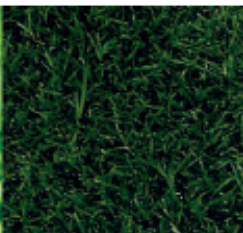


CATALOGUE

Airbag Jackets and
vests for riders



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ABOUT US



HELITE was founded in 2002 by Gérard Thevenot, one of the French pioneer and entrepreneurs in the light aircraft industry. HELITE is the leading developer and the first manufacturer in Europe of wearable airbag systems. The first equestrian airbag was developed in 2006 and looked very similar to our motorcycle airbag. Today HELITE offers a range of products specifically suited for equestrian activities:



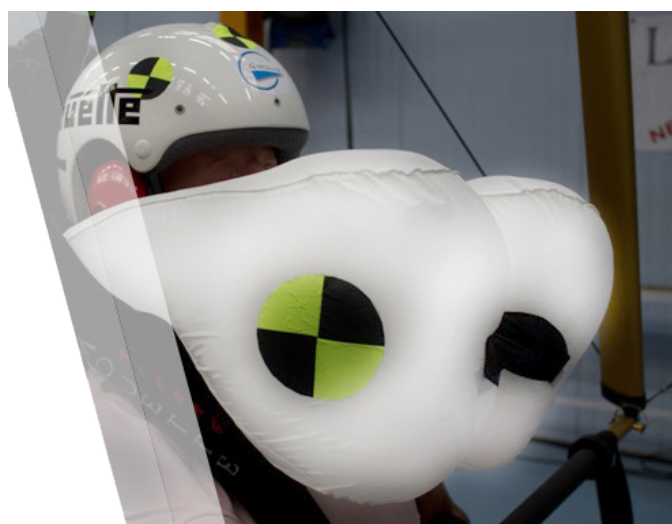
// More than 60 000 airbags are in use today //



Design, development and manufacturing of the airbag systems is conducted by HELITE in Dijon, France. Every single airbag is carefully tested and quality controlled. Our team combines engineers with different expertise: fluid-mechanics, general mechanics, electronics, textile and prototypist. This core base assures synergy, productive work and successful results.

// MADE IN FRANCE //

HELITE is exclusively dedicated to developing airbag systems and therefore an expert in the manufacturing of inflatable protective equipment. Our airbags are already in use in several high-risk applications, for example for motorcyclists, horse-riders, skiers and aircraft pilots. Many developments are also used in the industry. Our protective garments are particularly appreciated by professional sportsmen, that can't afford any injuries:

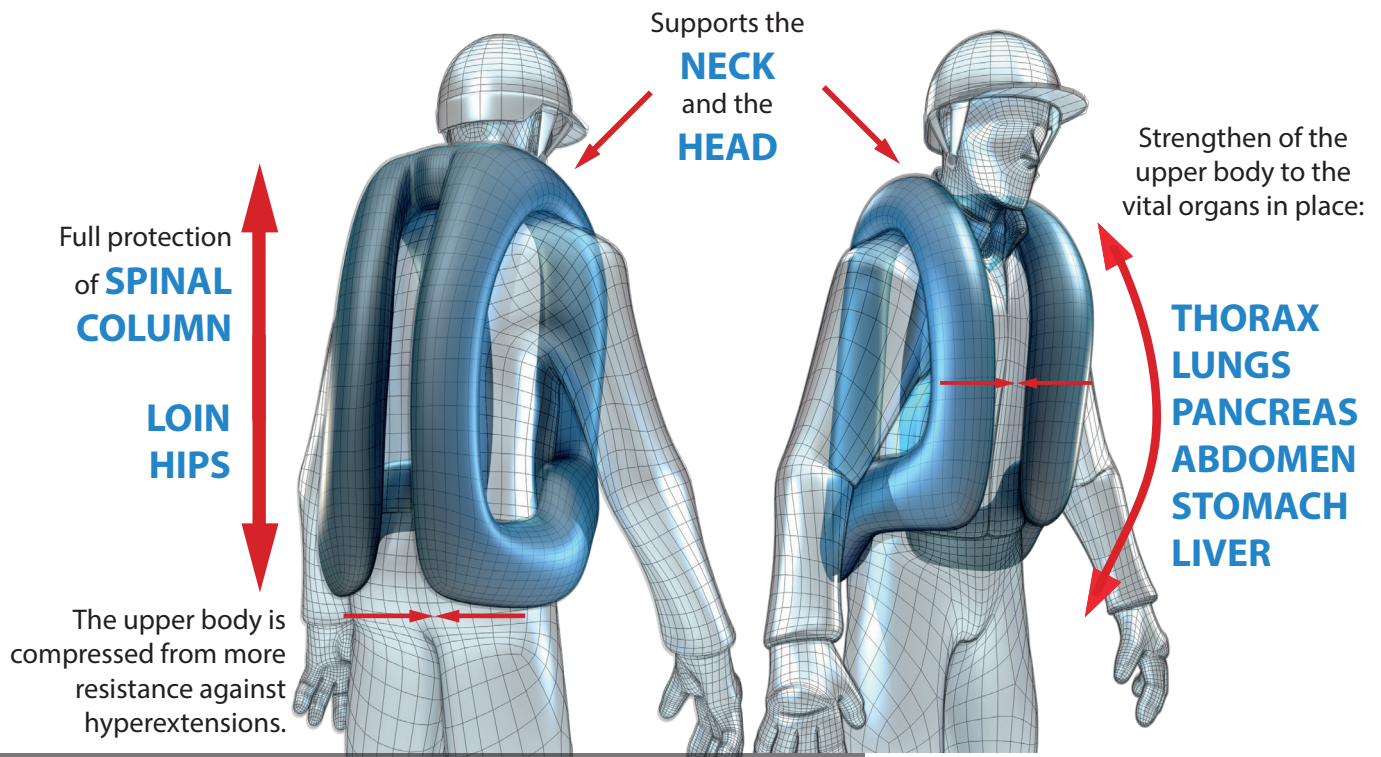


**// Equestrian: 12 National teams - summer Olympics 2012 London
Skicross: 3 medals French Team - winter Olympics 2014 Sochi //**

PROTECTION

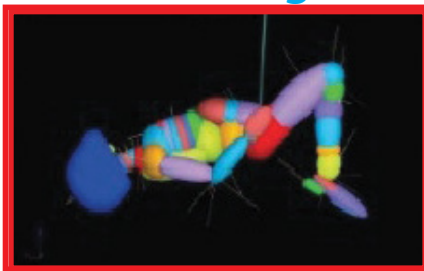


// BODY PARTS PROTECTED //



// EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AIRBAG //

no airbag



- ✓ Impacts are absorbed by the **big airbag surface** and the energy is dispersed.
- ✓ The airbag is a real «bear hug» **strengthening the upper body**, to prepare for withstanding the impact

airbag



- ✓ The airbag inflates on the neck, under the head, so the strike to the head is delayed and the brain decelerates sooner **preventing traumatic brain injuries**.
- ✓ The head and vertebrae stay straight in place, **preventing whiplash injury** and hyper-flexion

TECHNOLOGY



// TOP OF THE WORLD //

Helite has pioneered in introducing airbag solutions to the equestrian market in 2006. Our airbag vest became quickly popular as it answered a need that wasn't yet fulfilled: very effectively protecting the rider from horse falls without any compromise on comfort and freedom of movements while riding. Helite has revolutionised safety wear for riders, particularly in the cross country discipline, where riders voluntarily take high risks.

In 2012, 12 eventing teams were equipped with Helite airbag systems at the London Olympic Games.



Sandra Auffarth (GER)
2 times Gold medalist at WEG 2014

// CRITICAL POINTS FOR OPTIMAL PROTECTION //

Our technology is mature and favoured by riders that want the most reliable and effective protection. The excellent protection is a combination of:

Fast inflation time

0.1 second to inflate 4.5 gallons, the faster it inflates the more falls you protect.

Volume inflated

our cartridge sizes are chosen proportionally to the body size. Offering a maximum of volume taking into account weight and overall comfortness:

14 liters- children sizes

17 liters - standard adult sizes

24 liters - extra-large sizes

Smart airbag shape

The point of protecting with air is to absorb effectively, but that's not all! Our shape was also developed to prepare the body to resist better against impacts. By inflating tight on the body, the core is strengthened, the head, neck and spine are stabilized to avoid whiplash effects, over-extension and bending.

Optimal pressure

not too hard, not too soft, the airbag needs to have an optimal pressure to absorb impact energy effectively. At 0.1 second the Helite airbag reaches 250 mBar, an optimal pressure for horse riding falls.



FAQ



Common fears

The noise inflation frightens the horse?

The most common reason you fall off is because the horse is already frightened. Moreover after thousands of voluntary and involuntary inflations around horses. There hasn't been any serious complaints. The best solution is to test it next to your horse.

Can I roll in a Helite jacket when it is inflated?

Yes, you should still have full movement of your arms and legs. We have done extensive testing with jockeys and riders in other disciplines and the jacket did not stop them from rolling in the event of a fall.

Can you breathe when the Helite air vest is inflated?

The airbag doesn't keep you from breathing. The adrenaline due to the fall and/or the rapidity of the airbag inflation, naturally makes you hold your breathing. Our airbag inflates tight on the body so you will get a nice bear-hug and this tightness will help significantly minimize over-extension and bending of the upper-body.

If I fall on the CO2 canister is it going to hurt?

No, the airbag inflates between the body and the canister. Moreover a foam rubber pad and an ABS pad keep the bottle even further from your body. The gas contained in the cartridge is only CO2 gas, known for extinguishing fires, it is totally harmless.

Practical concerns

Can I wear my clothing or a backpack over my Helite equestrian airbag?

Yes, so long as it is fitted loose and there is no interference with the functioning of the lanyard. A back-pack can sometimes offer a nice back protection! Though for optimal protection, we recommend it is on top of every other garment.

Can the Helite AIR JACKET vest be washed?

The jacket should be hand washed with water and soap, by scrubbing inside and outside. Do not sink the airbag system in water and do not put it in the dryer.

Can the Helite AIR SHELL be washed?

The AIR SHELL is composed of two elements: the Shell and the airbag liner. The Shell you can machine-wash like any other garment. The airbag liner you cannot machine wash, please use warm water and soap and wash by hand.

Gas cartridge life span?

there is no expiration date. However if the cartridge impacts the ground badly, if there is any deterioration or rust, we ask you to replace or at least check the weight of your cartridge to make sure the gas hasn't leaked. The cartridges are guaranteed for 10 years. However we advise you to check your cartridge once a year. Just unscrew the cartridge and check on a kitchen scale whether the weight equals the weight indicated on the cartridge.

General inquiry

Is the airbag identical in the AIR JACKET and in the AIR SHELL?

The Airbag-System is identical in all the current HELITE equestrian airbags. The choice in the model only depends on your individual taste; there will be no safety difference. HELITE constantly improves its airbag technology; therefore there are safety differences between old models and new models.

How can you be sure the airbag really protects?

Our airbag is 100% made in France, assembling and insertion of airbag in the textile is done in France and every single airbag is quality controlled before it is sent. In just the same way a helmet manufacturer never claims to eliminate all head injuries while wearing the helmet, Helite does not claim to eliminate all the risks of injury to a rider wearing its airbag jacket. Thousands of testimonies and scientific tests make it obvious that wearing a Helite airbag jacket provides greatly increased protection.

We have been developing airbag jackets for horseback riders since 2004 and have since then drastically improved the system. There are 4 engineers working full time on developing new and better airbag systems that will make sure the safety level of dangerous activities is increased.



AIR JACKET



WORLD BESTSELLING AIRBAG MODEL over 60.000 Helite airbags in use around the world
PRACTICAL easy to wear, very adjustable, fits smartly over any other clothing or body protector
LIGHT full freedom of movement, feels like any other normal garment
ROBUST high quality components, and very resistant textile makes for a long product life-span
LIFE SAVER Safety reference in the cross-country discipline our airbag has already saved many lives and/or bones at every level of riding, from international top riders to amateur riders.

The Original Air Jacket by Helite, developed in 2008 and sold under several brand names is the airbag used by 50,000 riders across the world especially in the cross country discipline. The hundreds of testimonies whether professionals or beginners have confirmed the efficiency and added protection value of wearing our AIR JACKET.



The Air Jacket is designed so that you forget you are even wearing it, because it is so light. For cross-country, it is recommended to be worn in conjunction with a body protector when competing, but the jacket can also be worn by itself. When not inflated the Air Jacket allows for full body movement. The robust and easy clips make it easy to handle even with gloves.



In 2012, 12 nations were equipped with Helite airbag systems at the London Olympic Games.

AIR JACKET



// POSSIBLE COLORS //

RED BORDEAUX BROWN NAVY ROYAL GREEN BLACK HIVIS



*Children sizes only available in black

**Extra-large sizes only available in black and high-visibility

***Check our facebook page for Limited edition colours: Helite Equestrian

****Customized vest (for example bi-colour, national team, sponsor embroidery) possible, please contact us for a quote and delivery time

*****Customized lanyard possible (hybrid motorcycle/equestrian, longer lanyard for carriage driving)

// SIZE CHARTS //

Size	Child S	Child M	Child L
Height (cm)	135-145	140-155	145-165
Waist line (cm) with clothes	75-85	80-90	85-95
Cartridge	50cc	50cc	60cc

Size	S	M	L	XL	L-L	XL-L
Height (cm)	155-170	165-178	170-185	180-195	170-185	180-195
Waist line (cm) with clothes	90-100	95-110	100-120	105-115	120-140	115-135
Cartridge	60cc	60cc	60cc	60cc	100cc	100cc

AIR SHELL



SMART CONCEPT good looks and best safety
INTERCHANGEABLE One airbag for multiple soft-shells
PATENTED «Zip'In» technology by Helite
BRITISH SHOWJUMPING competition approved

Our new airbag model is dedicated to riders looking to combine comfort, aesthetics, practicality and safety. The soft-shell material is ideal for horse-riding.

In addition to a high-quality and good looking Soft-Shell the new concept makes our technology much more practical and user-friendly.

«A REVOLUTIONARY CONCEPT»

The «Zip'In» Technology is the fact that the airbag is an inner linen that one can unzip from its shell in 3 seconds.



The AIR SHELL is an airbag with interchangeable shells.

BLOUSON

AIRBAG

GILET



www.helite-equestrian.com

AIR SHELL



Much more user-friendly

The AIR SHELL opens up many opportunities and advantages for the rider:

- The rider can **own several shells and one airbag**. Depending on his mood he can change colours and/or purchase a new shell. No need to invest in a whole new airbag, one can just decide to go for a new shell.
- The rider can **machine wash his shell**
- The rider can use the shell when off the horse without wearing the inner airbag linen

High-quality soft-shell

Helite chose the Tekseries® soft-shell, breathable and waterproof, it is a highly recognized technical fabric for outdoor activities, as it is designed to be suitable for extreme and prolonged use, which is essential for horse riders.



Joe Whitaker (UK)

New potential customers

Don't think airbags are exclusively made for eventers. Bad falls happen whatever the discipline. In Europe the AIR SHELL has already been approved by several Show Jumping associations. Thanks to its visual appearance the AIR SHELL opens up a whole new pool of customers: show jumpers, western, fox-hunting...






// SIZE CHARTS //

SIZE	Child L	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL
Height (cm)	145-160	150-165	155-170	160-175	165-180	165-185	165-190
Chest (cm)	65-75	70-80	75-86	85-97	93-105	100-110	105-115
Waist (cm)	55-70	60-75	70-80	75-90	80-95	85-100	95-110
Hip (cm)	65-90	70-95	75-100	85-110	95-120	100-125	105-130
Cartridge	50cc	60cc	60cc	60cc	60cc	60cc	60cc

CARTRIDGE



Helite has 3 different cartridge sizes to adapt proportionally to the airbag's size. An extra-large adult airbag logically inflates more protection volume than a child airbag.

NAME	APPEARANCE	WEIGHT*	PROTECTION VOLUME**	AIR JACKET SIZE CORRESPONDANCE	AIR SHELL SIZE CORRESPONDANCE
50cc		152g	14 liters	Child S, Child M	Child L
60cc		182g	17 liters	Child L, S, M, L, XL	XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL
100cc		300g	24 liters	L-L, XL-L	-

***Weight of the cartridge:** The weight of the cartridge is needed to do a yearly check. The CO2 cartridge doesn't have any expiration date. But it should be replaced if there is any deterioration, rust or significant weight loss. We guarantee the cartridge for 10 years.

We recommend you to check the CO2 cartridge every year for more safety. An empty cartridge will not protect... Check your cartridge by removing it from your airbag and by weighing it. Make sure the weight indicated on the scale corresponds to the weight written on the cartridge. The weight difference should not be higher than +/-5 grams; if the weight difference is higher the cartridge should be replaced.

****Protection volume:** The size of the gas cartridge will inflate a certain airbag volume of protection. The bigger the cartridge the bigger the volume. The figures are approximate and depend on many factors.

// AIRBAG REACTIVATION //

After the airbag has been inflated, the CO2 cartridge has to be replaced and the key-ball has to be reinstalled in the airbag trigger system. Check the User Guide or find our video online to proceed with the reactivation of the airbag.

LANYARD



The lanyard hangs out of the airbag garment. The key-ball is inserted in the trigger system. The lanyard-Key Ball part is not an additional accessory; it is a part of the airbag mechanism. The only reason it could be replaced is if it was damaged after a fall or if it has accumulated too much dust, sand, salt...

It is very important that the key-ball rolls perfectly and in all directions.

LANYARD & KEY-BALL



The saddle strap is an important accessory. It is made for english saddles and should be installed on either sides of the stirrup bars. The saddle strap gives the possibility to adjust the length and hook your lanyard centrally in front of you.

For rider's that have several saddles, they can purchase additional saddle straps in order to be «airbag ready» every time they mount their horse.

SADDLE STRAP ATTACHEMENT



// FIRST INSTALLATION //

*For english saddles only

1. Remove the stirrups from the saddle.
2. Make your saddle strap attachment as long as possible
3. Slide the saddle strap attachment loops in the stirrup bars on both sides of the saddle
4. Hang your stirrups back in the stirrup bars
5. Adjust the length of the saddle strap for it to fit in front and centrally
6. The installation is finished. Don't forget to hook every time you mount your horse and unhook every time you come down.