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Heat seal transfers

Last year Berendsen Gothenburg organized tests of heat seal transfers. Representatives from the local Berendsen markets across Europe were asked for information about the heat seal transfers they had experience from. Berendsen Gothenburg thereafter liaised with the suppliers of these products and asked for detailed instructions how to attach the heat seal transfers on 25 different kinds of fabrics. These fabrics represented the standard garment ranges Berendsen units are being offered by our internal supply chain.

Heat seal transfers were attached to the fabrics by Berendsen's own production unit in Estonia. Thereafter laundry tests in four different laundries followed. These laundries are nominated as internal test laundries and the results from these laundries should correspond to a normal Berendsen level in a quality point of view. The samples subject to testing were washed in wash extractors as well as in continuous batch washers, followed by drying in either tumble dryers or in tunnel finishers. The temperature of the washing was up to 75° C and the drying was done at 85° C (tumble dryer) and 165° C (tunnel finisher). The samples were washed and dried up to 20 times together with other customer's textiles to have a situation which is reflecting a "real life" in the laundries. After 20 laundry cycles the results were evaluated and shared with the local Berendsen companies' technical product managers.

The tests are showing that the drying can have a significant impact on the heat seal transfer's performance. Too extensive drying, overdrying, must be avoided and in general drying in tumble dryers are showing a worse result compared to drying in tunnel finishers. Further the construction of the fabric and the type of finish of the textiles can have a significant result on the heat seal transfer's performance. Fabrics made of very coarse yarns, fabrics with rougher surface structures as well as fabrics with fluorocarbon finishes are in many cases problematic, if anyone is considering attaching a heat seal transfer to them. Further the tests showed that fabrics which are more elastic, e.g. several knitted fabrics, are more problematic than less elastic fabrics.

One of the best performing products which was identified after the tests is Hot Screen AB's heat seal transfer "Stark". "Stark" showed a good performance when attached to the following fabrics:

Woven fabrics

65/35% Pes/Co, 2/1 twill, 195 gsm
65/35% Pes/Co, 2/1 twill, 210 gsm
65/35% Pes/Co, 2/1 twill, 245 gsm
50/50% Pes/Co, 2/1 twill, 180 gsm

Knitted fabrics

50/50% Pes/Co, knitted piqué, 240 gsm
50/50% Pes/Co, fleece, 250 gsm (N.B. not polar fleece)

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Best regards,



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