

# Textile treatment proven effective against coronavirus

June 15, 2020 by Chris Remington

US textile innovator Noble Biomaterials has announced the results of third-party testing conducting of fabric enhanced with X-Static technology against a strain of the coronavirus, finding that it reduces the viability of the virus six times faster than an unmetallised control fabric.

With those in industry increasingly turning their attentions to assisting in the fight against COVID-19, with many pivoting to produce personal protective equipment, Noble is one of many to develop a textile treatment effective in warding off the threat of the coronavirus contagion.

According to Noble, its X-Static and Ionic+ technologies are suitable for healthcare settings as they permanently inhibit the growth of drug-resistant bacteria and fungi to prevent cross-contamination.

To put this to the test, laboratory experiments were executed by BioScience Laboratories Inc., to assess its performance against coronavirus OC43, a common strain of the virus that remains at large.

Its findings have determined that a metallised fabric - which leverages X-Static - is six times faster at reducing the virus' viability, compared to an unmetallised alternative.

"Our mission has always been to protect, so we're grateful that our lab-tested materials are able to provide another layer of protection for healthcare workers, patients and consumers during this healthcare crisis, whether the fabrics are used for scrubs and surgical gowns, bedding and privacy curtains, or consumer masks and apparel," said Jeff Keane, Noble's CEO.

Tony Lundin, founder of Silverguard Textiles, a South African company that uses X-Static, added: "Our customers see the value in antimicrobial soft surfaces to help control healthcare-acquired infections.

He continued: "With the current crisis, it's even more important, and a number of leading hospitals, clinics and institutions in Southern Africa are using the full complement of antimicrobial products we make with X-Static, including privacy curtains, bedding, scrubs, surgical gowns and reusable masks."

