Outlast expands into new spheres

New: PCM fiber balls fiber blend „Spherix“ for optimum climate comfort

Outlast Technologies, market leader for temperature regulating phase change materials (PCMs), expands into new spheres and has introduced „Spherix“, an innovative PCM filling material which is suited for use in apparel: The new blend from PCM viscose fibers and polyester fiber balls offers dynamic climate regulation and added comfort; for example in jackets.

What lies behind this new PCM filling material „Spherix“? Outlast has already successfully gained experience in the bedding market with filling materials while being the pioneer in launching the first PCM polyester fiberfill produced on a large scale. For the “apparel” market Outlast takes a further step and combines for the first time fiber balls with a short cut fiber. The innovative fiber ball fiber (FBF) blend consists of 30% PCM viscose short cut fibers and 70% standard polyester balls. “We are working with a highly filled PCM viscose fiber,” explains Martin Bentz, Managing Director of Outlast Europe GmbH, Heidenheim/Germany. „With 7 dtex the diameter of the viscose fiber is quite high, so we can reach an approximately four times higher performance compared to our standard PCM viscose fiber“.

The benefits are evident: The new Outlast® filling material is soft and breathable, thus offering the advantage of a dynamic heat management. When it gets too warm the Outlast® fibers absorb excess body heat. When it is getting colder again, the performance fibers release the stored heat back to the wearer. The fiber balls provide lightness, volume and loft, while the PCM viscose fibers account for the temperature management function. And Outlast strengthens: The new PCM fiberfill regulates the climate proactively - in contrast with other technologies that only wick away humidity. Outlast® technology proactively manages heat while controlling the production of moisture before it begins, so less humidity is produced inside the apparel. This Outlast® difference also results in more comfort.

Interesting: While Outlast® technology is often seen as a winter theme, “Spherix” opens a new addition for summer. Light outdoor wear or even summer quilted jackets will also offer a comfortable temperature regulation with “Spherix. First customer trials and test persons love the lightness and durability of the new material and are convinced that it is an added value to consumers. Functionality is an important factor to today’s consumers and a lot of experts agree that “climate control” ranks towards the top.
Outlast® technology

Outlast® technology was originally developed for NASA to protect astronauts from temperature fluctuations in space. Outlast® technology utilizes phase change materials (PCM) that absorb, store and release heat for optimal thermal comfort. Outlast® technology is comparable to ice in a drink; as it changes from solid to liquid, it absorbs heat and cools the drink, keeping that drink at the desired temperature for a longer period of time. Outlast® phase change materials work in the same way. The PCMs have the capacity to absorb, store and release excess heat. This gives any product containing Outlast® technology the ability to continually regulate skin’s microclimate. As the skin gets hot, the heat is absorbed, and as it cools, that heat is released.

Outlast® technology is not wicking technology, which manages moisture by reacting to your sweat and pulling it away from the skin. Outlast® technology will proactively manage heat while controlling the production of moisture before it begins. That’s the Outlast® difference. The benefits of Outlast® products at a glance:

- Absorbs excess body heat
- Manages moisture
- Reduces overheating
- Reduces chilling
- Reduces perspiration
- Continuously adapts to thermal changes

Outlast

Outlast Technologies LLC, a privately held U.S. corporation, is the worldwide leader in phase change materials and applications. Outlast® technology is the heat management technology originally developed for NASA that enables any textile to absorb, store and release heat. Outlast® technology proactively responds to changes in skin temperature to manage heat and reduce moisture for everyday comfort.

For over 20 years, Outlast has been committed to the development of new fibers, fabrics and coatings incorporating phase change materials, expanding the use of Outlast® technology across more than 300 brands and a multitude of products in apparel, footwear, bedding, packaging and labels, and accessories. For more information, please visit www.outlast.com.

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Pictures: Outlast® “Spherix”, artwork

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Bulky, light, breathable and temperature regulating - market leader Outlast expands into new spheres with the new innovative PCM filling material „Spherix“: More comfort - for example for jackets - is in the focus.

**Picture 1**
Bulky, light, breathable and temperature regulating - market leader Outlast expands into new spheres with the new innovative PCM filling material „Spherix“: More comfort - for example for jackets - is in the focus.

**Picture 2**
Outlast® technology absorbs, stores and releases excess body heat.