

Walking green: the sustainable polyurethane shoe [31 May 2011]

Recently, Bayer scientists unraveled a unique concept shoe which consists of up to 90% eco-compatible properties. The “green shoe” will bring benefits to shoe-manufacturers, consumers and in particular, to the environment.

Among these eco-compatible properties are polyurethane raw materials based on natural resources,



*Proportion of renewables

products for solvent-free coatings and adhesives, a polycarbonate blend, and thermoplastic polyurethane based on renewable resources.

The annual environmental burden could be reduced by approximately 150.000 metric tons simply by replacing conventional solvents with new developed products and techniques for solvent- and plasticizer-free textile coatings and adhesive raw materials. 150.000 metric tons- That is more than 1% of Sweden’s annual CO2 emission.



Further, the outer and the middle soles of the “green shoe” will consist of microcellular polyurethane elastomer systems where up to 70% of renewable materials are used.

This is just another example of how manifold the application area of polyurethane is and how it can contribute to make everyday life easier and greener. Yet another example of how polyurethanes contribute to improving lives and protecting the planet in new ways every day.

