

AT-A-GLANCE: Vytex® Natural Rubber Latex (NRL)

Overview

Vytex® Natural Rubber Latex (NRL) (vytex.com) is an eco-friendly natural rubber latex material with virtually undetectable levels of the antigenic proteins that can cause latex allergy. Vytex NRL is produced through a novel, multi-patented process owned by Vystar® Corporation.

- Vytex NRL can be substituted in more than 40,000 products where traditional latex or synthetic substitutes are used, from balloons to bandages.
- Many manufacturing trials worldwide are underway using Vytex NRL as a main ingredient in numerous products including surgical and exam gloves, condoms, catheters, bandages, adhesives and foam mattress/bedding products.

An Eco-Friendly Alternative to Synthetic Substitutes

Unlike synthetic alternatives such as nitrile, polyurethane and neoprene, which are petroleum by-products, Vytex NRL is a green, all natural and renewable resource.

- Vytex NRL is biodegradable, odor-free and contains no VOCs or known human carcinogens.

Growing Problem of Latex Allergies

Vytex NRL retains all the positive characteristics of natural rubber latex – including excellent liquid barrier protection, tactile sensitivity, elasticity, strength, comfort and fit – but has virtually undetectable levels of the antigenic proteins as measured by today's standard protein tests.

- Certain naturally-occurring proteins in latex can cause latex allergies in up to 15 percent of healthcare workers and six percent of the general population, according to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI).
- Symptoms range from skin rash and swollen eyes to hives and life-threatening anaphylaxis.

Revolutionary Product Tackles Latex Allergy Problem

In 2009, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted 510(k) clearances to Alatech Healthcare (Eufaula, AL) for condoms and exam gloves made with Vytex NRL.

- Today, the Envy™ condom is the only condom on the U.S. market with a label claim of less than 2 µg/dm² of antigenic protein. Vystar and Alatech Healthcare, LLC launched the Envy™ condom in October 2009.
- Focus groups conducted by Vystar revealed that OR nurses and other healthcare workers expressed extreme dissatisfaction with gloves made of synthetic substitutes citing poor elasticity and fit, frequent tearing, odor, and higher cost as drawbacks. They described their “perfect” glove as a powder-free, ultra low protein natural rubber latex option.

Made with Vytex NRL

“Made with Vytex NRL” branding is available to manufacturers adopting Vytex, along with a flexible and customized support program, Vystar Professional SupportSM (VPS). VPS is a comprehensive offering of technical, regulatory, intellectual property and marketing services designed to assist manufacturers with growing sales and market share.

Company Background

- Vystar Corporation is a public biotechnology company located near Atlanta, GA.

- In 2007, Vystar was named one of the Top Ten Innovative Technology Companies by the Technology Association of Georgia.
- Vystar holds two U.S. patents for Vytex NRL technology with multiple US and international filings pending.

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