

## Fabric Duct System approved for Food Industry

A certificate claiming that fabric products are approved for the food industry does not exist within the European Union (EU), it is the food industry itself that has the full responsibility.

Food manufacturers typically have a self-policing system in which the veterinarian has the final responsibility. In this self-policing system it is described through a lot of points how the self-policing system should be obtained, among these things includes the washing interval (*which may well be different from food producer to food producer*).

Usually the self-policing system control is based on the guidelines from HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point). This is a step-by-step guide to help each individual food producer to make their own self-policing system (*the HACCP has actually also spread into other segments such as cosmetics and pharmaceuticals production.*)

The HACCP is a systematic preventive approach to food safety which includes physical, chemical and biological hazards. This is thought of as a preventive method rather than having an inspection of the finished product afterwards (*it is a pro-active approach rather than a re-active approach*).

This system is used throughout the entire production line, at all stages from entering the facility to finished product. This is so that actions can be made in order to minimize or completely eliminate the risks during the manufacturing of the product. In the US, the authorities FDA and USDA are promoting the use of the HACCP guidelines (*FDA is used for seafood and juice while USDA is used for meat productions*). See also "Statement from USDA – 1993-12-13".

The idea for HACCP came during the 1960's in cooperation with NASA, since then HACCP has been internationally recognized as an international tool to use in the food industry.

Our fabric materials will not absorb enough humidity at any time to be able to form the basis of growth of microorganisms (*no more than 1% of moisture at RH 90%*). Our fabrics are made of 100% artificial material ensuring that nothing will be able to breed on the actual contents of the fabric.

For that reason our fabric materials are not given any chemical treatment. Also the material can be disposed of at the end of the lifespan (20 to 25 years when maintained according to our maintenance guidelines) without any hazards to the environment due to possible chemical leftovers in the material. This is a main reason for our fabric duct systems to be used where hygiene is a big issue. Condensation on the surface of our fabric duct systems will be prevented because of the permeable fabric material used. Our duct systems can easily be taken down and washed during maintenance.

Our Oeko-Tex® certificate states that we do not use harmful substances in our fabrics. Oeko-Tex® is the world's leading health label for textiles. The label indicates that the product has been tested and approved according to the requirements of the International Oeko-Tex® Association such as requirements which deal with the content of chemical substances that may or are suspected to be harmful to the body.



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Bakery, Norway



Espersen Fish Factory, Denmark



Slaughterhouse Vitelco Den Bosch, Holland



Slaughterhouse Vitelco Den Bosch, Holland



Arla Foods, Denmark



Cadbury New Diego® Factory, Egypt