

Press release

Tommy Rube
Marketing Director

Fon +49 2984 300-389
Fax +49 2984 3004-389

t.rube@kusch.de
www.kusch.com

Kusch+Co Sitzmöbelwerke
GmbH & Co KG

P.O. box 1151
59965 Hallenberg/Germany

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Comfortable seating with fireproof finish for high-risk areas.

Fire prevention is high on the list of priorities. Insurance companies take fire safety measures into account when determining the premium. Especially in buildings with a high occupancy level, such as administration buildings, hospitals, nursing homes, community centres, hotels, event halls and even airports, the fire hazard shouldn't be taken lightly. Safety regulations stipulate that the fire load and smoke should be as low as possible near fire exits. In case of an emergency, the visitors will get to safety through the lobby, waiting rooms as well as the entrance hall. The main focus of any fire prevention code is to prevent the propagation of an incipient fire.

All too often, so-called fireproof seating is neither comfortable nor elegant. It is a fact that a mere 10 kg of foam can emit up to 25,000 m³ of dangerous smoke, blocking the view on the fire exits and obstructing the fire-fighting operations. The contract furnisher Kusch+Co, with its headquarters in the German city of Hallenberg, succeeded in effectively reducing the fire load of its upholstered seating and at the same time improving its comfort. The solution: a very thin, close-fitting and non-combustible fabric protects the soft padding from fire. This fabric is non-combustible and fireproof, even when directly exposed to flames. As a result, it is approved as a non-combustible building material according to the German standard DIN 4102 A2.

With Kusch+Co's ingenious combination of a flame retardant foam, a non-combustible fabric and an hygienic cover, the upholstered chair meets all the requirements of the norm DIN 66084 P-a "paper pillow test". Under the supervision of a pyrotechnist, a smouldering, 500°C fuse was laid on the upholstery. Despite the intense heat, the non-combustible fabric protected the padding and stopped the fire from spreading. These tests prove that Kusch+Co's fire prevention concept considerably reduces the smoke development and simultaneously minimizes the risk of spreading the fire.

Kusch+Co's Fire Prevention Concept achieves 4 life-saving goals. The seating is

- self-extinguishing
- reduces the smoke development
- prevents an incipient fire from spreading out
- does not turn into an additional ignition source

Kusch+Co's Fire Prevention Concept also offers more fire safety for wooden seating - wooden components are protected by means of a protective coating made of UV-cured, environmentally compatible, water-based lacquer, meeting all the requirements of DIN 4102 B1 "low flammability".

Computer-based fire simulations enable us to assess the potential smoke development in high-risk areas, adapted to the characteristics of each room. With this type of visual simulations, Kusch+Co assists its customers in providing useful information for the decision-making process of complex projects. These documents are helpful tools to convince public authorities, fire safety experts, insurance companies as well as architects.

The non-combustible fabric can be used for a wide range of applications: from acoustical absorption to improve the acoustics to ceiling covers to conceal the sprinkler installation.



Upholstered bench with the non-combustible fabric.



Comfort and fire safety no longer stand in contradiction.

Fotos: Kusch+Co

For more information:

Kusch+Co Sitzmöbelwerke GmbH & Co KG, P.O. Box 1151, 59965 Hallenberg, Germany,
Fon +49 2984 300-0, Fax +49 2984 3004-100, www.kusch.com, welcome@kusch.com