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The word "Zorbix" is written in a stylized, handwritten-style font, similar to the Artifex Eqp. Inc. logo.

FAQ

With the advent of digital libraries like Google's effort making paper books obsolete? Aren't books going the way of the buggy, and Zorbix the same as an improved buggy whip?

With close to five billion books in over 30,000 collections in the United States alone, there is no danger of books disappearing from the shelves of these institutions. While digital storage does offer space savings, new media has been plagued with a short life span and obsolescence is almost guaranteed as newer media is invented. In addition, books require no outside power source, equipment or media. They are readable directly by the user without an additional interface.

The cost to reformat items is considerable, as well as the training and infrastructure required to access them by disparate readers. And finally, copyright issues are far from resolved, making digital storage susceptible to legal attacks as well as its impermanent nature.

Why can't you use disposable diapers to dry wet books?

Disposable diapers are thick pads, designed to wrap around a body and catch flowing liquid. A wet book is bound at the spine and cannot take a quantity of thick sheets interleaving it in order to dry it. The binding would be damaged or broken by such an aggressive insertion of desiccant material.

Zorbix is designed to pull the greatest amount of moisture with the thinnest possible sheet material to keep the binding intact. It is imperative that the thinnest desiccant sheets be inserted to avoid damage to the book's spine. When Zorbix absorbs water, it will swell and become twice as thick as it was. This means that a sheet of Zorbix .00035" thick will swell to .00070" which is comparable to blotter paper. Interleaving a book with Zorbix every 20 pages will not strain bindings, and keep the book intact during pressing and drying.

Can Zorbix damage a book?

When used as instructed, no super absorbent polymer will "leak" or bleed through the outer layer. This is important because the polymer when filled with water acts not unlike a paste adhesive and could glue the book's pages together. The USDA's Agricultural Research Service did a number of tests to determine that super absorbent polymer does not leak, seep, or bleed through the filter paper substrate.



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However, if Zorbix is cut, torn or punctured, the super absorbent polymer would be exposed and, when moistened, become an adhesive. Our instructions clearly state that damaged Zorbix should be disposed of to ensure the safety of the book being dried.

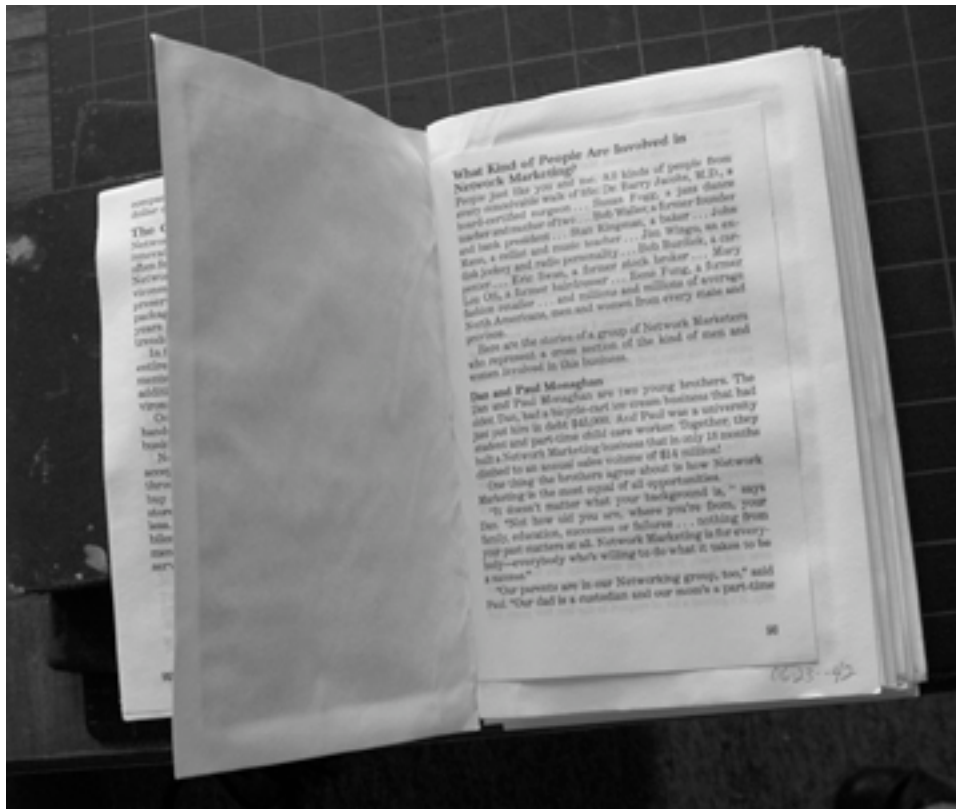
Is Zorbix toxic?

No. The super absorbent polymer used in Zorbix, when inhaled as a powder, can cause irritation to the lungs and mucous membrane, but the MSDS states that it is an irritant and safe for use. Since the super absorbent polymer is encapsulated within a protective sheet, there is no danger of a worker harming themselves from airborne super absorbent polymer particles.

How often can Zorbix be reused?

Zorbix can be reused up to ten times, but is dependent on the water quality being absorbed. If there are contaminating salts within the water, this “clogs” the super absorbent polymer crystalline structure and makes it less effective at absorbing moisture.

Additionally, should the surface of the Zorbix sheet become soiled, it may not be safe to insert in a wet book as the particles might become loosened and transfer to the pages of the wet book.





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Wet book interleaved with Zorbix

Is Zorbix a green product?

Yes. Zorbix uses a starch based super absorbent polymer and its laminate material is comprised of a cellulose fiber, therefore Zorbix sheets are up to 70% biodegradable.

How long does it take Zorbix to dry out?

Zorbix holds water in the super absorbent polymer, yet it is not chemically bonded to the water, and moisture can evaporate from the sheet as quickly as the relative humidity of the surrounding environment will allow. In humid climates, it will take longer for Zorbix to dry. Use of fans and a small amount of heat – as from a 100 watt bulb – will speed the drying process.

Will Zorbix absorb oil, gasoline or other liquids?

No. The active ingredient in Zorbix only absorbs water, making it usable to separate water from volatiles such as gasoline.

Can Zorbix be used without pressure?

Yes. Zorbix will absorb moisture in a high-humidity climate or being set in contact with porous material.

Can Zorbix be used to dry anything other than books?

Yes. There are multiple uses for Zorbix, as it can pull moisture from a wet carpet pad by being placed on top of the carpet: Line a gun safe, dry plants, or any other porous material with a high moisture content.

Can I cut Zorbix into smaller sizes than it is sold?

No. Once the laminate material is cut or punctured, the super absorbent polymer is exposed to its surrounding and will swell when moistened. This becomes a paste adhesive and may adhere to the material being dried.