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SKINGUARD Technology

Feel your best!



Quality for life

Feel your best – thanks to the successful formula that combats odour-causing bacteria

Skin-friendly – antibacterial – odour neutral

Feeling comfortable in your own skin and not having to worry about unpleasant odours are key, no matter the situation. These factors give you quality of life, enhance your sense of well-being and make day-to-day interactions with other people more open and relaxed. And they should all be a given for everyone.

The SKINGUARD technology antibacterial additive is used in various fields of application: **These include check sockets and soft-walled inner sockets in upper and lower limb prosthetics, or trial orthoses in the area of orthotics, for example.**

The use of antibacterial synthetic materials for orthopaedic technology devices is intended to provide protection against a wide range of different microorganisms right from the outset.

For the user, the benefit of SKINGUARD technology is that discolouration and odours caused by microbes are considerably reduced and that the product life is extended.

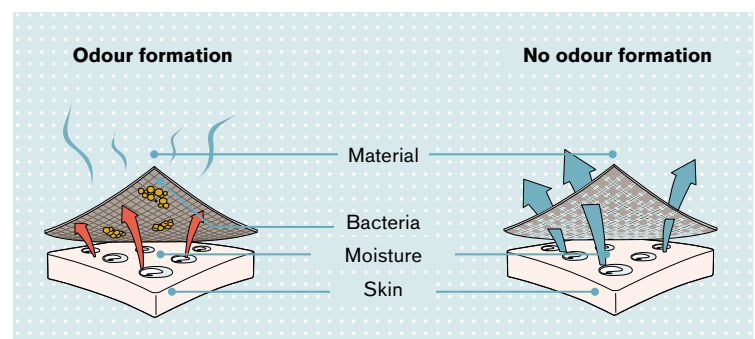
The additive is highly compatible with the skin while enhancing the wearing characteristics and skin comfort.

However, it must be explicitly noted that the antibacterial synthetic materials are not intended to prevent infections.

The principle is very simple: SKINGUARD technology destroys the cell membrane of bacteria such as those that cause odours. This prevents the bacteria from growing and reproducing. Laboratory tests have shown that the use of SKINGUARD technology reduces *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria by 99 percent.

Benefits at a glance

- Good long-lasting effect of the antibacterial substances
- Protection against a wide range of microorganisms such as *Staphylococcus aureus* (gram-positive) and *Escherichia coli* (gram-negative) bacteria
- Effectively reduces odour formation and discolouration
- Longer product life
- Extremely skin-friendly (dermatologically tested, SGS Institut Fresenius GmbH, Germany)
- No impairment of physical characteristics and processing properties by the addition of antibacterial substances





FAQs

◻ Your O&P professional will be happy to provide you with detailed information regarding SKINGUARD technology.

◻ Please visit our website for further information: www.ottobock.com

What are the advantages of materials with the SKINGUARD technology antibacterial additive?

The high-tech functionality of the SKINGUARD technology antibacterial additive inhibits bacterial growth, thereby preventing unpleasant odours from developing.

SKINGUARD technology preserves the material, improves hygiene and enhances wearer comfort over a long period of time.

How safe is SKINGUARD technology?

Independent institutes have subjected SKINGUARD technology to the strictest procedures to assess risks to people and the environment. Internationally recognised procedures (including cytotoxicity and patch tests) prove that SKINGUARD technology is very skin friendly and poses no threat to the environment. We use regular tests to ensure that these highest quality standards are met every time.

How is the effectiveness of the treatment with SKINGUARD technology proven?

The effectiveness of the additive was proven using internationally recognised microbiology test procedures. Independent lab tests according to the JIS Z 2801 standard have proven that SKINGUARD technology reduces *Staphylococcus aureus* (gram-positive bacteria) and *Escherichia coli* (gram-negative bacteria) by up to 99 percent.

Are there any possible side effects with SKINGUARD technology?

In very rare cases, the SKINGUARD technology material may become discoloured. However, this is purely cosmetic and does not affect the performance of the material. The discolouration can, for example, be influenced by an increased sulphur content in the air or by diet.

Consuming certain foods (cabbage, nuts, dried fruit) can increase the sulphur content in perspiration, resulting in discolouration in rare cases.

Isn't regular washing enough to ensure freshness and wearer comfort?

Materials treated with SKINGUARD technology are protected against bacteria and the formation of unpleasant odours during wear. This cannot be achieved by washing. However, to ensure long-lasting hygiene, the material should be washed daily to remove grease and oil, for example.

How can materials treated with SKINGUARD technology be disposed of?

The SKINGUARD technology antibacterial additive is bonded to the material and cannot diffuse from the product. For this reason, it will not end up in the water and can be easily disposed of in normal waste, just like materials without SKINGUARD technology.

