

Frequently Asked Questions

What is PU?

PU stands for 'polyurethane'. This is a versatile polymer that is used in the manufacture of a wide variety of textiles. It is resilient, flexible and extremely durable. The base resin that is used to produce a PU fabric determines its quality. The **Ultra-Thane** range of PU fabrics are manufactured using a high quality polycarbonate PU. This ensures exceptional durability, Hydrolysis Resistance (HR) and is resilient to harsh chemicals commonly used in commercial cleaning solutions.

What is PVC?

PVC stands for 'polyvinyl chloride' and is generically referred to as 'vinyl'. It is prevalent in a wide range of medical products due to its intrinsic properties. PVC is durable, lightweight, waterproof and cost effective. The addition of plasticisers into a PVC formulations increases the flexibility and softness, assisting with patient comfort.

Anti-bacterial vs. Anti-microbial.

The primary difference between anti-bacterial and anti-microbial additives is effectiveness and their ability to prevent the development of bacteria. Anti-bacterial products tend to reduce the growth of milder forms of bacteria, while anti-microbial additives work on wider range of bacteria. One of the important distinctions between anti-bacterial and anti-microbial products is that anti-microbial additives prevent the spread of bacteria.

Are Nolan.UDA Healthcare Fabrics fire retardant?

Surprisingly, there are no Australian standards for which mattresses need to comply. However, as all **Nolan.UDA** Healthcare Fabrics are sourced from the world's leading manufacturers, all comply with some of the most stringent international flammability requirements.

What is Silvosan?

Silvosan is an anti-microbial additive produced by the well renown Swiss company *Sanitized*. *Silvosan* is a safe ingredient included in the **Ultra-Thane Ultimate HR-S** range. It utilizes silver ion technology to ensure effective and long lasting protection against a broad spectrum of very harmful bacteria such as *MRSA*, *E. Coli*, *Clostridium Difficile*, *Salmonella*, *Legionella* and *Pseudomonas*.

What does *multi-stretch* mean?

Multi-stretch refers to the performance of the fabric. Some Healthcare Fabrics are very rigid and offer very little, if any stretch at all. This is generally due to strength requirements but at the expense of comfort. All **Ultra-Thane** fabrics have excellent stretch in all directions. Apart from the comfort benefit, this allows the fabrics to conform to any body shape providing pressure management.

What does *hypoallergenic* mean?

The term *hypoallergenic* means the material will not cause a reaction or irritate human skin if there is direct contact.

Can different Nolan.UDA Healthcare Fabrics be used together?

It is common to use different fabrics for a mattress cover. Some heavy duty or slip resistant fabrics are often used on the base and a functional 'patient friendly' fabric used on the surface and sides. Caution should be taken as using two different fabrics may cause compatibility issues, particularly with welding during fabrication.

What is *Water Vapour Transmission*?

Water Vapour Transmission (WVT) is a technical calculation that measures the breathability or permeability of a fabric. Whilst **Ultra-Thane** fabrics are impervious to fluids, water vapour can pass through them. The level of *WVT* is measured using test method ASTM 96-66. This is the rate at which water vapor can pass through the fabric, measured in grams per square metre of fabric over a 24 hour period (g/m²·24hr).

What is *hydrolysis*?

Hydrolysis is the process by which humidity and heat breaks down the cell structure of a polyurethane fabric over time. Body heat and sweat can cause hydrolysis. **Ultra-Thane** fabrics are manufactured with premium quality raw materials which provides excellent resistance to hydrolysis. **Ultra-Thane Supreme HR** and **Ultra-Thane Ultimate HR-S** have enhanced Hydrolysis Resistance (HR) for use in problematic applications.

Healthcare
fabrics

by Nolan.UDA