

## **Next Material**

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## Examination of the willow kitten's fibres for usage in automotive interior design

Sustainability in the automotive industry - two fundamentally different things combined at first glance. Can this vision be realized? And what role do textiles play in this context? Marie Jirasek's master research deals with this topic.

As part of the work, the fibers of the willow catkin were examined in the public testing center for textiles at Hochschule Niederrhein - University of Applied Sciences. The solubility tests according to Stratmann and a single fiber length measurement were carried out. Furthermore, the appearance of the fiber was analyzed under the microscope.

The aim of the work is to assess whether sustainable textiles in personnel transport vehicles have a future. It is also necessary to determine whether the fibers of the willow catkin are suitable for automotive interior design purposes.

The result of the work is that the solubility of the willow cat's fiber behaves similarly to synthetic fibers, whether or not it is a cellulose fiber. Optically, the fiber is very similar to cotton fiber. According to the results at hand, this fiber can be used at least as a blend of fibers, e. g. in nonwovens.



## Coach:

Prof. Dr., Dipl.-Des. Marina-Elena Wachs Hochschule Niederrhein - University of Applied Sciences

