

CLIMEWORKS – HOW TO FILTER CO2 OUT OF AMBIENT AIR



Problem – Challenge

In order to improve patient safety against bacterial infections, a bacteria-repellent surface coating is often used in medical engineering.

As body odors can also be caused by bacteria, treating textiles in a similar way should prevent the unwanted development of odors. This was the goal of a project supported by the Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI), conducted by the company Sanitized® AG, in collaboration with Empa and Swissatest Testmaterialien AG (formerly Empa Testmaterialien AG).

Solution

The result is available now: the Sanitized® Pluma technology. The textile fibers are coated with a special polymer that holds a microscopically thin film of water on the fiber's surface. This prevents bacteria from docking onto the textile. Any bacteria that are already present can simply be washed away, either by hand or by machine wash at low temperatures. This saves energy and water and pro-longs the service life of the textiles.

The innovation recently won the Swiss Technology Award 2013.

