

# SHIRLASTAIN USES

SDL Atlas supplies a full line of Shirlastain Textile Fiber Identification Stains including:

**Shirlastain A** - Originally developed for the identification of nonthermoplastic fibers (e.g.: cotton, wool and other natural fibers)

**Shirlastain C** - Primarily used for distinctions between natural cellulose fibers such as cotton, flax, hemp and jute.

**Shirlastain D** - Primarily used for distinction between cotton and spun viscose rayon.

**Shirlastain E** - Primarily used for the identification of thermoplastic fibers (e.g.: nylon, terylene, and other synthetic polymer fibres).

And while Shirlastain was originally intended for fiber identification, it can also be used for a variety of other uses, including:

- Assessing silicone coating "coverage" on paper substrates\*
- Checking quantity of cellulose in paper
- Controlling gelatin desizing for following the hydrolysis of cellulose acetate
- Distinguishing between untreated and amino resin finished cellulose fabrics
- Staining of preserved biological samples for anatomical studies
- Detecting the presence of gum in silk after cleaning
- Checking for damage on the Polyamide component of microfiber cloths before and after exposure to chlorine
- Looking for pin holes or other damage to fabrics

*\* This is by far the most popular usage*



**SDL ATLAS**  
TEXTILE TESTING SOLUTIONS

For more information, please contact  
your territory manager.