Foundation of Trust.

Durasafe®

Made in Switzerland Irusted worldwide



Durasafe[®] the high tech composite material for secure documents

Composite materials are prized for being more than the sum of their parts. With uses in every walk of life, from consumer goods to advanced, highly engineered products for applications in the aerospace and automotive industries, lightweight, very strong materials are highly prized. The result of a collaboration between Landgart, ETH in Zurich, and the Swiss National Bank. Durasafe is a high tech composite, physically stronger than traditional paper and harder to counterfeit, yet to the touch, instantly familiar to the general public. It has been used in banknote production since 2012, with more than one billion notes issued in four continents, and is now entering the Identity market as a new substrate for passport data pages.





The outer surfaces of the substrate are made of traditional cotton based security paper and feature cylinder mould made watermarks, security fibres, as well as the other traditional security features, from security threads, foils and films to biocides and covert features, all the while retaining the well-known tactility and printability. The polymer material adds strength via the physiochemical bond with the paper, and allows windows to be formed virtually anywhere on the document. Windows are formed to look into the core of the substrate: either forming a window on one paper layer, leaving the second paper layer intact (called Viewsafe® windows), or directly through the substrate, by forming windows on both paper layers that overlap (called Thrusafe® windows).

As a substrate for secure documents, Durasafe is a technology platform which can be adapted to suit the needs of the customer and the context of the document. It can be overprinted, varnished and processed like any other paper-type substrate, allowing the issuer to select the necessary mixture of security features to ensure public recognition and deter counterfeiters. The combination of paper and polymer will also allow organisations to develop new features and design styles that exploit the features of the material in new and innovative ways.