

# THE CHOICE OF A FOOTWEAR RELEASE AGENT



## MOST COMMON FACTORS:

- Mould temperature
- The type of Polyol used: polyester or polyether
- The finish of the footwear sole: matt, glossy or satin
- Concentration and active material
- Paintability/Adhesion between layers and others

## RELEASE AGENT

- Chemical product consisting of a carrier (water or solvent) + active material and dispersed / emulsified additives
- According to solids content:
  - Low content: fast evaporation solvent
  - High content: concentrated to be able to apply less flow with the spraying equipment

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## OTHER FACTORS:

### Release agent's VOC's

- Pollutants more present in the atmosphere
- Reduction of VOC's:
  - Switch from a ready-to-use low-solids release agent to a ready-to-use concentrate
  - Change from a solvent-based release agent to a water-based one

### Application system

- Manually: spray gun
- Automatically: more homogeneous, optimized and reduces costs
  - Disadvantages: initial investment, unforeseen problems and manual work attached
- Electrostatic: better control of application and less environmental impact

### Flammability

- Use water based or electrostatic release agents to reduce risks

### Hazards and enviromental impact

- Avoid the use of tin in mold release agents