

What does “inherent” mean for Daily Wear?

It means you can wash it with no concerns of reducing the FR (Flame Resistant) properties of the garment. These FR properties are not a treatment but are built into the chemistry of the fiber. Hundreds of washings will not reduce the inherent FR properties. Flame retardant treated cotton (FRT), in contrast, must be washed carefully to avoid the use of chlorine and oxidizing bleach. This is important if home laundering is part of your [PPE program](#) because [Daily Wear](#) can require 50 or more washings per year.

How To Launder Your Arc Flash Suit

NOTE: Always follow the instructions on the care label found inside of your Oberon PPE.

- Always completely disassemble your hood before laundering (see instructions below).
- Do not launder hood with window and hard hat in place.
- Close all hook & loop fasteners before laundering to avoid unwanted pilling or clogging the hook portion of the fastener
- Fabrics may either be washed or dry cleaned
- Suits shall always be washed or cleaned separately from any other clothing

WASHING PROCEDURES: The following instructions apply to domestic as well as

Industrial washing. Load of washing machine 2/3 of volume of the drum in order to avoid crumples. Pre-washing at temperatures up to 40°C with a washing bath relation of 1:10.

Main washing at temperatures up to 40°C with a washing bath relation of 1:10.

DETERGENTS: To wash PPE in a correct way, the bath should have a ph-value <10.

Generally usual commercial detergents for colored clothing should be used which should be proportioned according to the detergent manufacturers` information. Full detergents contain brighteners and are therefore not suitable. Do not use bleaching agents or products which contain bleaching agents. Do not use softener.

RINSING: After washing PPE shall be rinsed carefully in order to delete all remains of alkaline and/or possibly flammable residues of the detergent. 2-3 rinsing cycles may be necessary.

DRYING: Garments may be spin-dried and dried in a cylinder drying machine with low or normal temperatures until a remaining humidity of 10-20%.

IRONING: Garments may be ironed with the highest temperature (3 points) without steam.

DRY (CHEMICAL) CLEANING: Chemical drying is recommended when clothing became very dirty by e.g. oil or grease. Dry cleaning shall be done according to the care labeling by usual 2-bath procedure. Boosters should only be used in extreme situations and only with reduced mechanism. Dry cleaning shall only be executed by experts. Before PPE is re-used it shall be completely free of solvents. Therefore the clothing should ventilate for at least one day after being cleaned.

Care and maintenance of Arc Flash garments according to NFPA 70E 2009 edition.

130.7(C)(16) Care and Maintenance of FR Clothing and FR Arc Flash Suits. (a) Inspection. FR apparel shall be inspected before each use. Work clothing or arc flash suits that are contaminated, or damaged to the extent their protective qualities are impaired, shall not be used. Protective items that become contaminated with grease, oil, or flammable liquids or combustible materials shall not be used. (b) Manufacturers Instructions. The garment manufacturers instructions for care and maintenance of FR apparel shall be followed. (c) Storage. FR apparel shall be stored in a manner that prevents physical damage; damage from moisture, dust, or other deteriorating agents; or contamination from flammable or combustible materials. (d) Cleaning, Repairing, and Affixing Items. When FR clothing is cleaned, manufacturers instructions shall be followed to avoid loss of protection. When FR clothing is repaired, the same FR materials used to manufacture the FR clothing shall be used to provide repairs. When, trim, name tags, and/or logos are affixed to FR clothing, guidance in ASTM F 1506, Standard Performance Specification for Textile Material for Wearing Apparel for Use by Electrical Workers Exposed to Momentary Electric Arc and Related Thermal Hazards, shall be followed [see Table 130.7(C)(8)]. ASTM F1506-08 covers "care and maintenance" as follows: Appendix X1.3.1 The garment manufacturer in conjunction with the fiber and fabric supplier should provide instructions for the care and maintenance of protective wearing apparel. See Guide F 1449 concerning care and maintenance of protective garments. ASTM F1449-08 "Standard Guide for Industrial Laundering of Flame, Thermal, Arc Resistant Clothing" provides the following guidance: 6.5 Removal from Service For most practical purposes, garments may be temporarily or permanently removed from service for reasons as determined by inspection based on subjective evaluation and advice by the processor. Ultimately, determination of when flame, thermal and arc resistant clothing should be removed from service is the responsibility of the end user. 6.5.1 The following items, identifiable by visual examination, diminish the effectiveness of the flame, thermal, and arc resistant clothing. Other issues may also have such effects. 6.5.1.1 Worn Out Thin spots, holes, excessive wear at edges 6.5.1.2 Mechanical Damage Evidence of cuts, rips, tears, open seams, and nonfunctional closures 6.5.1.3 Repairs Tears, holes, open seams, lost buttons or snaps are types of repairs. Each processor determines if the number and/or size of the

repairs are acceptable to a garment before removing the garment from service. 6.5.1.4

ModificationsAlteration(s) to a garment that differs significantly from the original design

6.5.1.5 FitThe flame, thermal, and arc resistant clothing no longer fits the wearer; a

garment may be assigned to another wearer if it meets all appropriate usability

requirements. 6.5.1.6 Flammable SubstancesGarments soiled by substances that

represent a flammability risk, such as solvents, solids, oils and other petroleum products

that cannot be properly cleaned; the presence of a petroleum or chemical odor can be

evidence of a flammable substance.