



## PRESS RELEASE

Sympatex Technologies GmbH:

### **Sympatex: High-tech functional protective workwear to withstand the harshest conditions**

**Unterföhring, Germany, 29 October 2009:** Sympatex – one of the world’s leading providers of high-tech functional solutions – manufactures protective workwear to a wide range of specifications as part of its PROFESSIONAL range.

The products focus on maximum performance and wear resistance, perfect climate comfort and 100% protection from wind and moisture. At up to 5 µm, the Sympatex membrane is also ultrathin and extremely elastic (up to 300% in breadth and length). All products are certified, comply with standards, and have been tested at both Sympatex’s own laboratories and external facilities. Sympatex also sets the benchmark in terms of environmental protection. The Sympatex membrane consists of 100% polyester and can be completely recycled. By contrast, membranes based on PTFE are considered problematic for the environment and health because PTFE cannot be broken down naturally. The Sympatex membrane has been awarded the Oeko-Tex Standard 100 and the bluesign® certificate.

Sympatex textiles fulfil today’s high demands for top performance and environmental protection in equal measure. Police forces, firefighters, the military and industry from around the world rely on Sympatex. The company will be presenting some of these products at this year’s A+A in Düsseldorf, Germany.

#### **Police**

Robust fabrics that also offer a high degree of comfort are used for police uniforms. Jackets made from two-layer laminates certified according to EN 343 and EN 471 can be combined with warm, zip-in WINDMASTER products. Sympatex currently equips the police forces in Bavaria, Saxony, Croatia, Spain and France, and supplies clients including Guy Leroy, EMMA and Amor Lux.

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## **Firefighters**

Sympatex Fireblocker is used for firefighters' equipment. The extremely light insert laminate (110 g/m<sup>2</sup>) consists of 100% Basofil fabric and the tried and tested Sympatex membrane made from 100% polyester. The laminate fulfils the EN 469 standard in full, along with the associated requirements and test methods for protective clothing for firefighting. It can also be combined with all known flame-resistant fibrous materials. Various options are also available for the incorporation of a waterproof layer depending on the risk assessment. Fireblocker provides protection from extreme heat, wind and moisture. Companies such as Tempex, Lemaitre and Sioen currently use Fireblocker.

## **Heat protection**

The heat protection product RAYON illustrates just how unique Sympatex's eco-friendly, high-tech functional clothing is. It fulfils all the relevant European norms for radiant heat and protective clothing for workers exposed to heat, yet RAYON is environmentally friendly thanks to its water-based, solvent-free production processes. All the relevant international standards (e.g. EN 531 and ISO 15025) are met in full; it also complies with performance categories A (EN 532), B2 (EN 367), C3 (EN 366), D3 (EN 373) and E3 (EN 373). RAYON heat protection withstands radiant heat of up to approx. 1,000° Celsius; about 95% of the radiant heat is reflected. The product is also resistant to splashes of molten aluminium and iron. It is currently primarily used for workers in the steel and metal industry as well as fire services.

## **Military**

Just like all other Sympatex products, Sympatex's army clothing is 100% waterproof, windproof and breathable. It is extremely resistant to wear and its compact membrane system guarantees lifelong functionality. Printing with camouflage patterns or dyeing does not affect the outstanding material properties. The armies in Croatia and Luxembourg are among those who currently rely on Sympatex materials.

## **Leasing**

Sympatex also offers innovative clothing concepts for hireable workwear. People in a range of professions – from delivery drivers to customer service agents and couriers – benefit from industrial wash-suitable clothing made of materials compliant with ISO 15797. Windproof and waterproof fabrics provide comfort, while zip-in fleece jackets offer protection from the cold. Reflective strips or a complete high-visibility finish in accordance with EN 471 ensure that the wearer is easily seen.

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## A+A

Sympatex will be presenting selected products from its protective workwear range at the A+A in Düsseldorf from 3 to 6 November 2009 in Hall 04, Stand F11. The products on display will include a new, 100% recycled jacket. 100% performance – 100% ecological!

Sympatex products will also be on display every day at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the fashion show.



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