



**CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES**  
**PPE Regulation 2016/425**

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Version 01

**RECOMMENDATION FOR USE**

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Article:	Annex:	Clause: 7.2.2.2
Key words: Water absorption / desorption, cotton gauze		
Question: Notified bodies are experiencing some difficulties in finding a cotton/polyamide (50/50) gauze conforming with the standard. Three standards that use this method (IUP-11 (heavy leather), EN 12746: 2000 (insoles/insocks) and EN ISO 5404 : 2011 (heavy leather)) just mention "cotton gauze". However, EN ISO 20344 states that a cotton gauze shall be used, but it then specifies that a cotton gauze consisting of cotton and polyamide is required. What is the recommended way to proceed for notified bodies against this background?		
Solution: The gauze is used to distribute water evenly and its composition is not critical. This is why no standard defines the gauze in a very precise way.  Hence use a cotton gauze that is only made of cotton. This should have a mass/ unit area of 60.5 g/m <sup>2</sup> (as stated in the standard but with the tolerance increased to $\pm 10$ g/m <sup>2</sup> ) – this is readily available.		