

**OUTLAST: TAKEOVER BY INVESTMENT GROUP**

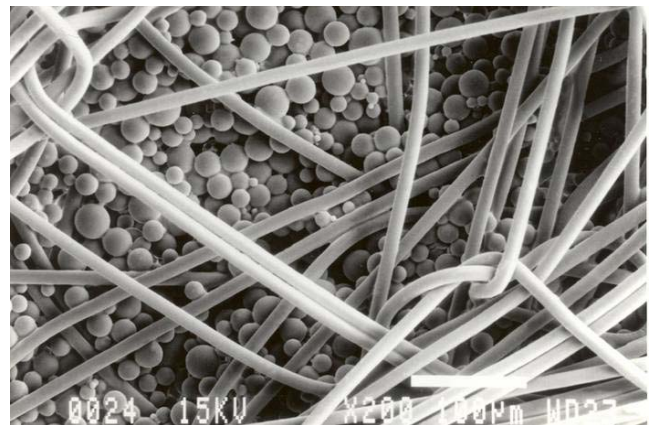
**Emerged from the Ploucquet Group, Outlast Europe GmbH, based in Heidenheim and manufacturers of climate regulating Phase Change Materials, has been taken over by Golden Equity Investments, a private equity firm that invests in operating businesses.**



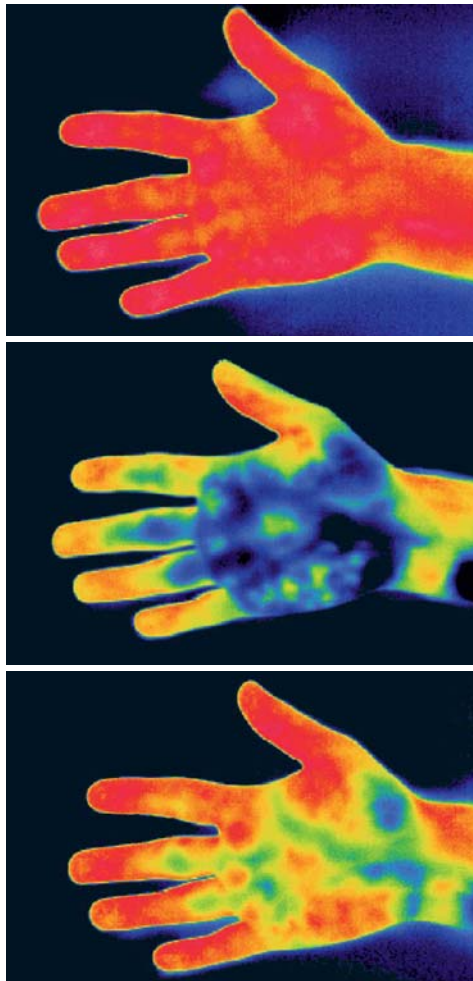
The private equity firm Golden Equity Investments (CFI) is based in Golden, Colorado / USA, and makes control investments in growing businesses in a variety of consumer and industrial markets. Outlast Technologies is a leading manufacturer of temperature-regulating phase change materials and is currently in the process to extend the European distribution of technical and highly functional materials and to improve sales. Through the takeover the existing value chain should be enriched and allow the company to consolidate and expand its position as market leader around the phase-change technology. For Outlast customers and

partners will be no noticeable changes in the daily business. "Our customers will continue to benefit from the usual good service and high product quality. There are no personnel changes intended, all employees will remain so that the global business will go on as usual. All business activities in North America, Europe and Asia remain unchanged," the company announced. The company will continue with the name Outlast, but change the company's name in course of the takeover now to Outlast Technologies LLC, in order to suit into the structural requirements.

The European markets will be served from Outlast Europe GmbH, based in Heidenheim at the Brenz, Baden-Wuerttemberg. Eleven persons are employed here, worldwide there are 33. Turnover has not been disclosed by the company. The parent company Outlast Technologies LLC is based in Boulder, Colorado / USA and is presumed a pioneer and world leader in research development, design and marketing of phase-change materials and their applications. Since 1992 Outlast holds patents for encapsulated Outlast PCM as coating on textile materials and fibers.



Outlast fibers, fabrics and coatings were originally developed for NASA to protect astronauts from temperature fluctuations in space. Meanwhile over 200 brands are using the Outlast technology on a wide range of products of sportswear, underwear, knitwear, socks and shoes, from helmets, bandages and clothing for pets to bedding and seating.



The Outlast technology uses phase-change materials (PCM), which absorb and store heat and release it again. The technology proactively responds to changes in skin temperature: the heat balance is optimally controlled, the perspiration is reduced and thus an optimal comfort achieved. One can compare the Outlast technology with an ice cube in a glass of water: melts the ice cube (changes its condition of aggregation = phase - from solid to liquid), it takes up heat and cools the water, the water or the drink keeps the desired temperature longer. PCM work the same way, but are usually encapsulated in order to be permanently enclosed in a polymeric shell and protected. These encapsulated PCM are called Thermocules by the company. The encapsulation process makes Thermocules exceptionally durable. The capacity to absorb heat, store and release it again, allows each product, which contains the Outlast technology, to regulate, for example, continuously the skin temperature. Will the skin be overheated, the warmth will be absorbed, cools the skin down, the stored heat will be returned.

that so much sweat can not develop because the sweat production is already reduced. The advantages are less overheating, less cooling, less sweating, steady heat generation, less blister formation in footwear and active temperature compensation.

It is quite a durable technology: in fiber technology the Outlast technology is directly spun into the yarn and then processed into fabrics or knitting goods for further processing. The Outlast technology can also be applied using coating directly on materials – by a dipping process or by a doctor blade on a roll. Is the Outlast technology component of a fiber, it should be retained for the life of a garment, the company promises. Also the coated products keep a high resistance during washing or cleaning.

The Outlast technology is not working in a wicking, which regulates the moisture merely by the fact that the already existing sweat is transported away from the skin. The Outlast technology starts proactively much earlier and ensures,



*Susanne Schaper  
Translation: Textination-Team*