



New from Cordura

Cordura fabrics are widely known for their durability and resistance to abrasions, tears and scuffs. Introduced by DuPont in 1929 as a form of rayon, it was further developed during World War II where it was widely used for military applications because it was such a tough and wear resistant material. By 1966, new formulations of nylon were shown to offer superior performance and nylon has been used for the base fabric ever since. In 1977, a process for dyeing nylon was discovered which opened a wide variety of commercial possibilities for Cordura. Now the property of Invista, a wholly owned subsidiary of Koch Industries, it has become a global brand with regard to high performance woven materials.

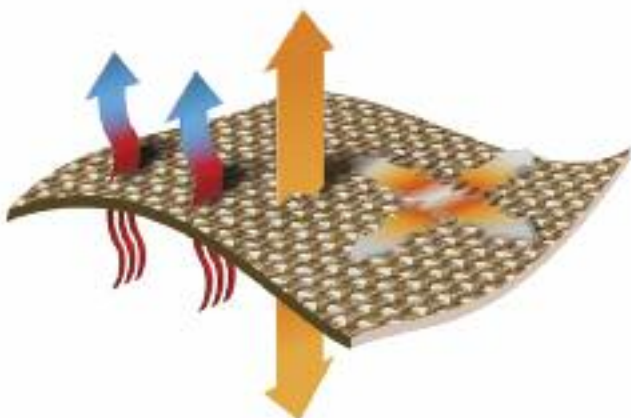
Invista continues to develop new fabrics under the Cordura name and in conjunction with selected specialist weavers such as Taiwan-based Tiong Liong Corporation. Their latest joint venture has been to expand the Air Flow Technology (AFT) fabric collection with new knit constructions featuring enhanced abrasion and snagging resistance combined with an excellent strength-to-weight ratio. Targeted mainly at outdoor, athletic and safety footwear, the AFT fabric collection has now been expanded to include both high tenacity polyester and nylon 6,6 materials in a wide range of knits capable of foam or felt lamination, and 3D spacer fabric constructions that are particularly suited for sports footwear applications.

NEW AFT MATERIALS

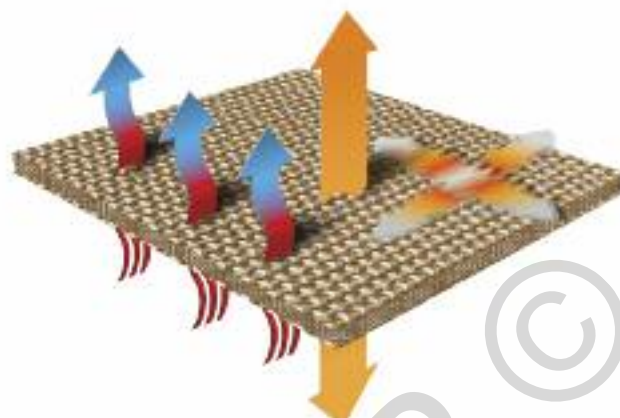
Cordura fabrics have a strong legacy in footwear. Abrasion resistant woven fabrics have traditionally been targeted for applications such as outer shell fabric systems in military, safety and hiking boots. In the last ten years, however, innovative warp knitting developments by leading European mills have resulted in durable, lightweight and highly breathable knit AFT fabric solutions aimed at a much wider spread of footwear manufacturers. The latest fabric innovations by Tiong Liong provide new styling and footwear construction options in both polyester and nylon, with the further addition of 3D spacer fabric technologies.

They all feature breathable open knit constructions that are lightweight, snag and tear resistant with excellent tensile strength to weight ratios. Knit constructions include circular, flat, warp or 3D spacer/mesh which can be coated or combined in either two or three ply laminates. The 3D spacer range features durable nylon 6,6 or polyester outer face technical knit and is aimed primarily at athletic and sports orientated footwear. The supple 2D mesh warp knits again use nylon 6,6 and are intended for use in military and other types of heavy duty boots and shoes.

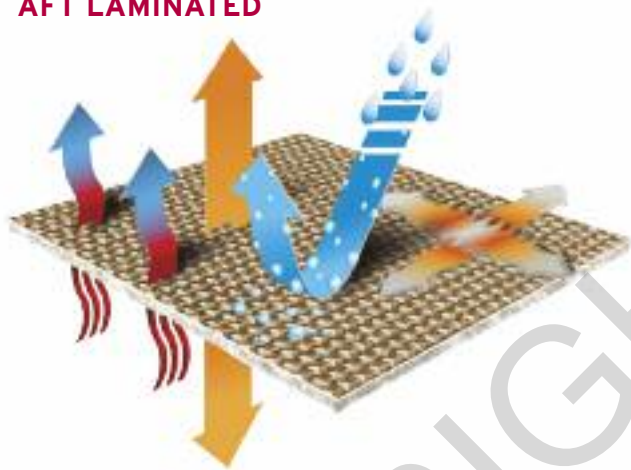
Made with specifically engineered recycled polyester yarns, the ECO range of fabrics are said to offer consistent and durable performance in a variety of end uses including footwear. A minimum of 40% recycled material is used and

AFT WARP KNIT

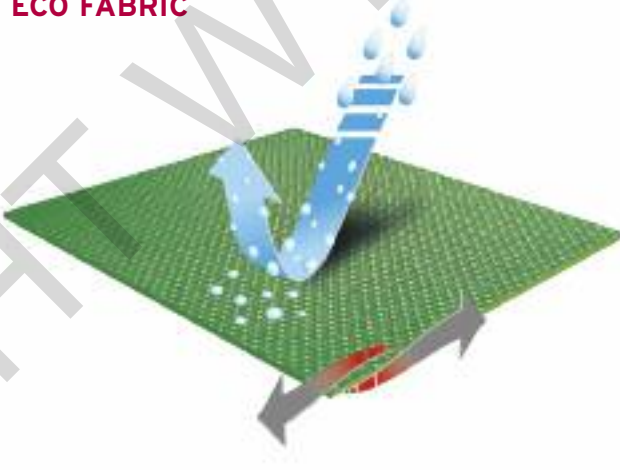
- Lightweight and durable fabric
- Supple and drapeable mesh
- 2D knitted construction
- High tenacity nylon 6,6
- Military boots and similar heavy duty footwear

AFT SPACER KNIT

- Durable outer face
- 3D spacer knit construction
- Monofilament mid layer
- Athletic footwear

AFT LAMINATED

- Durable outer face
- 2D knits laminated to foam or felt backing
- Water repellent
- General footwear applications

ECO FABRIC

- Printed and solid options
- Variety of woven constructions
- Recycled polyester content
- Tough and tear resistant
- Water resistant options

the process used to create the yarn helps to reduce energy consumption, extend the useful life of polyester and, at the same time, cut down on the amount sent to landfill. A range of water resistant fabrics is also available in both coated and/or laminated formats.

The new collection AFT fabrics introduced by Tiong Liong are lightweight, breathable solutions primarily designed for outer shell type footwear and outdoor hiking or trekking boots and athletic footwear in particular. The collection includes a 150-250 gsm PU coated polyester range for good rigidity and a 200-350 gsm range designed for felt lamination and Tiong Long says it is ideal for breathable outer shell fabrics used in conjunction with inner membrane waterproof boot technologies. Other authorised mills producing AFT fabrics include Vela Technologies, Italy which offers a varied collection of fabric laminate systems, Sitip Industrie Tessile, Italy and Karizma Tekstil Limited in Turkey.

Tiong Liong Industrial Co., Ltd. was founded in 1976 as a small-scale laminating factory and has since developed into a substantial corporation with many subsidiaries

specialising in textile manufacturing, dyeing, hi-tech coating and lamination. The company aims to provide its customers with comprehensively integrated services and its innovation and technology has attracted many leading brands. It has been awarded certificates of ISO9001, ISO14001, OEKO-TEX Standard 100, UL, EN471, and bluesign standard.

In general, Cordura fabrics are produced in a wide range of constructions, weights and finishes, including versions with special properties such as tear resistance and colour retention. Cordura Baselayer, Cordura Denim, and Cordura Duck for instance all contain blends of Invista 420 nylon 6,6 fibre and cotton. Cordura Naturalle fabrics are based on full dull yarn technologies to closely resemble the look and feel of cotton and are available in both knitted and woven constructions—with or without stretch—and as speciality laminates and finishes. Some fabrics have been designed specifically for extended outdoor use and have been used by the US military for almost 50 years. Many current US military fabric specifications are in fact based on Cordura brand specifications. 