

## Translation

Source: Jens Ramskov, *Ingeniøren* (Danish magazine for engineers), 29 April 2011

### Speedy process leads to new adhesive

**Coloplast launches a new adhesive technology based on ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA), which is softened using oil.**

An intense 18 month project has resulted in 'BodyFit' – a new adhesive technology from Coloplast, the Danish company that makes products for 'intimate health care'.

The challenge: to develop an adhesive that fits securely to the body of ostomy product users. With the existing products, more than half of users experience leakage.

The main component in the adhesive is ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) and hydrocolloids. EVA is used to make running shoes, among other things. Already in 2005 the idea of using EVA came up, but an actual development project started only 18 months ago. Silicone was among the other materials that were considered and rejected

EVA granules are subjected to gamma radiation to increase the molecule weight and thereby improve the elastic quality. Hydrocolloids let the adhesive absorb sweat. The main innovation is the adhesive's outer zone that is 0.6 mm thick and is softened using oil.

Coloplast will not disclose the precise composition, but there is 'a significant amount' of oil in the adhesive, says Hasse Buus, Principal Scientist at Coloplast headquarters. He adds that the initial testing was a short process, but that it took a long time to create the optimal composition.

People with a colostomy are the first who can use the product. There are approx. 10,000 people with an ostomy in Denmark, and Coloplast estimates that there are 2 million worldwide.

Users and nurses have actively taken part in the development project, commenting on prototypes and giving feedback on clinical trials.