Reusing disposable textile gloves

By washing and reusing disposable textile gloves, ABENA has helped one of our market leading customers save up to 74% CO2 eq. per 1000 gloves compared to incineration after first use.

Together with a leading food industry customer, ABENA has explored the possibility of reusing disposable textile gloves by washing them and testing different material compositions.

- Textile gloves reused 3 times with washing
- Focus on material composition
- Minimizing residual waste
- Reduction in costs and environmental impact

The project was initiated at two production plants. After first use, the textile gloves were sent to a facility to be washed. From there, they were transported back to the respective plants.*

For now, the gloves go through the use-and-washing cycle about three times before they reach their end-of-life and are incinerated.

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** Calculations have been done on all the transport involved – from the place of sourcing to the production plants – as well as from the production plants to the place of washing and back to the production plants.*

Item number	Description	Avg. cotton (%)	Avg. Polyester (%)	Avg. weight per glove (g)	Color	Total CO_2 eq. reduction (%)
1999915750	Textile glove, 8, cotton/polyester, interlock	52	48	20,83	White	74,01 %
4356	Textile glove, 10, cotton/polyester, interlock	52	48	23,33	White	74,11 %
4369	Textile glove, 8, cotton/polyester, interlock	35	65	12,5	White	73,31 %
4354	Textile glove, 10, cotton/polyester, interlock	35	65	15	White	73,60 %

The modelling and calculation methods are based on ISO 14040/44. The impact categories and result reporting is based on EF 3.0 (PEF - Product Environmental Footprint).
The calculations are done per 1000 pieces, and with incineration at the end of life. Learn more about ABENAs life cycle assessments here: https://www.abena.com/sustainability/lca