

NOVELIO® and the environment



Thanks to its Class 1 Oeko-Tex Standard 100 certification, NOVELIO® paintable wall covering is a full participant in the HEQ initiative undertaken by Saint-Gobain Technical Fabrics, and also provides an exceptional response to user needs and expectations.

Indeed, the Oeko-Tex ecological label guarantees the absence of substances (heavy metals, carcinogenic dyes) that can be harmful to both health and the environment.

Although wall coverings are generally certified Class 4, **NOVELIO®** -- with its **Class 1 certification** - goes above and beyond the requirements of its scope of application. The wall covering hangers who are in direct contact with it need have no worries on this point.

1. What is the HEQ initiative?

HEQ stands for the High Environmental Quality of buildings. This concept first appeared in the early 1990s and has been developed considerably since that time. It is now at the heart of a broad movement that concerns all players in the construction industry. HEQ is a voluntary initiative that is based on:

- an environmental management system for the construction operation, set up and conducted under the responsibility of the project manager
- the environmental requirements defined at the start of the project according to its context and the project manager's priorities

2. Oeko-Tex Standard 100 Certification

The Oeko-Tex Standard 100 was introduced in 1992 to provide consumers with the greatest possible safety in terms of health impact. This certification is performed by European Oeko-Tex research and control member institutions.

The procedure includes the following controls: prohibited substances such as carcinogenic dyes, substances regulated by law, such as formaldehyde, substances considered harmful to health, such as pesticides, parameters such as colorfastness and a skin-friendly pH value, which are precautionary measures

There are four classes of products according to the Oeko-Tex Standard 100:

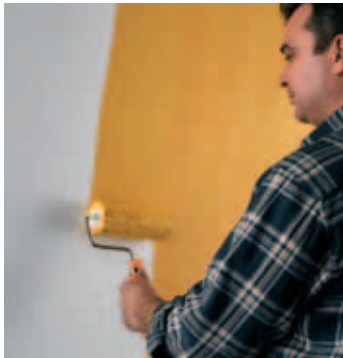
- **Products for babies and small children (Class I)**
- Products that come into direct contact with the skin such as underclothes, towels and bedding (Class II)
- Products that do not come into direct contact with the skin such as jackets and coats (Class III)
- Home decorative or furnishing materials such as table linen (Class IV)



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3. NOVELIO®: An economical, ecologically-sound covering

NOVELIO® paintable wall covering is composed entirely of glass fiber, or 100% sand, chalk and clay. No harmful additives are used.



Thanks to its glass fiber structure and pliable coating, NOVELIO® allows savings on paint (from 50 to 100 g/m² coverage).



4. NOVELIO® and the REACH regulation

REACH is the new regulation concerning the registration, evaluation and authorization of chemical products. The regulation came into force on 1 June 2007, and its objectives are to simplify and improve the European Union's old legal framework on chemical products.

NOVELIO® paintable wall covering products comply with the requirements of the REACH regulations.

For more information on REACH, click here:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index_en.htm