

MIDWOR-LIFE COMPLETES THE INDUSTRIAL DEMONSTRATION TESTS

MIDWOR-LIFE is a project co-funded by LIFE+ programme that aims to reduce the impact on the environment, human health and worker safety, of current Durable Water and Oil Repellents (DWOR) used in the textile industry and their alternatives, by analyzing their environmental impact and technical functionalities.

Terrassa, 8th May 2018

On April 17th, a major milestone of the MIDWOR-LIFE project was achieved with the last industrial demonstration of alternative DWORs at Nanomembrane manufacturing plant in Czech Republic.

A total of six textile manufacturers have collaborated with the MIDWOR-LIFE project on the industrial validation of safer and environmental friendlier DWOR products: Hidrocolor and E.CIMA from Spain, Nanomembrane and Innotex from Czech Republic and Biella Manifatture Tessili and Tintoria Finissaggio 2000 from Italy.

During the industrial-scale application of the selected DWORs onto the fabrics by several finishing companies, MIDWOR-LIFE consortium has collected the data for technical performance, environmental analysis, risk and Life Cycle assessments for the resulting treated fabrics.

As a result, the MIDWOR-LIFE project has just published a report on the technical comparison between the conventional and alternative DWORs: ["Report on the industrial applications and characterization of DWOR and alternatives"](#).

A major outcome is that fluorine-free alternatives can match durable water repellency performance of conventional products. However, durable oil repellency is only achieved by fluorinated substances.



Industrial demonstration of alternative DWOR at Hidrocolor





During coming weeks, the data gathered from the industrial demonstration will be analyzed to assess the impact on the environment and the risk assessment. The validation will include a benchmark of alternative DWOR against current products to provide strong evidence of their safer and environmentally friendlier assessments.

The technical results, environment impact and risk assessment will be presented on the MIDWOR-LIFE final event titled: "[ADVANCES IN THE SUBSTITUTION OF DURABLE WATER AND OIL REPELLENTS IN THE TEXTILE FINISHING INDUSTRY](#)" on June 5th in Brussels along with other projects and major EU stakeholders like EURATEX and the European Chemical Agency (ECHA).

MIDWOR-LIFE is a European project, co-funded by the European Union under the LIFE+ Financial Instrument within the axe Environment Policy and Governance and under the Grant Agreement n. LIFE14 ENV/ES/000670.

AEI TÈXTILS, a non-profit organization representing the Catalan technical textiles cluster is the coordinator of the project. The consortium is completed by another 5 partners: 3 research institutes/technological centers from Spain: LEITAT Technological Center (member of Tecnio network), CETIM and the Institute of Advanced Chemistry of Catalonia from CSIC plus 2 technical textile clusters, CS-POINTEX from Italy and CLUTEX from the Czech Republic.

MIDWOR-LIFE project is an example of collaboration between clusters, with the aim to improve competitiveness of their members, SMEs in the technical textiles sector.

More information: www.midwor-life.eu



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