



Jul. 30, 2005. 01:00 AM

Ventilated pants created in Ontario

These pants aren't likely to hit the fashion runways of New York or Paris.

However, they're touted as being very "cool" in a practical sense.

Invented by a Hamilton resident and made in Canada, the Pro-Vents ventilated pants combine "the protection of long pants with the comfort of shorts," Mitchell Zuckerman, a partner in Pro-Vents Apparel Ltd., said in a release.

Made from polyester and cotton fabric, the pants have polyester athletic mesh from the knees down. It can be covered when necessary using detachable leg covers. They're intended for people working in very high temperatures who can't wear shorts for safety reasons. They also offer UV and bug protection for campers, gardeners and sports enthusiasts, the company says.

The pants were developed and tested by James Silver of Hamilton, a former steelworker who created the design after years of working in a plant where temperatures often soared past 40 degrees C.

Pro-Vents pants come in three colours — navy, high visibility orange and high visibility yellow-lime. The company also offers flame resistant and performance materials such as moisture wicking fabrics, and equips certain styles with reflective material. All designs meet Canadian Standards Association specifications, the company says.

Pro-Vents pants range in price from \$69 to \$79. For more details and a list of distributors, visit <http://www.pro-vents.com>

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