

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release



Bolger & O'Hearn introduces Shell-Tech Free, the latest generation in ultra-durable, fluorine-free water repellence

Shell-Tech Free is engineered for sustainability, high performance and trouble-free application at the mill. To learn more, visit the team from B&O at IFAI Expo 2021, Booth A1114

(Fall River, MA, Oct. 26, 2021....) Bolger and O'Hearn is proud to introduce Shell-Tech Free, an advanced, premium-performance, fluorine-free durable water repellent that provides the same repellency, wash durability and runnability as a quality C-6. A versatile DWR that can be used on a wide variety of end products, Shell-Tech Free has also been engineered for sustainability and easy application at the mill.

Additional information about this breakthrough technology will be available at IFAI Expo 2021, November 2 to 4, 2021, Booth A1114 at Music City Center in Nashville, Tennessee, USA.

Fabrics finished with Shell-Tech Free are resistant to water, stains from soda, wine, sports drinks, mud, fruit juices, syrups and are durable up to fifty launderings and several dry cleanings. In many cases, repellency will last the life of a treated article. At the same time, Shell-Tech Free will not change or interfere with an article's natural hand, drape, breathability or comfort.

Shell-Tech Free is the ideal DWR for a wide variety of end products, including medical wear & PPE, workwear, athleisure apparel, hats, gloves, socks, tarpaulins, boat covers, awnings, tents and more.

In addition, Shell-Tech Free is water-based, highly biodegradable, recyclable, doesn't contain fluorine, VOC's (volatile organic compounds) or PFA's, doesn't emit dangerous off-gasses and is manufactured using solar energy in a bluesign-accredited facility.

"The industry is steadily shifting to more sustainable options for repellents and other finishing solutions," said Shaun O'Hearn, President, B&O. "Shell-Tech Free was developed to meet that need and fits the bill for an eco-friendly, high performance water repellent that gives finishers a drop-in replacement for conventional systems."

At the mill, Shell-Tech Free can be applied at lower finish add-on levels compared to competing fluorine-free repellents. This produces repellent fabrics with significantly reduced mark-off issues. The lower

finish add-on also reduces color change and hand stiffening, plus tolerates non-uniform fabric preparation and doesn't require high temperatures for application.

Meanwhile, lower temperature curing preserves fabric properties such as color, hand and dimensional stability. It can also be applied successfully over fabrics that have received sub-optimal cleaning. While many fluorine-free DWR products demand scrupulous pre-cleaning before finishing to achieve high repellency, Shell-Tech Free can tolerate less rigorous cleaning and still perform at a high level.

"Shell-Tech Free represents another step by our company to provide the textile industry with products that are both highly effective and kind to the environment," O'Hearn added. "Consumers are asking for both and we are committed to helping our customers meet that demand."

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[Bolger & O'Hearn](#)

Since its founding in 1969, Bolger and O'Hearn has been selling uniquely efficient and consistently high-quality chemicals. Its personalized service approach has been the pillar of its success. From its traditional beginnings in the textile industry, B&O has expanded into paper coatings, non-wovens and other non-textile manufactured products, all of which find applications in a wide range of industries. Today its diverse and comprehensive product line – totaling over 2,500 products – is sold and distributed globally. Committed to a zero-carbon future, B&O currently produces its products using renewable energy. The solar voltaic array on its facilities allow it to displace more than 100,000 pounds of carbon each year. B&O is also a bluesign® System Partner.

You can learn more about Bolger & O'Hearn at www.bolgerohearn.com