

## Press Release

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# CHT is implementing antiviral textile treatment with HeiQ Viroblock by CHT in the textile industry

- Provides effective antiviral treatment on different fabrics
- No infective viruses left after 30 minutes
- For a wide range of protective textile applications
- Supports interruption of infection chains

CHT is cooperating with HeiQ by implementing the HeiQ Viroblock *by CHT* in the textile industry, globally. Ralf Kattanek, VP Textiles of CHT Group underlines a statement of Carlo Centonze, Swiss co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of HeiQ Group, "The confirmation of antiviral activity of HeiQ Viroblock against SARS-CoV-2 is an important milestone. This data forms part of our ongoing efforts to help provide textiles with greater levels of protection against viruses and contribute to efforts towards mitigation of the global pandemic."

HeiQ Viroblock by CHT is among the first textile technologies in the world to be proven effective against SARS-CoV-2 in the laboratory. Tests have been conducted by the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity in Melbourne, Australia (Doherty Institute) showed that treated fabric achieved 99.99% reduction of the virus.

HeiQ Viroblock by CHT is a textile treatment for industrial use, designed to provide textiles with antiviral and antibacterial properties. The combination of silver antimicrobial technology and vesicle technology rapidly destroy enveloped viruses including coronaviruses. It has previously been tested against coronavirus 229E, another strain of virus in the Coronavirus family.

The latest testing with SARS-CoV-2 virus was conducted by researchers at the Doherty Institute, a joint venture between the University of Melbourne and The Royal Melbourne Hospital, an internationally renowned institution combining research, teaching, public health and reference laboratory services, diagnostic services and clinical care into infectious diseases and immunity. The research project involved a disinfection test protocol that simulated the real-life interaction of small aerosol droplets contaminating clothing. A known concentration of SARS-CoV-2 virus was contacted with the sample fabric for 30 minutes followed by measurement of remaining infectious SARS-CoV-2 viruses. The fabric sample treated with HeiQ Viroblock by CHT had no infective viruses left after 30 minutes. The result indicated a SARS-CoV-2 virus reduction of 99.99% relative to the inoculum control.

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Dr. Julie McAuley, Senior Research Officer at the Doherty Institute, stated, “A key part of the Institute’s current COVID-19 research focus is on testing different ways to achieve an antiviral effect against the SARS-CoV-2 virus.” “Testing the action of different disinfectants and surface treatments is one way that our research can help provide insights towards helping to stop the pandemic”, Dr. McAuley added.

“We are very happy that the test by the Doherty Institute proved the effectiveness against the SARS-CoV-2 virus”, says Ralf Kattanek.

The test result will support our efforts to put the HeiQ Viroblock *by CHT* into protective textile applications. This antiviral treatment can play a key role for medical protective equipment, but above all in the area of workwear, home textiles and technical textiles. Together with our partners from the textile industry as well as the brands and retailers, we have started the fight against the global pandemic.

### **About the CHT Group**

The CHT Group, a medium-sized global player for speciality chemistry, is worldwide active in development, production and sales. CHT Germany GmbH in Tübingen is the headquarters of the group of companies which focuses on sustainable chemical products and process solutions.

TEXTILE SOLUTIONS of CHT improve the quality, functionality as well as look and purity of textiles and optimise their manufacturing processes.

In the fields of silicones, building materials, paints, coatings, paper, agrochemicals as well as cleaning and care products innovative products and process solutions are provided by INDUSTRY SOLUTIONS.

By bundling the strengths of the complete group further innovative products, applications or processes are permanently developed and vast technical support is offered within the SCIENCE & SERVICE SOLUTIONS. Highly qualified specialists work in state-of-the art laboratories for development, analytics and application technique in order to work out ideas and solutions that meet the latest requirements.

The CHT Group with its own production and sales locations is represented by more than 27 companies worldwide. In the financial year 2019, the CHT Group generated a group turnover of 535 million Euro with around 2,200 employees.

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