



Update on Microfibre Fragment Release Testing

Microfibre fragments are typically less than 5mm in dimension and include different chemicals, including polymers, dyes and plasticizers, all of which may have toxic properties. Unfortunately, most of these microfibrils are not filtered (due to its size) and released into water bodies, onto land and into the air. These microfibrils are not biodegradable and remain until they potentially enter the food-chain.

Earlier this year **BS EN ISO 4484-1:2023** Textiles and textile products. Microplastics from textile sources. Determination of material loss from fabrics during washing was published at end of February. Along with AATCC TM 212 and **The Microfibre Consortium Method** there is now a choice of methods to measure microfibre fragment loss.

In May 2023, **BS EN ISO 4484-3:2023** Textiles and textile products — Microplastics from textile sources — Part 3: Measurement of collected material mass released from textile end products by domestic washing method was published

The method measures the collected material mass released from the outlet hose of a standard washing machine during the laundering process.

Bureau Veritas is a very active member of **The Microfibre Consortium** and has developed a suite of both standards and internal methods to support any microfibre fragment release you wish to measure.

Bureau Veritas Assistance

Bureau Veritas can assist you with your testing needs.

If you have any comments and/or questions, please contact your customer service representative or visit: [Sustainability, Quality and Compliance - Contact | Bureau Veritas CPS](#)

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