Textiles and UV Protection (UV Standard 801)

Objective:
This test method is used to evaluate the UV protection factor, or UPF, of a textile which protects human skin from damaging UV rays. UV protective textiles are tested in the new condition as well as after a simulated use.

The test is particularly well-suited for:
- Textiles for swimming and/or beachwear, particularly for babies, toddlers and children
- Textiles used for sportswear, sporting equipment and leisure clothing
- Clothing for people who work in environments where they are exposed to UV radiation
- Shading textiles (e.g. parasols, awnings and sunshades)
- Other materials for sun protection (e.g. protective films)

Description:
Determination of UPF according to UV Standard 801 is based on the solar spectrum of the Australian/New Zealand standard. Samples are tested under different use conditions depending on the field of application in which the textile is to be used. Garments are tested new and also after they have been subjected to the demands placed on them during use (stretching, wetting, abrading and washing). In addition to being tested new, sun protection textiles are subjected to the demands placed on them during use (stretching, wetting, weathering). The determined UPF is used as a multiplier for the duration of time an individual's skin can protect itself from UV exposure, and indicates how long the textile allows the user to stay in the sun without incurring skin damage. According to UV Standard 801, the following levels of UV protection (UPF) can be achieved: 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 60, 80.

Advantages for you as the customer:
- Consumer safety by UPF determination under use condition
- Proves product is effective
- Product optimization during development

Labels and certificates:
A UV Standard 801 certificate can be applied for. This is a precondition for promotion and product labeling. It is valid for 1 year.

Requirements for test samples:

General information:
- The customer specifies whether tests are to be carried out for certification or not.

Amount of material:
- At least 40 cm x 40 cm; ideally: 1 m²

Duration of testing:
- 10 working days after receipt of order and samples