

TECHNICAL TUESDAYS

TOPIC: Water Hardness

REF: TT/ July 2017/ WK 3

What is water Hardness?

The presence of calcium and magnesium salts such as bicarbonates, sulphates and chlorides in water causes the hardness of water. The water which contains these salts is called hard water.

Consequences of Using Hard Water in Textile Processing:

- Precipitation of Soaps
- Re-deposition of dirt and insoluble soaps on the fabric being washed – this can cause yellowing and lead to non-uniform dyeing and poor handling.
- Precipitation of some dyes as calcium or magnesium salts
- Scale formation on equipment and in boilers and Pipelines
- Reduction of the activity of the enzymes used in desizing
- Decreased solubility of sizing agents
- Coagulation of some types of print pastes
- Incompatibility with chemicals in finishing recipes.



Wishing you a great week ahead!

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