

Many companies strive to produce and sell garments that are serviceable and long lasting. Other companies are bent on selling and producing items based on style without regard to wear and serviceability. The following are some of the companies and fabrics that I have dealt with in my role as a garment analyst.

- (1) J.C. Penney-This company has a very high standard for selling garments that are serviceable and long lasting. They do their own testing and have very high standards for the testing. In order for companies to sell to J.C. Penney the garments undergo a rigid testing.**
- (2) Tommy Hilfiger-I have worked with the quality control people at Tommy Hilfiger in NYC. They are intent on making sure that the color on their ski jackets are serviceable to routine processing. I was able to test and examine many of their garments.**
- (3) Micromattique-Trade mark of the Dupont company. My test of the fabric showed very good results to routine cleaning. This is a very fine yarn which gives a garment the look and feel of real silk.**
- (4) Ultra Suede-This is an imitation suede produced by Spring Mills. My tests have shown this fabric to be serviceable to both washing and drycleaning. This is a more durable imitation suede than other imitation suedes where the fibers are held to the fabric by an adhesive binder. This may be an expensive fabric but the company says it is better than real suede because it does not fade, shrink or have an odor.**
- (5) Gortex-The testing results on this fabric was very successful. Gortex differs from other coated fabrics because the coating has micro pores which allows the body heat and moisture to escape but is small enough to repel rain and outside moisture. You must follow the care instructions given by the company. If the label gives drycleaning instructions the garment cannot be washed or vice versa.**
- (6) Kenneth Cole-I have had very good dealings with their customer service department. Image and customer satisfaction is important to them.**
- (7) Diane Von Furstenberg-This company has very unusual prints and designs but strives to make them as color fast as possible.**