



## PRESS RELEASE

***Zimtstern and Sympatex develop bluesign®-certified jackets for spring/summer 2010***

### **Zimtstern and Sympatex: 100% ecological, 100% functional**

**Unterföhring, Germany, 30 June 2009:** Sympatex, the specialist for high-tech functional systems for clothing, footwear, accessories and protective workwear, has expanded its successful partnership with Zimtstern which started during the 2008 winter season. In spring/summer 2010, the two ecological pioneers will be bringing two new functional and at the same time environmentally friendly, 100% polyester jackets onto the market.

Zimtstern is using the highly breathable, windproof and waterproof Sympatex membrane in its *Men's Hint* and *Women's Zimek* jackets. The membrane is totally biodegradable and can be recycled without leaving any harmful residues – unlike traditional PTFE-based membranes. These are considered problematic for health and the environment, as PTFE cannot be broken down by any natural process.

The Sympatex membrane for Zimtstern is laminated with an outer material made from recycled polyester. The membrane, outer material and the jacket's lining material are all bluesign®-certified. This certification is a hallmark of environmentally compatible textiles and production methods, as well as responsible use of resources. Another plus point for the Sympatex laminate: absolutely no fluorocarbons are used during production.

The expansion of the collaboration between Zimtstern and Sympatex is yet another proof that highly functional clothing and environmentally sound production are not mutually exclusive. Zimtstern's Sympatex-equipped DLX line already received the ECO Responsibility Award for its use of environmentally friendly materials at the ISPO 2009.

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**Background information: Zimtstern**

Zimtstern is an independent label that has produced fashionable and practical clothing for the snowboard, skate and surf scenes since its foundation in Switzerland in 1995. Still managed to this day by ardent riders with high quality standards, the company's collections are now sold all around the world. Thanks to the international influences at its central European location, the design, product development and graphic departments at the Zurich-based company are continually able to come up with fresh, surprising ideas and creations. Zimtstern's strong roots in the snowboarding world and the many world-class alpine resorts right on the doorstep mean that employees and team riders are constantly hard at work testing and optimising the company's products. The company's passions are not, however, limited to snowboarding: in the summer months, they switch their attentions to skateboarding and surfing. Hence the company philosophy: Zimtstern is not just a lifestyle; it's our life.

**Background information: bluesign technologies ag**

bluesign technologies ag was founded in 2000. Since that time the bluesign® standard has been implemented by many leading global textile producers. A wide range of influential companies from the chemicals and engineering industries have also adopted the bluesign® standard and are active as bluesign® supporters. In addition, a number of big-name sportswear and fashion labels – including Patagonia, MEC, The North Face, VAUDE, Helly Hansen, Haglöfs, Eileen Fisher, REI and Deuter as bluesign® members, and Zimtstern, Boardroom/Ecoapparel, Gloriette and ComforTrust as brand users – have also put their trust in the extensive know-how of bluesign technologies ag. In 2008, SGS acquired a 50% stake in bluesign technologies ag.



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