



CEO Mario Dorighelli and Plant Manager Thomas Klotz believe in innovation



Muriel-ts is the thread on which the lives of these firefighters hangs

**LeMur**  
ITALY

## A string of success

Smart travellers always have needle and thread in their luggage. After all, you never know when it might come in handy. Just a few stitches in the fabric make the difference between a modest look and an embarrassing moment. But this is only one possible use of yarn. It can be so much more than just a piece of wool, especially when it is produced by LeMur S.p.A. The Italian company has developed and therefore owns the patents for flexible and innovative yarns with some very special and trendsetting properties.

“Our success is mainly based on ideas which we pursue persistently until they become reality,” says Plant Manager Thomas Klotz, who is also one of the co-owners of LeMur. “For the surgery area, we have analyzed the characteristics and requirements, and developed an interesting product on this basis,” he explains further. “We are open to other areas and different applications of our yarns. With our research and development, we generate new ideas and innovative products far beyond the fashion sector, which we now realize.” For example, Muriel-ray is an elastic yarn with high resistance to UV, X and gamma radiation. With these

properties, it is ideal for sun shades, conservatories, greenhouses, home textiles and hospitals.

Also useful in hospitals, though for very different tasks, is Muriel-med. This yarn can remain in the body and is therefore often used for plastic surgery, enabling facelifts with minimal blunt dissection. Thanks to its elasticity, Muriel yarn can also be used as filler material, for support stockings and bandages.

Muriel-ts is a heat-resistant yarn which is stable at temperatures of -50 to +300°C and is therefore perfect for all kinds of protective gear, as well as the needs of the automotive, steel, aviation and aerospace industries.

Muriel-sensor is also of special interest for industry since it changes its resistance depending on the applied force. It is therefore especially suitable for alarm and security systems. “We are currently building a customer base for Muriel-ts, Muriel-sensor and Muriel-med,” reveals Mr. Klotz.

Naturally LeMur already has an established clientele in the more traditional customer groups, meaning the hosiery, weaving and knitting industries, manufacturing yarns according to client-specific parameters. “For the segment fashion and clothing, we rely on the usual marketing channels,” Mr. Klotz explains. “But for

the new and innovative products, we talk directly to the companies in question.” LeMur is also regularly present on the TECHTEXTIL in Frankfurt, impressing especially German customers with the latest innovations. Currently between 25 and 30% of the ten million EUR turnover is made with exports to Germany and Austria.

Mr. Klotz and CEO Mario Dorighelli are the driving force behind the company’s recent developments. LeMur was founded under the name Alafil S.p.A in 1997 as a manufacturer of covering yarns, with state-of-the-art equipment and a drive for innovation. In 2011 they ensured ▶



Muriel-grip is perfect for fashion applications

that the company would keep the original direction through a management buyout. "We had already invested a lot into research and development for new products," explains Mr. Klotz. "When the owner wanted to change the course, we took over to ensure that we could follow the path under the new label LeMur." With this decision, Mr. Klotz and his partner took responsibility for the 60 employees and the future of the company. But so far, this path has turned out to be right. With new innovations, Mr. Klotz and his partner are able to offer their customers a

truly unique product. It also allows them a new level of diversification. "I am very optimistic about the future since the product segment Muriel is unique, patent protected and very promising," says Mr. Klotz. "With its various properties, it is useful in a lot of different sectors. We have already experienced brisk demand and find ourselves to be an important player in this market." The future of this company may be hanging on a thread, but it is a unique and resilient one, which might lift it up to new heights. ■

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