



Textile products with electric functionalities are being marketed as "smart textiles". The European standardisation organisation, CEN, has installed a workgroup TC248/WG31 where experts discuss the standardisation proposals related to 'smart textiles'. At this very moment, a new work task is examining and developing the standardisation of conductive textiles.

This pre-standard project aims to develop standard methods needed by the textile sector to expand its activities in this new market.

In this way, manufacturers, sub-contractors, distributors and customers will dispose of a tool to verify the performances of conductive textiles.

The reliability of these products is of major importance. The electrical functionality must be guaranteed during the normal life of the textile product. Therefore, the textile manufacturer has to dispose of the means to evaluate the durability of a smart textile product.

Obviously, security is another important issue. The electric conductors may never jeopardise the life of the user.

The workgroup CEN/TC248/WG31 "Smart Textiles" is part of CEN TC 248 "Textiles and textile products" and has been installed in 2009 to evaluate the standardisation needs related to smart textiles.

The aim of the workgroup is to advise and inform the standardisation committee in the field of smart textiles.

## OBJECTIVES

Standardisation should contribute to:

- the development and validation of a reproducible test method to measure the electric properties of conductive textile yarns and of textiles containing conductive circuits for electric functionalities
- the development and validation of a test method to evaluate the reliability of this type of textiles when submitted to physical constraints (flexing, washing, wetting, etc.)

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