

## Coat without a sticking point

**IMAGINE** a pair of denim jeans that are both waterproof and comfortable.

That is just one of the possible applications for an anti-stick coating, called Kiss-Cote, which can also be used to prevent barnacles sticking to boat bottoms or to line artificial blood vessels to help prevent clotting. Used on cloth, it allows moisture to escape but not to get in.

The coating can be applied directly to a surface. With most previous non-stick coatings the substance had to be bonded to the surface with intense heat because, by nature, a non-stick coating simply does not stick.

Kent Integrated Scientific Systems, of Florida, has overcome this problem by taking one of the most inert materials known, a silicone rubber called polydimethyl siloxane, and making a single spot on the molecule reactive, so that it sticks to the surface.

The company is marketing Kiss-Cote in the US and is looking for companies which it could license to use or sell it elsewhere.

