



PRESS RELEASE

OutDoor 2017: VAUDE and Sympatex to present the next generation of the ecological functional shoe

VAUDE spring/summer collection 2018 to come with 100% recycled and climate-neutral Sympatex membrane as well as with 100% recycled Sympatex lining

Munich / Friedrichshafen, 30 May 2017 VAUDE and Sympatex are going to show how ecological a functional shoe can be already today at this year's OutDoor in Friedrichshafen (18 to 21 June 2017). Both longstanding cooperation partners will present the next generation of the "green functional shoe" at the VAUDE booth (Hall A1 booth 300) which can already be bought from spring/summer 2018 onwards in specialized shops. The cooperation covers the entire range of the VAUDE shoe collection – from casual trekking shoes and robust hiking boots to bike shoes for both women and men.

For the first time, the 100% recycled Sympatex membrane will be used for the new collection which the functional textile specialist from Munich launched in autumn 2016. It is free of PTFE and PFC, consists of polyether-ester not harmful to health or ecology, is certified pursuant to Oeko-Tex Standard 100 as well as bluesign®-approved. Thus, VAUDE uses Sympatex laminates from completely recycled materials combined with 100% recycled linings for its entire women's and men's collection.

Furthermore, for the first time, this shoe collection is treated with a fluorocarbon-free durable water repellent (DWR) coating which has especially been developed by Sympatex in cooperation with its partner Rudolf.

The new VAUDE collection benefits from the improved Sympatex life cycle assessment: as the production process of the Sympatex copolymer has been optimised in terms of CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions, Sympatex has also been compensating the remaining CO₂ amount of its entire annual membrane production with the help of respective climate goal certificates in order to eliminate any contribution to global warming. This means: Sympatex' membrane production is completely climate-neutral due to the support of internationally certified climate protection goals.

VAUDE continuously relies on the certified Terracare leather from Germany, different recycling topics and for the first time an organic-based TPU material for the toe and heel cap that replaces traditional TPU and contributes to the aim of reduced use of petroleum.



“With our SS 18 collection, we have made a first huge step to become the most sustainable provider of functional outdoor and bike shoes“, explains Oliver Korden, head of the shoes department at VAUDE.

“We are delighted to be able to take another step together with VAUDE, one of the most important pioneers in our industry with regard to sustainability, to further optimise the life cycle assessment for outdoor shoes – without any compromises on their function“, says Dr. Rüdiger Fox, CEO of Sympatex.

About VAUDE

VAUDE makes functional and innovative products for mountain and biking sports activities. As a sustainable and innovative outdoor outfitter, VAUDE is contributing to making the world a better place so that the people of tomorrow can enjoy nature with a clean conscience. In doing so, the family-owned company sets ecological and social standards worldwide. VAUDE (pronounced [fau'de]) stands for environmentally-friendly products made from fair manufacturing. At the company headquarters near the southern German town of Tett nang, the company employs approximately 500 people. VAUDE Newsroom: <http://www.vaude.com/en-GB/Company/Media>

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 '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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