



## CARE INSTRUCTIONS TEXPORT®

The right way to wash and maintain your protective  
apparel

## CARING FOR TEXPORT® FIREWEAR

We are delighted that you have chosen to buy high-quality, EN 469-certified firewear by TEXPORT®. It gives you maximum protection against heat and moisture, wrapped up in an extremely comfortable product.

To satisfy your expectations, we only use state-of-the-art raw materials to craft our turnout gear.



Nevertheless, our TEXPORT® firewear requires the correct maintenance and care to keep it working properly for as long as possible.

Correct maintenance and care is essential to extending the life of our TEXPORT® turnout gear. So kindly adhere to our care recommendations, adjust your washing program accordingly or pass on this information to your external laundry partner.

The protective clothing is made of flame retardant material, e.g. NOMEX®, PBI® and Gore-Tex®. The flame retardant properties belong to the inherent characteristics of the fibres and materials, which means they do not lose their flame resistance.

All the same, improper treatment during cleaning can impair or even severely damage the mechanical properties.

So before you start cleaning your new TEXPORT® fire brigade turnout gear, you should first conduct a test cycle or commission the external laundry firm to do so.

Fire brigade turnout gear needs to be washed separately to prevent foreign matter (e.g. fluff) from bonding with the surface). To ensure that cross-contamination cannot take place, for instance between 'service apparel' and 'sports clothing', you must only wash turnout gear in a washing machine that has been designated specifically for this purpose.



### ► pH VALUE OF THE SUDS

Concentrated acids (e.g. acetic acid), alkalis or powerful oxidants (e.g. hypochlorite and other chlorine-based bleaches) impair the mechanical properties of the firewear. Avoid exposing the apparel to very low (<2) or very high (>10) pH values during laundry cycles. The **pH value of the suds should be 8–9**.

## CARING FOR TEXPORT® FIREWEAR

### ► PREPARING THE LAUNDRY (for each laundry cycle or cleaning)

Before washing, any back panels/name tags and the various fittings, e.g. snap hooks, belts, etc., must be removed on all accounts.

The hooked side of the Velcro straps can roughen fabric surfaces and in doing so drastically change the appearance of the material (pilling). Velcro fasteners and metallic hooks/snap hooks or studs must be closed or fitted with a guard before the apparel is placed in the washing machine.

#### Keep the apparel clean:

**Oil, grease and dust deposits on the surface may catch fire and impair the performance of the protective clothing.**

#### Bodily fluids:

**Turnout gear contaminated with bodily fluids must not be cleaned using a standard washing process. It must be kept separately (Polybag) and cleaned in a separate cycle using a suitable washing process.**

### ► WASHING MACHINE

**The turnout gear must only be washed in the designated washing machine to prevent cross-contamination. Do not use household appliances.**

Washing machines with a capacity of  $\geq 15$  kg are recommended.

Do not overload the washing machine, as this causes severe friction that may roughen and crease the materials or cause other adverse effects.

Only load the washing machine to at maximum half its rated capacity and select a program that ensures a higher water level.



### ► WASH CYCLES – TEMPERATURE

Select a program with pre-wash and main cycle for severely soiled apparel.

The pre-wash should be at 50–60°C with a water ratio (laundry weight : water volume) of between 1 : 5 and 1 : 6, based on a maximum load of 50 per cent capacity.

The main cycle should be at 60°C with a water ratio of 1 : 4.



## CARING FOR TEXTPORT® FIREWEAR

### ► BLEACH

Bleaches (especially if chlorine-based) can damage the dye, textile fibres and the fluorescent stripes.

### ► PRE-WASH

Severely soiled apparel or garments that have been soaked with flammable substances may require several treatments.

- Rinse them and place them in an additional pre-wash cycle with suitable tensides/grease solvents.
- Multiple pre-wash cycles

### ► DETERGENT

Use a mild detergent without any optical brighteners, bleaches or integrated fabric softener. Do not use concentrated detergents.

We endorse the following detergents (without accepting liability):

Seitz: Viva Sensitive

Ecolab: Turbo Usona, Triplex Energy Plus

Kreussler: Derval Rent (detergent), Derval Protect (booster)

This list is not complete. We recommend conducting a test cycle.



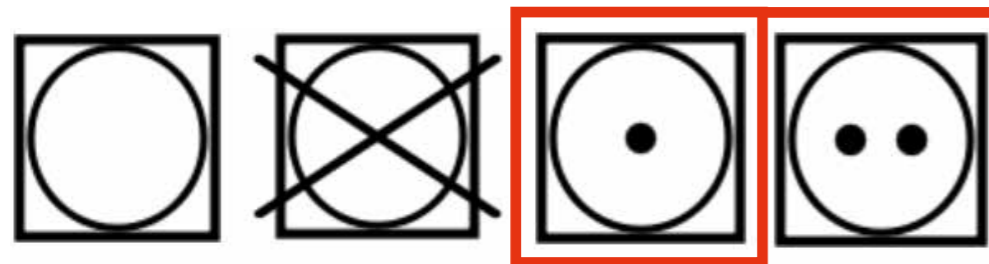
### ► RINSING, FINISHING, SPINNING and DRYING

Rinse all garments thoroughly after washing to remove all traces of (alkali) detergents.

Apparel with membranes must not be put through the spin cycle or only spun gently if suitable. They must then be placed in the tumble dryer (gentle cycle) and dried at initial drum temperatures of no more than 60°C. The residual moisture of the garments should be between 5% and 10%.

**Tumble or cabinet drying is necessary to activate the current or newly applied impregnation.**

Do not hang the turnout gear on the washing line if exposed to direct sunlight, as doing so may damage the material.



Each item of TEXTPORT® turnout gear is supplied with a label with the correct laundry instructions. The dryer pictograms on the left are examples. Your TEXTPORT® turnout gear can be tumble dried in the gentle cycle (icon with one dot).

## CARING FOR TEXTPORT® FIREWEAR

### ► RE-IMPREGNATION for fabrics with standard finishing

The outer material used in TEXTPORT® turnout gear is always impregnated according to the requirements of EN 469.

It is designed to withstand 5 wash cycles at 60°C. Mechanical stress, frequency of use and weather conditions affect the impregnation applied to the outer material; for this reason, a visual inspection must be performed after each wash cycle. TEXTPORT® turnout gear with standard impregnation must be re-impregnated no later than after every 6th wash cycle.

Add a fluorocarbon finishing (FC) agent to the final rinse cycle and then dry in the tumble dryer or drying cabinet to activate the necessary re-impregnation. Increase the initial drum temperature to 80°C for 4–5 minutes at the end of the drying cycle. The residual moisture of the garments should be between 10% and 15%.

We endorse the following re-impregnation agents (without accepting liability):

Co. Seitz: Viva Protect

Co. Kreussler: Hydrob EASYDRY

Co. Christeyns: Osmafin Aquablock Free, Osmafin Aquablock Triple

The turnout gear must be removed from service if it fails to satisfy the minimum requirements as stated in EN 469:2005/A1:2006 for “Chemical repellency rate and penetration – EN ISO 6530” and for the “Spray test – EN 24920”.

### ► RE-IMPREGNATION for fabrics with permanent finishing

Some of the outer materials that TEXTPORT® uses in its turnout gear are equipped with a durable oil and water-repellent impregnation. It may require re-impregnation after 30 or 40 wash cycles, depending on the outer material. It must be heat treated in the tumble dryer or the drying cabinet after each wash cycle. Increase the initial drum or drying cabinet temperature to 80°C for 4–5 minutes at the end of the drying cycle. The residual moisture of the garments should be between 5% and 10%.

In regard to re-impregnation, proceed as described for fabrics with standard finishing in the following wash cycles (re-impregnation after every 6th wash – refer to “Re-impregnation for fabrics with standard finishing”).



The turnout gear must be removed from service if it fails to satisfy the minimum requirements as stated in EN 469:2005/A1:2006 for “Chemical repellency rate and penetration – EN ISO 6530” and for the “Spray test – EN 24920”.

### ► HAND WASH

Hand washing is prohibited.

## **CARING FOR TEXPORT® FIREWEAR**

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### **► DRY CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS**

Protective clothing by TEXPORT® can usually be dry cleaned using standard dry cleaning chemicals. Nonetheless, washing as described above should be given precedence over dry cleaning. If there is no other alternative, dry cleaning with industry-standard tetrachloroethylene or hydrocarbons can be performed.

Do not use detergent additives or pure solvents to prevent the retention of flammable residues, as that would impair the protective properties of the apparel.

Make certain that all solvents have been eliminated from the apparel during drying before reusing the garment.

Make sure that all detergents remain within the specific pH range (as above) to prevent changes in the material.

It must be heat treated in the tumble dryer or the drying cabinet after each wash cycle. Increase the initial drum or drying cabinet temperature to 80°C for 4-5 minutes at the end of the drying cycle. The residual moisture of the garments should be between 5% and 10%.

Adhere also to our General User Information.

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