



Artificial finger for textile material characterisation

PRESS RELEASE

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FRENCH-SWISS TEXTILE RESEARCH GROUP

The Laboratory Biomimetic Membranes and Textiles (BioMemTex) of Empa (St Gallen, Switzerland) and the Laboratory of Textile Physics and Mechanics (LPMT) of the University of Haute Alsace (Mulhouse, France) just created a common laboratory on smart textiles for health applications, after ten years of successful collaboration.

These two laboratories combine their skills: BioMemTex is specialised in material science in interaction with biological systems and LPMT is expert in design processing and characterisation of textiles and fibrous materials at different scales.

This common laboratory intensifies the existing collaborations through invited professors and scientist exchanges and common projects.

The two laboratories have just developed an artificial finger with optical fibres for objective tactile characterisation of textiles, work

on thermal modelling of wear comfort, developed smart textiles.

A very promising topic is the forced wetting of fibrous structures for textile implants for the understanding of interaction problems between textile substrates and the human body (vascular prostheses, hernia mesh repairs and textile heart valves).



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