

Standard – TESTEX MICROPLASTIC

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Standard – TESTEX MICROPLASTIC

1 – Foreword / Purpose

Legal regulations are becoming more and more stringent in order to reduce the environmental impact of microplastics. TESTEX offers an independent testing procedure for the detection of microplastic residues in textiles. Using state-of-the-art testing equipment, TESTEX carries out diverse and comprehensive tests on fibres, yarns, twisted yarns, woven fabrics, knitted fabrics, nonwovens and finished products. Microplastics testing is carried out in accordance with ISO 4484-1:2023 and ISO 4484-2:2023. The method is constantly being further developed with our internal R&D team and leading equipment manufacturers. Based on the latest knowledge, it supports the measures of the European Commission* to reduce microplastic pollution.

(*Measures taken by the European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_4984)

2 – Applicability / Our service

TESTEX uses a Laser Direct Infrared (LDIR) Imaging System with the latest generation of quantum cascade lasers (QCL) to analyse the release of particles. This measurement technology allows the determination of:

- Number of particles
- Morphology (shape and appearance)
- Distribution and dimensions
- Type of polymers with an accuracy of at least 75%

For the analysis, the textile samples are washed and the wash water is collected and filtered. The fibres and particles washed out of the textile sample or the waste / production water from the textile manufacturing process are directly analysed on the filter using LDIR, and then evaluated.

3 - Trademark

The use of the trademark and logo associated with the standard is strictly regulated, and any unauthorised use is prohibited (refer to “declaration of conformity” in the application form).

The authorisation to use the label „TESTEX MICROPLASTIC“ is limited to a maximum of one year.

The „TESTEX MICROPLASTIC“ label can only be placed on marketing materials, such as PR or corporate communication. The label must never be displayed on products, packaging and/or web shops.

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4 - Sampling and packaging Instructions

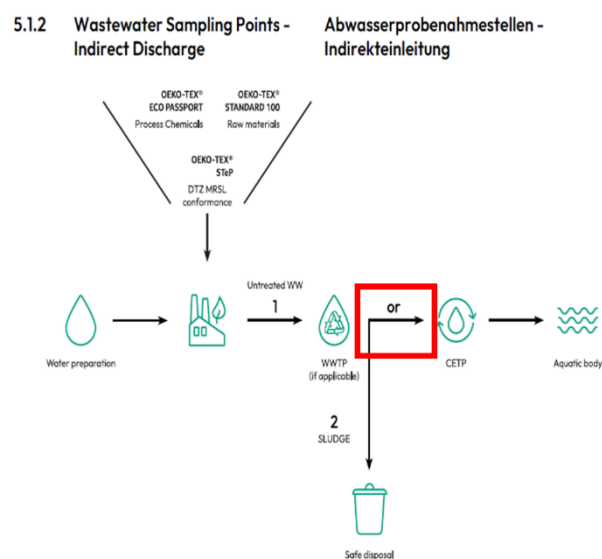
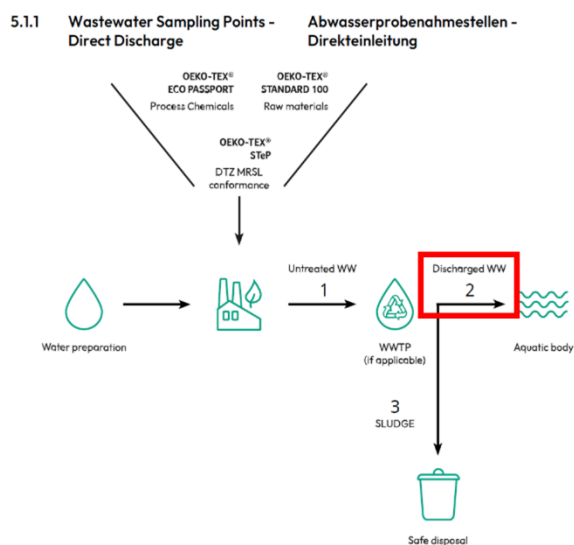
4.1 – Textiles samples

Provide at least 1 m² textile / test sample, packed

4.2 – Waste water (production water)

- **Sample container:** Glass bottles, 500 millilitres, securely lockable, leak-proof
- **Sample quantity:** 1500 millilitres (three bottles with each 500 millilitres)
- **Sample labelling:** Date of sampling, company name

4.2.1 Sampling point (Direct / Indirect Discharge)



Note: Waste water sampling shall always be done according to ISO 5667-10 “Water Quality Sampling Guidance on sampling of waste waters”.

4.2.2. Safety for sampling

- Always wear waterproof gloves
- Protect your mucous membranes from splashes with a face mask and safety goggles
- Change gloves immediately after sampling
- Rinse the filled and closed sample containers with water



4.2.3. Packaging instructions

Carry out the following steps for all three bottles individually:

- Rinse the bottle with water and dry it
- Tape the cap of the bottle (e.g. with duct tape or insulating tape)
- Put the bottle in a plastic bag
- Fill the plastic bag with absorbent material (e.g. paper towels, cotton balls) and close or tape the bag

Place all the bottles packed as described above in a transport box or cardboard box and pad them well. Make sure that the transport box is labelled with “Fragile - handle with care”.



For furthermore information e.g. refer to the FedEx guideline “How to ship clinical samples” (<https://www.fedex.com/en-us/shipping/how-to-ship-clinical-samples.html>)

5 - Protection of standard content

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TESTEX undertakes to comply with all applicable data protection regulations and to implement appropriate measures to guarantee the security and confidentiality of information.

6 - Publication of Data

The report data of the tests related to the label will be published on the website for one year.