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Future materials

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Cutting
edge

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Nano-Tex skiwear

The latest ski jackets introduced in Europe by Germany's Franz Ziener feature Nano-Tex coatings to make the two-layer laminates grime resistant, as well as windproof, waterproof and breathable.

Nano-Care fabric protection, developed by Nano-Tex, was named as one of Time magazine's Coolest Inventions.

It was subsequently featured on the Today Show and CNN News in the US, with demonstrations showing the repellency of Lee Performance Khakis enhanced with Nano-Care. Liquids bead up and roll off of the material without staining.

Other products now available utilising Nano-Care have been introduced by Eddie Bauer, Lands' End and Gap.

Working on the nano-scale and permanently attaching to the fibres, Nano-Care chemistry is said to provide greater durability than repellent coatings, while allowing the fabric to



remain soft and breathable.

Recognised as one of the first companies to bring nanotechnology to consumer products, Nano-Tex was recently named as a top finalist by both the World Technology Network and Small Times Magazine in their

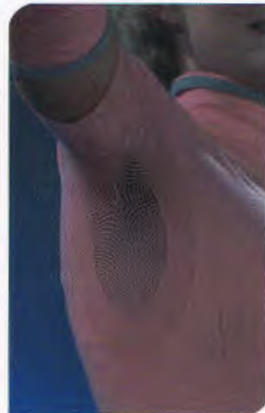
awards for best technologies. These groups follow and research emerging technologies and companies that are making breakthrough progress in the development and commercialisation of small technologies worldwide.

"Our focus is to develop a family of chemistries that bring cutting-edge performance to a diverse range of fabrics and substrates," said David Offord, the company's chief scientific officer.

"The flexibility of the technology makes it adaptable to a number of applications and we believe we have just begun to realise the possibilities for future enhancements."

In addition to Nano-Care, the company markets Nano-Dry, which provides synthetic fabrics with advanced moisture control properties allowing for quicker drying and improved comfort, Nano-Pel, which provides multiple fabric substrates with water and oil repellent properties and Nano-Touch fabric technology, which is said to create the ultimate in comfort and luxurious performance by wrapping a cotton-like sheath around a durable synthetic core.

Seamless sport



Infito real performance couture is aimed at end-uses such as functional underwear, running, biking, fitness and climbing. It is designed to provide maximum wearing comfort, a high degree of elasticity, no pressure points on the skin, breathability, moisture management and durability as well as softness on the skin. Net-zones and ventilation areas have been integrated to give the athlete a maximum performance and body climate.

Italian designer Michele Resch has refined seamless knitting technology and patented methods for manufacturing new sportswear from a single piece of cloth. Infito has produced an extensive range of clothing to precisely meet the requirements of these sports.

"We have been watching the development of seamless products for quite a while," says Stephanie Ledru, of DuPont CoolMax, one of the judges of last Summer's ispo BrandNew Awards. "Infito offers the perfect solution. The products are manufactured completely three-dimensionally and according to the body. Even better – they work differently according to the various parts of the body. For example, they offer great insulation along the kidneys and high ventilation under the arm pits."