

October 2008

Dear Valued Transwell Permeable Support Customers,

We are writing to inform you about an upcoming change for the Transwell permeable support product line. The substrates used to manufacture the track etched polycarbonate and track etched polyester membranes have been discontinued and we have identified alternative polycarbonate and polyester substrate materials. We anticipate beginning to manufacture with these new membrane materials in the Fall of 2008 and we will be transitioning the products in stages throughout 2009. The first products to transition will be the track etched polyester membrane products.

Look for product inserts in the cartons containing the affected Transwell products indicating that there will be a change. When the products are converted to the new material, a sticker will appear on the packaging to indicate the conversion has occurred and directing you to the website for additional information.

Additional information and updates will be available on the Corning website at www.corning.com/lifesciences/pdf/transwell.pdf. Please be assured that we have identified materials that meet our current product specifications and will have similar properties to the current products.

Attached to this letter is a list of all products affected by the change. This table will be updated as each product is transitioned with the first lot number manufactured with the new membrane.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Phillips, PhD
Transwell Product Manager
Corning Life Sciences

Membrane	Product Code	Description	First Lot number for Product Manufactured with the New Membrane
Track Etched Polyester	3450	0.4 µm PET, 24 mm insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3452	3.0 µm PET, 24 mm insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3460	0.4 µm PET, 12 mm insert, 12 well plate	TBD
	3462	3.0 µm PET, 12 mm insert, 12 well plate	TBD
	3470	0.4 µm PET, 6.5 mm insert, 24 well plate	TBD
	3472	3.0 µm PET, 6.5 mm insert, 24 well plate	TBD
	3801	0.4 µm PET, Snapwell Insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3378/3379	0.4 µm PET, HTS Transwell-24 well plate	TBD
	3380/3392	1.0 µm PET, HTS Transwell-96 well plate	TBD
	3374/3384	8.0 µm PET, HTS Transwell-96 well plate	TBD

Membrane	Product Code	Description	First Lot number for Product Manufactured with the New Membrane
Track Etched Polycarbonate	3413	0.4 µm PC, 6.5 mm insert, 24 well plate	TBD
	3415	3.0 µm PC, 6.5 mm insert, 24 well plate	TBD
	3421	5.0 µm PC, 6.5 mm insert, 24 well plate	TBD
	3422	8.0 µm PC, 6.5 mm insert, 24 well plate	TBD
	3401	0.4 µm PC, 12 mm insert, 12 well plate	TBD
	3402	3.0 µm PC, 12 mm insert, 12 well plate	TBD
	3412	0.4 µm PC, 24 mm insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3414	3.0 µm PC, 24 mm insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3428	8.0 µm PC, 24 mm insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3419	0.4 µm PC, 75 mm insert, 100 mm plate	TBD
	3420	3.0 µm PC, 75 mm insert, 100 mm plate	TBD
	3407	0.4 µm PC, Snapwell insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3802	3.0 µm PC, Snapwell insert, 6 well plate	TBD
	3396/3397	0.4 µm PC, HTS Transwell-24 well plate	TBD
	3398/3399	3.0 µm PC, HTS Transwell-24 well plate	TBD
	3381/3391	0.4 µm PC, HTS Transwell-96 well plate	TBD
	3385/3386	3.0 µm PC, HTS Transwell-96 well plate	TBD
	3387/3388	5.0 µm PC, HTS Transwell-96 well plate	TBD

FAQs for the Transwell Product Line – Membrane Transition

Are all the Transwell products going to change membranes?

All of the polycarbonate and polyester products except Netwell inserts will transition to new membrane material. The collagen coated Transwell inserts will not be changing. The complete list is available on the website product notification found at www.corning.com/lifesciences/pdf/transwell.pdf.

When are the products going to change?

It will be a staged transition and when a membrane change occurs, it will be clearly indicated on the packaging. Initially, all the 0.4 μm track etched polyester Transwell inserts will begin the transition in the Fall of 2008, followed by the 3 μm track etched polyester Transwell inserts. The polycarbonate track etched membrane products will begin transitioning to the new membrane material in the late Spring of 2009. You can also access the status and identify the lot number when the transition occurs on the web www.corning.com/lifesciences/pdf/transwell.pdf

Are there any products that are on backorder because of the membrane transition?

Currently, we do not anticipate any interruption in service as the products are being transitioned.

Which of the Transwell insert products will be transitioned first?

The 6.5mm, 24 well inserts (3413, 3415, 3421 and 3422) are the first products to transition to the new membrane in approximately May 2009.

What is different about the new membrane?

The base material used to manufacture the polycarbonate and polyester membranes have been discontinued and the new base materials are very similar. The essential properties of the membrane (pore size, pore shape, pore density and thickness) remain the same and the impact to applications should be minimal. The overall dimensions and claims for the product remain the same.

Will samples be available?

Once the new membranes are validated for production and production has begun, ordering a sample of the catalog product can be readily accomplished through the standard SalesLogix ordering system. Prior to validating production with the new material only limited samples are available. Please contact your Corning sales representative or Customer Service to determine whether or not there will be samples available for the particular product code you are interested in.

I'm also using product code 3???, what will happen to that product.

All the polycarbonate and polyester products will transition to new base material. No product codes are anticipated to go on an extended backorder prior to transition.

Will you be doing testing to demonstrate the new membrane is equivalent?

We are currently validating the new material to confirm compatibility with existing Corning protocols. A side by side comparison will be available once the new membrane is validated in production.

Can I purchase the membrane without being assembled into a Transwell?

We do not currently offer this material separately from the assembled product.

Will the new membrane product be compliant with current product specifications and testing? Yes, we will continue to do the same testing and certification that we do on current products.

Will the catalog number be changing?

No, the catalog numbers will remain the same, but when the transition occurs, the packaging will be clearly marked.