As finishes, silicones help fabrics retain shape, texture and resistance to abrasion. They are used to help achieve uniformity and brilliance of color. Silicones enable new techniques to design sportswear that is lightweight, durable, water repellent and high performing, while allowing the fabric to maintain “breathability.” Silicones are used in dry cleaning because they help carry detergent while rinsing away suspended dirt and oils trapped by the detergent, therefore maintaining the quality and color of cleaned clothes. And, silicones treatments keep textiles soft, even with repeated washings.