

PERC (perchloroethylene) FREE washing

Perchloroethylene is the most commonly used solvent for dry cleaning, despite the toxicity issues and risk phrases associated with its use. In fact, perchloroethylene is toxic to reproduction and development, neurotoxic, potentially carcinogenic to humans, irritating to the respiratory tract and skin, and a persistent environmental pollutant.

In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency under the Toxic Substances Control Act (amended TSCA) has mandated that dry cleaning machines using perchloroethylene be removed from residential buildings, and European countries such as France have adopted similar measures to gradually reduce and replace perchloroethylene.

Today, alternatives to perchloroethylene are mainly volatile substances that only partially reduce risks for operators and the environment. For example, n-propyl bromide, the main substitute, is marketed as a safer alternative because it is not an ozone-depleting substance. However, this brominated hydrocarbon is extremely toxic to humans through inhalation and is a potent neurotoxin and irritant.

HOW CROSSING CAN HELP

Crossing demonstrated on a pilot scale (TRL 7) an innovative technology that allows for the removal of finishing oils from fabrics with an efficacy comparable to that of perchloroethylene. The advantages of this technology are the non-toxicity and volatility of the substances used, characteristics that allow for the management of washing cycles without risks to the health of operators or the environment. Furthermore, our technology is completely recyclable.

Contact us for more information on this and other services offered to businesses (info@crossing-srl.com).