Unlike standard microporous structures, the Sympatex membrane retains maximum functionality even after activity in continuous rain or washing as there are no pores that can become blocked.

Ecology

Many companies still use PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene) in the production of their water-repellent functional textiles. This creates fluorine compounds that are not biodegradable. The Sympatex membrane is completely PTFE-free and PFC-free. The Sympatex production method uses a material made of polyether and polyester, better known from the production

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of PET water bottles. This compound consists of hydrogen, oxygen and carbon and is thus 100% recyclable and poses no threat to health.

Because of this high level of environmental compatibility, the Sympatex membrane has been awarded Oeko-Tex® Standard 100 certification. This involves extremely stringent testing for possible contaminants. The certification guarantees that the membrane is in no way harmful to health. And as a certified bluesign® partner, Sympatex fulfils strict guidelines for environmental protection, health and safety and operates a high-standard and environmentally sound production chain.

Sympatex's innovative competence has already been acknowledged with a number of ISPO awards in the categories of ski clothing and footwear. Numerous manufacturers have recognised the benefits of the environmentally friendly and, at the same time, highly efficient Sympatex membrane system. Big-name brands from the sport, leisure, contract and workwear segments now use the membrane, including Vaude, Richter and Dockers.

More information is available at www.sympatex.com.

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- Compact hydrophilic (water-loving molecules) membrane
- Polyester and polyether copolymer (oxygen-carbon-hydrogen) which poses no risk to health
- 100% waterproof
- 100% windproof
- Optimal breathability
- The world's thinnest membrane (5 micrometres thick)
- Up to 300% stretch (wearer comfort)
- 100% recyclable, without toxic residues
- PTFE-free and PFC-free
- The first water-repellent treatments free of toxic fluorocarbons
- Oeko-Tex® Standard 100 certified
- bluesign® approved
- Reduced carbon footprint in the polymer production



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