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HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03 antiviral textile technology tested effective against Coronavirus

HeiQ, winner of the Swiss Technology Award and Swiss Environmental Award, launches [HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03](#), an antiviral and antimicrobial textile treatment that tested effective against Coronavirus.

Since its inception 15 years ago, HeiQ has forged a solid [innovation track record](#) helping brands improve textile products. Catalyzed to action by the global fight against Coronavirus, HeiQ launches HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03, an antiviral and antimicrobial textile treatment which has **proven effective against human coronavirus (229E)** in face mask testing, significantly enhancing the antiviral log reduction from 2.90 of untreated face masks to 4.48, **over 99.99% reduction of virus infectivity**. (Remark: a log reduction of 2 is equivalent to 100 times the effectiveness.)

“Virologist Dr. Thierry Pelet of HeiQ’s Scientific Advisory Board brought us a profound depth of knowledge and accelerated our efforts to address the urgent problem of a global pandemic”, says Carlo Centonze, HeiQ Group CEO. “Our goal is to prevent textiles from becoming a host surface for propagating harmful viruses and bacteria, and contribute to reduce the risk and speed of contamination and transmission.”

According to the World Health Organization, the incubation period for COVID-19 range from 1-14 days. Social distancing and wearing a mask are common measures that people in countries like South Korea and Taiwan take to avoid spreading the virus. Chinese protective masks producer [Suzhou Bolisi](#) is the lead adopter of HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03. Treated masks will be available on the market as early as this April. American legwear manufacturer [Kayser-Roth](#) is planning to add the technology to their new product, Ghluv hands protector, while [Lufeng](#) from China is evaluating the technology on other types of fabric used for garments.

“I’m impressed by HeiQ’s ability to fast track such a complex innovation and bring this breakthrough to globally critical products in a short time” said Dr. Pelet of HeiQ’s Scientific

Advisory Board.

"HeiQ strives to help improve the lives of people through bringing breakthrough innovations to textiles. We have pushed hard to bring the HeiQ Viroblock technology to reality to assist at this time of urgent need for society around the world" adds Centonze.

HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03 is a unique combination of vesicle and silver technologies designed to inhibit the growth and persistence of bacteria and viruses. The HeiQ vesicle technology targets lipid-enveloped viruses, such as coronavirus, providing rapid virus deactivation, while the HeiQ silver technology inhibits the replication of both bacteria and viruses. HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03 can be applied to a wide spectrum of textile surfaces including face masks, air filters, medical gowns, curtains, drapes and more. HeiQ also has a range of highly wash-durable antimicrobial and odor control textile technologies, called HeiQ Pure, combining silver-based and bio-based materials for all fabric types.

Both 229E and Covid-19 are two of seven types of human coronaviruses. Besides testing on human coronavirus (229E), HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03 also demonstrates dramatically improved reduction of virus infectivity against Influenza types H1N1, H5N1, H7N9, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

For more information about Coronavirus, visit the [CDC website](#). To learn more about Viroblock, have a look at the [product information sheet](#) or email us at info@heiq.com.

News from our HeiQ laboratories:

Switzerland has been hard hit by the Coronavirus (Covid-19). To ensure the safety of our employees, our laboratory in Switzerland will not be operating at its normal capacity. Please expect at least two weeks of delay compared to normal fabric testing lead times (see [information letter to our customers](#)).

HeiQ has opened a **new testing laboratory in Shanghai, China**, that is able to test at normal capacity. Our laboratory team in China conducts the following tests:

HeiQ Smart Temp (Adaptive)

- Dynamic evaporation 20/35°C; 65/30%RH-
- RH AATCC TM 79 Absorbency, water drop test
- AATCC TM 197 Vertical Wicking

Barrier/HeiQ Eco Dry

- AATCC TM 22 Spray
- AATCC TM 118 Oil repellency
- AATCC TM 193 Water / Alcohol repellence

Others

- AATCC TM 130 Soil Release test

If you need to test these effects, please send your fabrics to:

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