

# Technical Textiles



Our commitment  
to environmental  
responsibility and  
sustainability



# Responsible for future generations



## Our actions today determine our life tomorrow

The responsible way in which the company deals with energy and resources, its use of environmentally sustainable materials and its activities related to the recycling of coated textiles have been bundled by Mehler Technologies under one all embracing label.



The Mehler eco-care concept accompanies Mehler products throughout their entire lifecycle, including the incorporation of ecological criteria in the selection of raw materials, the use of environmentally friendly production processes, sending waste to recycling systems and the utilisation of recyclable packaging materials.

As a company that is conscious of its responsibility for acting in an environmentally compatible manner, Mehler Technologies is involved in a range of activities related to recycling and to preserving resources.

These break down at Mehler Technologies into three areas:

1. Participation in external recycling systems
2. In-house recycling
3. Sustainable production

# Perserving a healthy environment



# Participation in external recycling systems

Via membership of trade associations and cooperative ventures, Mehler Technologies uses a variety of instruments for the processing and re-utilisation of waste.

- The company's membership of the IVK (Plastic Films Industry Association) opens up access to existing and proven recycling systems.
- Via the EPCoat collection system post-consumer waste is gathered together, mechanically processed and made by thermo-physical means into new products.



- Mehler Technologies is participating in Vinyl 2010. Vinyl 2010 puts into practice the 'voluntary commitment of the PVC industry' made up of PVC manufacturers and processors of products with a PVC content. This commitment covers the entire lifecycle of PVC and PVC products and represents for Mehler Technologies a set of guidelines for acting in a sustainable manner. The company is also participating in technical improvements and scientific solutions being developed by the PVC industry.

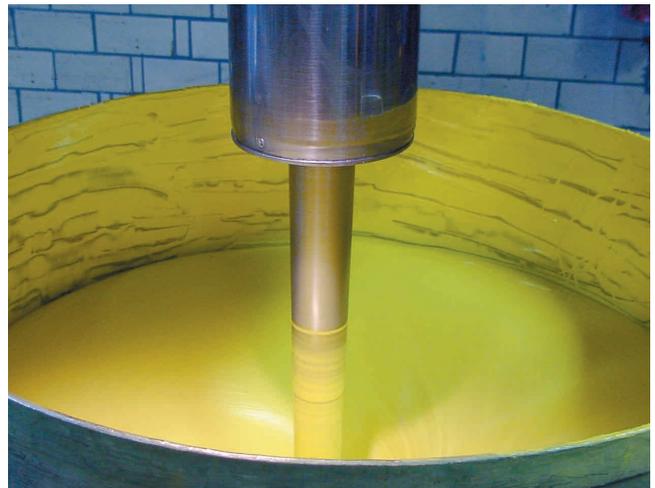
The activities mentioned above are for Mehler Technologies instruments that enable the company to meet, over and above the requirements of the EU Commission and EU directives, its responsibility for acting in an environmentally conscious manner.

# Saving natural resources



## In-house recycling

Mehler Technologies aims to recycle as high a percentage as possible of waste caused by the company's production operations. This waste consists on the one hand of base materials, such as textiles and pastes, and on the other of residual waste from finished products.



Waste created during paste production and residual paste from coating operations is processed and made into products again. The 'eco-sheets' produced in this way get used as tarpaulin. The leftover paste is also used to coat textile remnants, which – depending on the underlying textile – can be used in many different ways. What is key is that each production site recycles exclusively the residual materials generated there. Transport costs and unnecessary gas emissions are thus avoided.

A development project is currently being run at Mehler Technologies based on mechanically processing residual materials from finished products and making this into new products.

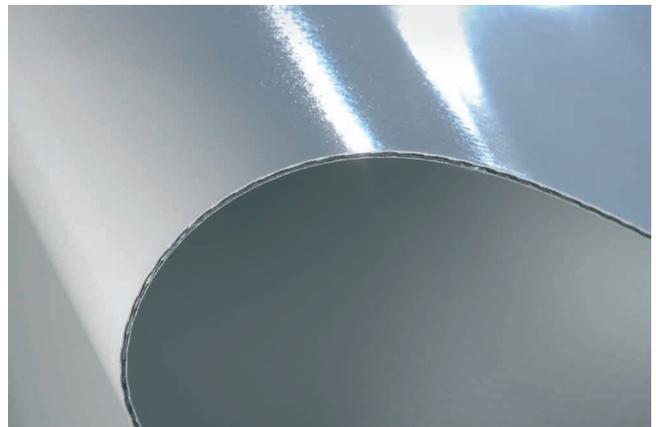
# Developing sustainable materials



## Investing in a secure future

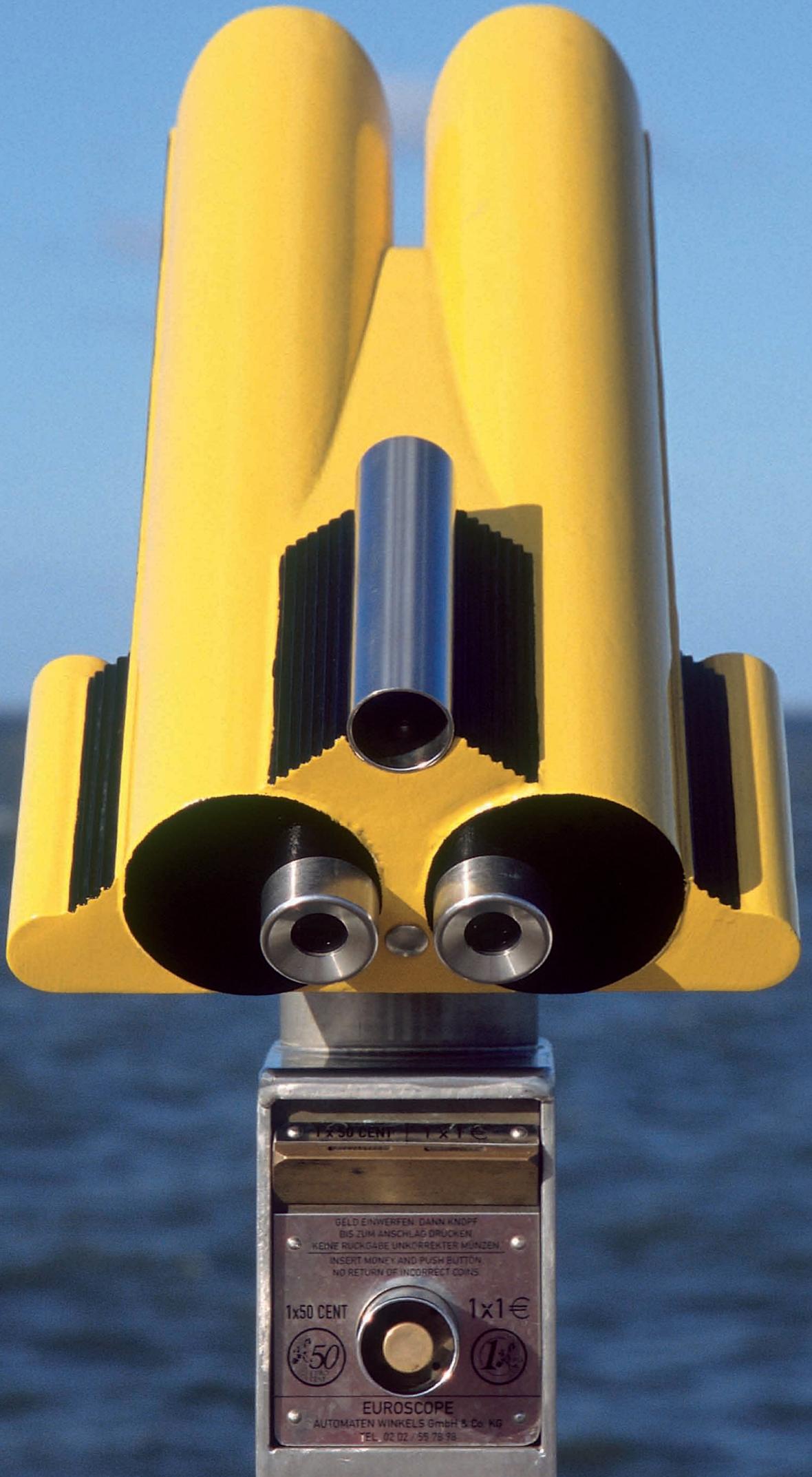
Over recent years, Mehler Texnologies has invested millions of euros into the purification of waste gases in order to continually reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Circulation flows have also been developed to utilise thermal energy created during the production process and thus to reduce the consumption of gas and electricity.

In the company's production operations Mehler Texnologies uses only approved components geared, amongst other things, to the new REACH European chemical regulations. All Mehler Texnologies products are free of DOP and of all comparably classified emollients, monomers and other components not permitted in Europe. In order to continue in the future to produce high quality materials free of any harmful substances Mehler Texnologies is carrying out research and tests in its laboratories on substitutions of ecologically and economically relevant raw materials.



Research projects have also been set up for developing new technical textiles. Several of these are being run in collaboration with a number of prestigious institutes. High priority is given in these projects to aspects of energy and resource preservation.

# Advancing sustainability



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## Far-sighted actions open up new horizons

As well as using ecologically harmless raw materials and continuing to develop sustainable production methods, Mehler Technologies is also investing in improved equipment at its production facilities. Energy efficient manufacturing and the fine-tuning of systems to avoid production waste are further steps being taken to ensure production of reliable and innovative quality products.

When it comes to packaging and transport, Mehler Technologies also keeps a very close eye on the environment and resources. The company uses predominantly recycled materials for packaging, while the establishment of storage facilities in the countries where it has local sales operations cuts down on long-distance transportation, transport costs and environmental pollution.

In Mehler Technologies' view acting responsibly towards the environment and preserving resources is a duty towards future generations.



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