

DuPont™ Softesse™

MEDICAL FABRICS - SURGICAL

Optimised protection and comfort.

DuPont™ Softesse™ medical fabric is soft to the touch and through advanced material technology provides a fluid-repellent barrier that is breathable. The excellent air permeability of Softesse™ provides you with optimal ventilation and well-being, hence more comfortable working conditions.



More than 50% of all single-use surgical gowns sold to hospitals today are made of DuPont™ Softesse™

* Per Martec, Market Survey, 2005

For more than 25 years, this comfortably soft medical fabric has been considered an industry standard, THE reference for medical gowns and drapes, providing operating room personnel around the world with everyday protection that just feels right. Chances are the single-use gown you currently wear in the operating theatre is made of this DuPont fabric, which set a new standard for protection, convenience and comfort when it was introduced.

Originally called Sontara®, it has been renamed DuPont™ Softesse™ medical fabric, a name that better describes this comfortably soft fabric for gowns and drapes sold by major gown and drapes distributors under a variety of brand names.

DuPont is known for its technological expertise in high-performance fabrics and fibres. Softesse™ is made without the use of binders, chemicals or adhesives, resulting in a high-purity fabric structure. This minimises the possibility of product contamination and allergic reactions by users. Available in a range of weights, colours and finishes to meet gown and drape manufactures' specifications, Softesse™ meets the current proposal of performance requirements of the European Standard EN 13795 for surgical gowns, drapes and clean air suits that is intended to be finalised in 2006. Softesse™ also meets the Standard for Flammability of Clothing Textiles CPSC 16 CFR Part 1610.



The miracles of science™

Gowns made with DuPont™ Softesse™

Gowns made with Softesse™ fabric allow you to get the level of protection that you require, and they are available in un-reinforced, fabric-reinforced and poly-reinforced versions at the major gown distributors. The remarkable softness and high drapeability of Softesse™ help optimise your comfort and dexterity throughout operations. In fact, Softesse™ has better drapeability than any polypropylene SMS product on the market.

Drapes made with DuPont™ Softesse™

Used extensively in single-use patient and procedural drapes around the world, Softesse™ can be treated to be absorbent or laminated to create a total barrier. Drapes of Softesse™ are strong and tear-resistant, yet conform easily, staying in place when they are positioned on a patient, without slipping or sliding. Also, they feature very high opacity, allowing greater patient modesty and minimising distracting glare in the operating theatre.

Medical specialty applications made with DuPont™ Softesse™

When used in surgical gowns and drapes, Softesse™ has a highly efficient repellent finish that acts as a barrier between the wound and body fluids and bacteria, which helps avoid blood exposure accidents. In addition, Softesse™ can be easily coated and laminated with various polymers, including: polyethylene, PVC, DuPont™ Hytre|®, polyester, and polyolefins to meet specific needs. And as a global leader in technology, DuPont is dedicated to the research and development of additional applications with their manufacturing partners in the medical fabrics industry.



DuPont de Nemours (Luxembourg) S.A.
DuPont Medical Fabrics
Rue Général Patton
L-2984 Luxembourg
Tel.+352.3666.5559
Fax.+352.3666.5021

DuPont de Nemours International S.A.
DuPont Medical Fabrics
2, Ch. du Pavillon
P.O. Box 50
CH-1218 Le Grand-Saconnex,
Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41.22.717.5303
Fax.+41.22.717.6112

medicalfabrics.dupont.com

Copyright © 2005 DuPont. All rights reserved. The DuPont Oval Logo, DuPont™, The miracles of science™, Hytre|®, Softesse™ and Sontara® are registered trademarks or trademarks of DuPont and its affiliates.

This information corresponds to our current knowledge on the subject. It is offered solely to provide possible suggestions for your own experimentation. It is not intended, however, to substitute for any testing you may need to conduct to determine for

yourself the suitability of our products for your particular purposes. This information may be subject to revision as new knowledge and experience becomes available. Since we cannot anticipate all variations in actual end-use conditions, DuPont makes no warranties and assumes no liability in connection with any use of this information. Nothing in this publication is to be considered as a license to operate under or a recommendation to infringe any patent right. Product safety information is available upon request.

08/05-LM - Reorder No. L-13416



The miracles of science™