

Honorable Mention

Vacu-Wash®, Greenland, N.H., offered a product of the same name in the competition, earning honorable mention in the Hardware, Findings and Accessories category.



Before



After

Vacu-Wash, an eco-friendly cleaning system, was used to clean this sail, shown in a “before and after” photo. Vacu-Wash USA is located in Greenland, N.H. Photo: Vacu-Wash.

Vacu-Wash® is a new and innovative method of removing mildew and other contaminants from films and fabrics in a gentle and environmentally safe way. The basic process involves placing the item in a specifically designed vacuum chamber where a cleaning agent is introduced. Without any air pockets remaining, which would prevent the cleaning agent from coming into contact with the surface of the film or fabric, the film or fabric is thoroughly cleaned without any agitation or abrasive action. This process is especially effective on lighter materials, such as those used in outdoor acrylics, sailcloth tents and other laminated materials.

This technology could have quite an impact on the wedding tent rental industry, which needs a reliable and safe way to provide pristine clean tents for functions. Outdoor patio furniture cushions, umbrellas and fabric products in marine applications are also prone to mildew, so these market areas could also benefit from this process.

Glen Raven Inc. recently approved Vacu-Wash for cleaning their U.S.-made Sunbrella® fabrics. The process is available in Australia and Europe, as well.