



CORTINA Silicone Fabrics

Sustainable & Eco-Friendly

SILICONE IS A SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT.

From its beginning as simple quartz sand found everywhere in the world, silicone is a product that has its origins from nature itself. Once processed, sand can become silicone, a familiar material used in everyday items like baking tools and baby bottle nipples, as well as in medical grade equipment and manufacturing parts. Now silicone is also used to make Cortina Silicone Fabrics (CSF), a long-lasting, durable, scratch and fade resistant, cleanable, naturally anti-microbial, and lightweight leather alternative fabric that can be used indoors or outdoors. And it is recyclable!

We are proud to offer a leather alternative that is not only beautiful, stylish, and high performance, but is also sustainable and more friendly to the environment¹.

- Silicone products save nine times the quantity of greenhouse gases used in production and disposal by enabling energy saving technologies and a more efficient use of energy and materials.
- Silicone product use in automobiles reduce carbon emissions.
- Since silicone provides excellent protection, it reduces wear on existing parts, reducing the need to continually make new ones; thus, reducing waste and energy production.
- Silicone usage in solar, construction, and automotive industries is the leading cause for reduced GHG emissions.

DOING OUR PART FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND OUR HEALTH AND SAFETY.

We took the long term approach when considering offering Cortina Silicone Fabrics and found it to be the only alternative fabric that would meet Cortina's strict Environmental Stewardship and Social Responsibility standards.

The production process of silicone fabrics is less taxing on natural resources as it takes less water, raw material, and electricity to produce compared to other synthetic fabrics¹. With its non-solvent and non-chlorine production method and lack of PU or PVC elements, silicone coatings are much safer and healthier to use than traditional synthetic textiles, including those named for their minimal bio-based content such as "apple leather," as the coatings do not leak VOC emissions throughout their life cycle. We have passed the most stringent environmental standards such as the EU's REACH and California's Prop 65, so you can feel comfortable knowing that you are specifying a fabric that's been engineered to be safe for your clients and the environment.

Cortina Silicone Fabrics are:

- Qualified for international and domestic environmental programs: LEED v4, Green Globes, BREEAM, BREEAM International, Living Building Challenge, CHPS, UP EPA Federal Purchasing
- Compliant with REACH*, RoHS*, California Prop 65, CAL01350, AB-2998
- MindClick Achiever rated
- Indoor Advantage Gold certified: solvent-free production guarantees ultra-low VOC emission
- Compliant with Healthier Hospitals initiative: do not contain chemical antimicrobials, formaldehyde, PFCs, PVC, or flame retardants
- PVC and PU free
- Made with no plasticizers, phthalates, heavy metals (including mercury), or Bisphenol A (BPA)
- Free of PFAs, PFCs and formaldehyde



ACT® Registered Certification Marks



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SILICONE IS RECYCLABLE.

Cortina Silicone Fabrics are recyclable so they don't have to end up in waste streams. The silicone coating is a recyclable product and the backing cloth is polyester which can be easily recycled. The process for recycling all silicone fabrics can be attained by separating the silicone from the cloth, and recycling the two parts individually.

Although it can be more difficult to find recycling centers that accept silicone, which is mostly due to less familiarity with the material or because it's not as common as plastics or metals, there are facilities that can accept silicone. Eco USA is one facility that will accept your silicone and recycle it back its raw state so that it can be used for other purposes. Visit siliconerecycling.com to learn more.

CORTINA LEATHERS IS COMMITTED TO LEADING THE INDUSTRY

Cortina is committed to only sourcing hides and finished leather from responsible tanneries with proven certifications using modern hide production techniques. Additionally, we have consistently led the industry in making changes to reduce the environmental footprint of our own facility, and we are continuously improving.

- We use only water-based, solvent-free chemicals, which emit less than 10% of permissible EPA VOCs and HAPs.
- Our manufacturing facility in Ohio is powered by 100% green electric supply (blend of solar/wind/hydro), and 100% green natural gas through carbon offsets.
- We offer free return shipping for all of our sampling collateral including loose samples.
- Scrap leather is sent to small leather-good producers.
- We recycle all packaging, paper, plastics, and metals.
- Our plant is retrofitted with high-efficiency lighting, reducing energy usage for lighting by 80%.
- We offer dedicated parking/chargers for electric cars.
- Our on-site waste-water treatment operation is state-of-the-art, consistently exceeding permit standards.
- We re-use the heat from our manufacturing equipment to heat the facility, reducing our energy use.
- Cortina's manufacturing facility in Ohio maintains its ISO certification.



Find Cortina Leathers' full Environmental Stewardship and Social Responsibility statement
at cortinaleathers.com/environmentalstewardship/

¹Source: siliconescarbonbalance.eu

*REACH – Detection concern for 169 toxic substances including heavy metals, dyes intermediates, perfluorinated compounds, flame retardants, pigments, anti-ultraviolet agents, chemical solvents, and others.

**RoHS – Detection concern for heavy metals (lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium) and some flame retardants (polybrominated biphenyls and polybrominated diphenyl ethers).