Fothergill Polycom Ltd

Rubber Compounds, Industrial & Technical Rubber Coated Fabrics

Fothergill Polycom

The Company

Founded in 1911, the company started producing high quality natural rubber coated fabrics for rainwear and the fashion industry.

Today the company operates from a purpose built, single storey facility a short distance away from it's former home at Windsor Mill, Oldham, Lancashire. Through continual evolvement and focused customer based product diversification, Fothergill Polycom (formerly Ferguson Polycom Ltd) has achieved the enviable reputation as a world-renowned producer of custom rubber compounds and speciality elastomer coated fabrics.

In June 2000 the business became part of the Fothergill Group of companies.

This strategic alliance with the manufacturer of high performance woven textiles (Fothergill Engineered Fabrics Ltd: www.fothergill.co.uk) further enhances Fothergill Polycom's ability to provide customers throughout the world with innovated technical fabric solutions of unsurpassed performance.

Fothergill Polycom now manufactures and supplies both rubber compounds and rubber coated fabrics to a very diverse market.

Quality and Testing

Certificate GB95/4383

The Company is committed to providing products and services which consistently conform, in all respects, to the specified requirements of our customers.

Fothergill Polycom, accredited to ISO 9001 operates to stringent and continuous high quality standards. Inspection, at every stage of manufacture and final testing to British and MOD standards guarantees the products are durable, reliable and provide outstanding performance.

Extensive in-house test facilities allow adherence to relevant international standards. Fully-trained staff carry out the certification of materials in accordance with our ISO9001 registration, to assure customer confidence and satisfaction.

Capabilities

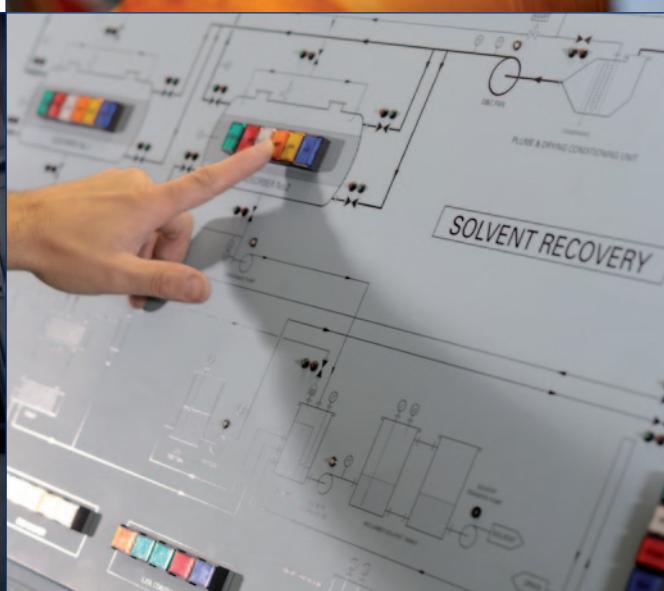
Fothergill Polycom's customers benefit from full design and development facilities. In house rubber compounding, custom specific formulations, small batch and pre-production trials are offered along with full technical and application support. Working closely with our substrate material suppliers and being part of the Fothergill Group ensures full integration across performance of both fabric and coating.

Applications

Our dedicated team provides a wealth of experience and unparalleled application knowledge, which enables Fothergill Polycom to produce custom designed fabrics which are used in a diverse range of applications. These include low gas permeability, high temperature and abrasion resistance, together with flexible and flame retardant characteristics.

Environmental

Fothergill Polycom take seriously its responsibility to protect the environment in which we work and live. Seeking to continuously improve and conduct our business in accordance with all legal requirements and ethical responsibilities, we use scientific knowledge, technical innovation and sound environmental management practices. Operating from a local authority permitted facility, we utilise state of art reclamation systems and processes to minimise our overall impact on the environment.



Coating Division

Technical and fashion coated fabrics can be single or 2 ply (tri-laminate) coated, using elastomers such as Natural Rubber, Polychloroprene and Butyl, all of which are spread or dip coated onto a wide variety of substrates including Cotton, Nylon, Polyester, Acrylic and Polycotton.

Technical and fashion coated fabrics are specifically coated for industrial, leisure and sportswear applications, where reliability and technical performance are needed to meet specific customer requirements.

Coated textiles for protective and leisure applications:

- **2 ply butyl for inflatable products**
- **Membrane drysuits for divers**
- **Life/survival jackets**
- **Military/clothing**
- **Fashion wear**
- **Chemical suits**
- **Waterproof luggage and bags**

Elastomer Coated Textiles

Market Area	End Use	Rubber Type	Fabric Substrate
Apparel	Rain Wear	Natural Rubber	Cotton
Apparel	Fashion Wear	Natural Rubber	Cotton
Military	Survival Jackets	Natural Rubber	Cotton
Military	Life Jackets	Polychloroprene	Nylon 66
Military	Anti Gravity Suits	Polychloroprene	Nylon
Military	Quick Don Suits	Polychloroprene	Nylon
Military	Dry Suits	Polychloroprene	Nylon
Chemical Protection	Anti Splash	Polychloroprene	Polyester
Chemical Protection	Suits	Polychloroprene	Polyester
Car Industry	Hoods	Polychloroprene	Acrylic
Fire Fighting	Clothing	Polychloroprene	Polyester, Cotton
Inflatable Products	Life Rafts, Life Jackets	Butyl	Nylon
Dry Suit Manufacturers	Tri-laminate Dry Suits	Butyl	Nylon
Bag Manufacturers	Camera Bags, Luggage	Butyl	Polycotton

TYGATEX™
bring on the elements

Extending our line of revolutionary fabrics Fothergill Polycom have developed and further enhanced its range of superior technical rubber coated fabrics.

Renowned for being the leading supplier of fabrics used in the waterproof market and in particular the diving market, discussions with established customers highlighted the need for breathable fabrics in the areas of water immersion. This became the focus of a Knowledge Transfer Partnership involving Manchester Metropolitan University.

After much research and development work the base for a range of fabrics has been established. Whilst other waterproof and breathable fabrics have existed in the market since the late 1970's, the technologies used (microporous membranes and PU's, hydrophilic PU's and polyesters) still have some issues, such as loss in breathability as dirt and oils block the pores. Garments are also prone to hydrolysis (degradation by prolonged exposure to water) and swelling, which lead to poor mechanical properties and loss of performance.

The technology used is based on our traditional rubber coating of fabrics, combined with the latest knowledge and understanding of developing and modifying the compounds used. This unique technology is under patent for a range of diverse end user applications, including outdoor pursuits, extreme sports and high performance workwear.

Industrial coated fabrics can be single and double side coated, using elastomers such as Silicone, Polyurethene, Polychloroprene and Natural Rubber coatings onto Glass, Aramid, Carbon, Cotton, Polycotton and Nylon woven fabrics for customer specific high performance industrial applications.

Industrial coated fabrics are used extensively where flexibility, durability and high technical performance in severe service environments are required.

Coated textiles for industrial applications:

- **Silicone coated glasscloth**
- **Nitrile coated cottons or glasscloth**
- **Viton and hypalon rubber coatings**
- **Flame retardant polychloroprene on nylon or glasscloth**
- **Polyurethane coated glasscloth**
- **Aluminised glasscloth**

Elastomer Coated Textiles

Market Area	End Use	Rubber Type	Fabric Substrate
Heating & Ventilating	Flexible Connections	Polychloroprene	Glass
Ducting Flexible	Hose	Polychloroprene	Glass
Ducting Flexible	Hose	Hypalon	Glass
Ducting Flexible	Hose	Polyurethane	Nylon
Ducting Flexible	Hose	Styrene Butadine	Cotton
Ducting Connectors	Hose	Polychloroprene	Nylon
Fire Protection	Welding Drapes, Curtains	Polychloroprene	Glass
Fire Protection	Fire Blankets	Silicone	Glass
Insulation Thermal	Mattresses, Curtains	Silicone	Glass
Insulation Thermal	Mattresses	Polyurethane	Glass
Insulation Thermal	Welding	Polyurethane	Glass
Insulation Thermal	Curtains, Blankets	Aluminised	Glass
High Temperature Seals	Fabricated Packings, Seals	Natural Rubber	Glass
Seals	Mechanical	Styrene Butadine	Cotton
Seals	Hydraulic Seals	S.B.R. Nitrile	Cotton
Seals	Moulded Seals	Polychloroprene	Cotton
Power Plant Maintenance	Compensators, Bellows	Polychloroprene	Nylon
Sealing Strips	Expansion Joints	Silicone	Glass

Compounding Division

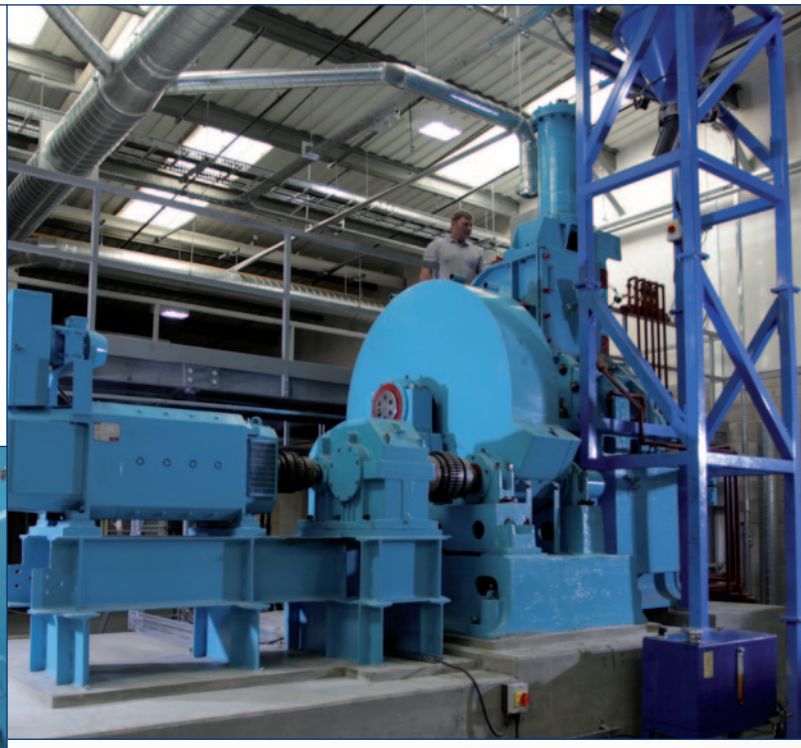
The rubber compounding division specialises in custom rubber compounding, mixed to Fothergill Polycom's and customer's own formulations developed to meet specific application requirements.

Fothergill Polycom supplies rubber to both external customers as well as providing the rubber used by the coating division.

With over 4,000 formulations currently on file, Fothergill Polycom serves many diverse industries. Uncured compounds are supplied to customers producing seals, gaskets and moulded products for the automotive, white goods, sports, aerospace and flooring industries.

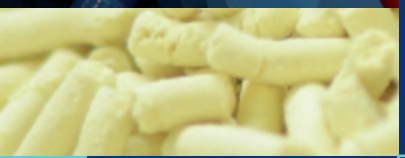
Compounds supplied:

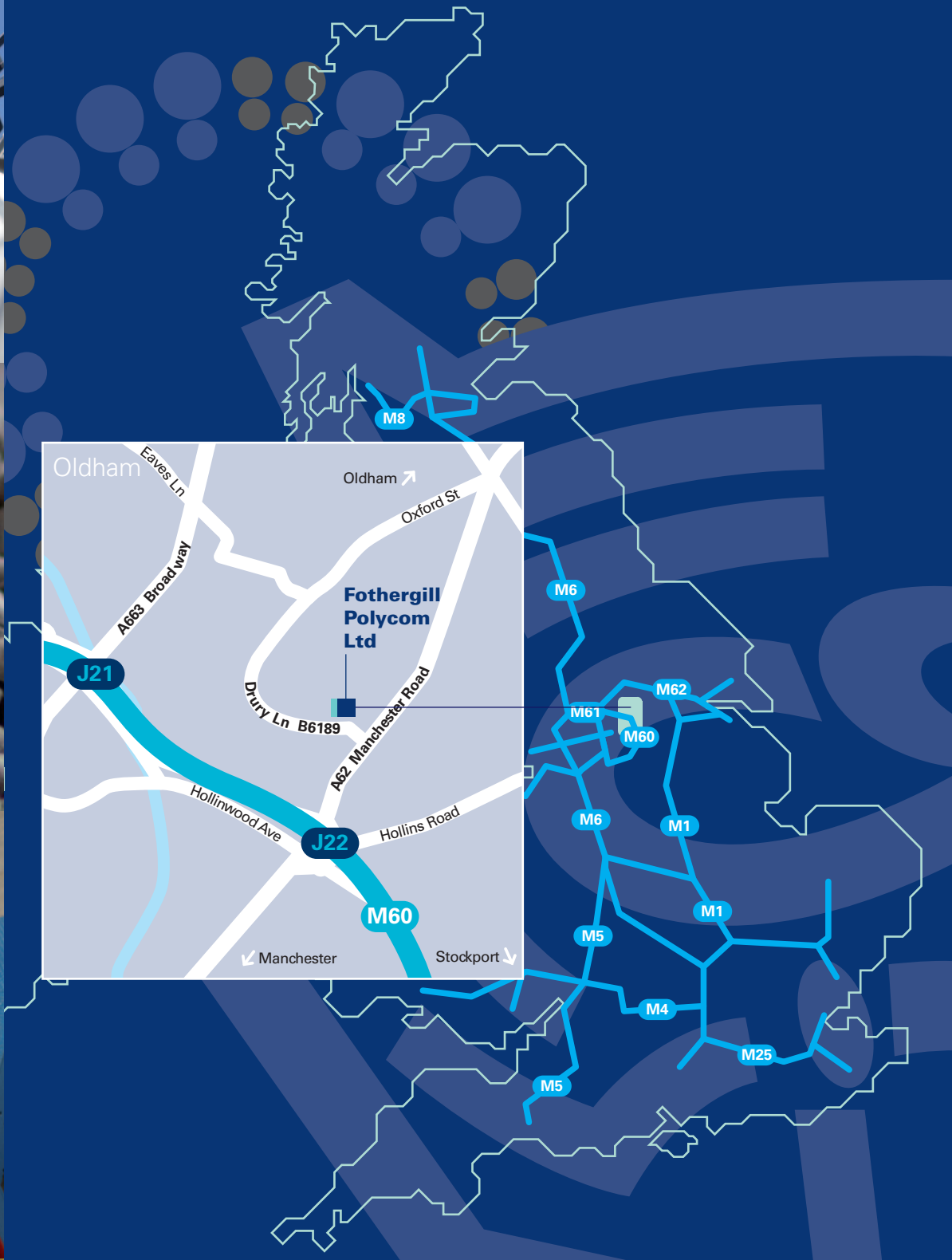
- From inexpensive commercial grade to high quality materials
- Meeting standards such as BS, MOD, ASTM, SAE based on the majority of available elastomers
- Black filled materials can be supplied in either slab or continuous strip form
- Coloured compounds can be supplied in slab form



The product photographs above represent examples of end-use applications, manufactured from rubber compound supplied by Fothergill Polycom Ltd.

The photographs above represent examples of end-use products, manufactured from rubber coated fabrics supplied by Fothergill Polycom Ltd.





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