

Technical Tuesday

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PERFORMANCE OF A SOFTENERS IN HARD WATER

Where hard water is used for finishing it is necessary to determine that there is no Bicarbonate or Carbonate in water.

This will neutralize the slight acidity, where acidic conditions are required for finishing and thus impair the application of the softener.

The Calcium and Magnesium permanent hardness is relatively less interfering in the case of Cationic softeners, except that they are likely to cause harsh feel to the fabric and thus reduce the effectiveness of softener to some extent.

If hard water is used for finishing, progressively the hardness would reduce the effectiveness of the softener.

Mg and Ca hardness will generally precipitate anionic softeners. Non-ionic softeners are not affected chemically but hardness can contribute to undesirable feel to the fabric.

WHAT IS THERMO-MIGRATION?

It is attributed to the dissolution of the colour in the finishing agent and due its consequent mobility; migration is caused by possible existence of temperature difference on either face of the fabric and / or across the width during curing at higher temperatures.

It is desirable to completely fix the colour, as unfixed colour could be more vulnerable to the conditions discussed above.

“HAVE A HAPPY WEEK A HEAD”

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