

FOR A SUSTAINABLE SURGICAL SYSTEM

Antonio Ghilardotti gives an insight into ecology and economy thanks to the use of technical textiles in operating theatres. A valid alternative to disposable textiles for reducing medical waste



Use in operating theatres of RTT, distributed by Pluritex Srl based in Fiorenzuola d'Arda (Piacenza, North)

Today the majority of gowns and drapes in operating theatres is disposable. For each operation hospitals generate several kilos of non-recyclable waste. Despite disposables are commonly used, there seems to be an alternative suitable to decrease costs and limit environmental pollution also improving the performance quality (as confirmed by several international studies).

Reusable Technical Textiles (RTT) are developed to be reused over and over.

"Every garment can endure up to 80 cycles, industrial laundries assure the reprocessing" explains Antonio Ghilardotti, owner of Pluritex, located in Fiorenzuola d'Arda-Piacenza-, "we develop and distribute RTT in partnership

with one of the main global leaders in the field".

"In compliance with specific medical staff requirements, private clinics and industrial laundries, which then provide the reprocessing and sterilisation service, Pluritex's R&D team offers customised top-quality products". Most items supplied by Pluritex are manufactured in polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), amazing polymeric material, which due to the molecular bonding within the polymer chains, withstands attack from the harshest chemical acids and can be used over a very wide temperature range with a very low friction coefficient, is not affected by UV radiation and is biocompatible; alternative products can be in polyurethane (PU) since some customers are still using this. "ePTFE was first developed by Gore technology for medical products and within a short period of time it became irreplaceable for all professionals requiring highly valuable, reliable products even after multiple sterilisation cycles. **VD**

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