



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **“100% Sympathy Inside”: The ISPO 2017 is the official start for an integral laminate clustering according to ecological aspects**

The new Sympatex eco-calculator will disclose the ecological footprint of each textile laminate with regards to all substantial effects on the environment. End customers can now choose to buy sustainable clothing.

Munich / Unterföhring, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – At the ISPO (5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Hall A1 Booth 418), Sympatex Technologies will present for the first time an integral eco-clustering of its entire laminate portfolio. The ecological alternative among functional textile specialists will offer in the future its portfolio in five dedicated laminate categories, focusing on sustainable aspects. These range from “10% Sympathy Inside” for the minimum level of sustainability to “100% Sympathy Inside” for the best ecological category that meets all the requirements for a closed apparel loop.

While the Sympatex membrane itself already fulfills all the sustainability aspects in an optimal way, the evaluation will from now on include the complete functional textile. The criteria range from the sustainable use of raw materials, consumed energy and water up to avoiding harmful climate gases and the banning of chemical toxins. They also include the ability of recycling valuable material. The minimal entry threshold for future Sympatex products is based on the criteria of the “Partnership for Sustainable Textiles” where Sympatex has been an active member company since its founding.

From now on, Sympatex will also offer its customers to show the respective eco-category on a label on their garments and to provide end customers with detailed information about the sustainability criteria via a QR code that they can access directly in the store by using their smartphones – without additional costs.

#### **Additional offer of entirely CO<sub>2</sub> neutral textile-laminates**

In addition to avoiding toxins and enhancing the recycling capability, one further priority is the avoidance of all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. While the Sympatex membrane will be completely climate neutral from 2017 onwards, the functional specialist will now also encourage its customers to switch to entirely climate-neutral clothing: With the help of the Sympatex eco-calculator, the exact CO<sub>2</sub> emission of every meter of textile can be determined as part of the ecological footprint. Sympatex customers can compensate the unavoidable CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by



supporting certified climate protection projects. The compensation considers the entire process chain from the raw materials production to the delivery to the customers (“cradle to customer gate”). Clients will receive a certificate that can be linked to the label of the finished product via a QR code. Thus, the transparency for the consumer is guaranteed.

“Uncompromising transparency is the key to give the end customer the possibility to make well-informed buying decisions at the stores”, says Dr. Rüdiger Fox, CEO Sympatex Technologies about this proactive step. “By not only focusing on the high functionality of outdoor clothing but also showing the ecological price tag that burdens the next generation with the purchase, we can change the industry together in a way that it will sustainably protect what it appreciates most: an intact nature.”

#### **About Sympatex**

##### **Guaranteed Green – The Sympatex recyclable membrane**

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 'Oeko-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](http://www.sympatex.com)

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