

MANUFACTURER'S INFORMATION GUIDE

Safety Considerations

Read and understand all the instructions and warnings throughout this Guide, as well as all the safety, cleaning and information labels on the Gloves.

Regularly inspect the Gloves inside and out for any tears, holes, thin spots, worn areas, dirt, contaminants, embrittlement, or any other conditions as discussed in this Guide.

Limitations for Use

These Gloves are designed to provide LIMITED protection under the requirements of the AS/NZS2161.6:2014 Standard where there is a risk of heat and/or flame during ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES. These gloves are not intended for deliberate handling of liquid chemicals, but provide some protection against accidental contact with chemicals.

Sizing

Choose the size glove that will provide comfort, protection and dexterity. A sizing chart is available from Bristol Uniforms Limited.

If a glove is too loose, you may be unable to pick up or handle small objects. If a glove is too tight, it will reduce its ability to protect your hand from heat. Protective equipment worn by firefighters should be properly sized and adjusted to overlap and eliminate gaps during use.

Do not alter your gloves in any way. Changes to the gloves may increase your risk of injury or death. For marking an individual's name, or other identifying mark, an indelible laundry marker may be used on the outer shell or in a blank space on a label inside the glove.

Preparation for Use

Read all Safety, Cleaning, and Information Labels. If any labels are missing, return the Gloves to the manufacturer immediately. Before beginning any emergency operation where there is fire or threat of fire, your Gloves should be donned according to the instructions in this Guide.

Storage Instructions

Ideally store the gloves in dry conditions, in the original packaging, away from any direct light or sunlight.

Inspection

Your Gloves should be cleaned, inspected, and repaired in a frequency and manner consistent with your FRS protocol.

Frequency

- Inspect your Gloves:
- upon receipt of your new Gloves;
- after each use or at least monthly (whichever is greater) during the useful life of the Gloves;
- after exposure to heat, flames, chemicals, or firefighting agents (including AFFF foam and water);
- after exposure to body fluids (including blood);
- after washing, repair or decontamination.

INSPECTION PROCESS

Preparation for Inspection

Ensure that Gloves are clean. If any have been contaminated by hazardous materials or biological agents, make sure they have been decontaminated. This is important for your safety, and for assurance that potential problems are not masked by incidental residue.

Place Gloves on a clean surface in a brightly lit area.

Inspection of the Outer Shell and Inner Liner

When inspecting your gloves, check thoroughly for:

- Cuts or worn areas in the leather shell or lining material.
- Separation of inner liner from the shell.
- Integrity of wristlets.
- Torn seams or cut threads which may allow seams to separate.
- Chemical contamination in the leather or liner which has not been removed.
- Brittleness, discoloration or other evidence of damage from heat or sun.
- Leaks or signs of liquid penetration.

If your gloves are excessively worn, damaged, contaminated, or otherwise do not pass inspection, do not use them. Turn in the damaged gloves and obtain a replacement from your fire department. Do not attempt to repair the gloves yourself.

Donning and Doffing

- Pull on your Protective Gloves after putting on your other protective equipment.
- Pull the gloves completely onto the hands.
- Ensure the gauntlet or wristlet of the glove is outside the coat wristlet and inside of the coat cuff.
- Check to be sure the gloves fit properly.
- You must check to ensure that your gloves interface properly with the sleeves of your turnout coat and that no gap appears between the glove and your turnout coat.
- In all ranges of motion, your hand, wrist and arm should remain covered by the glove or turnout coat.
- To remove your gloves, grasp the palm and carefully pull off of the hand.
- Do Not pull from the fingertips.
- If your gloves have been exposed to hazardous materials, such as chemicals, acids or blood, avoid contact with the contaminated portions of the glove. You should isolate and bag the gloves in a sealable, leak-proof bag.

Decontaminating & Disposing of Used Gloves

Fire Fighters can be exposed to many and varied hazardous substances while being involved with Technical Rescue Incidents and Fire Fighting. These substances can contaminate your gloves, and can cause harm to the wearer.

Many combustible products, Hydrocarbons, Polynuclear Compounds, metals, cadmium, and Chromium, Acids, Glass etc., are hazardous to the wearer. These substances can become embedded in the glove shell materials, and if left, can reduce the protective qualities of the glove.

It is therefore important to follow the correct cleaning procedure, to maintain the life of the glove.

Cleaning & Maintenance Procedure

Due to the materials used in the construction of the leather structural fire-fighting gloves, machine washing is recommended for this glove style,

- 30 degree wash and dry.
- Very contaminated/dirty gloves can also be pre-washed by putting them on your hands, and applying a small amount of liquid detergent and rubbing the hands briskly together.
- Rinse well in warm running water.

WARNING

Never use chlorine or chlorinated detergents to clean the gloves.

Drying Procedure

- Gloves should be only air dried.
- Drying racks in well-ventilated areas assist in drying. Do not turn the gloves inside out to dry, this may tear or damage the moisture barrier layer or inner lining.
- Do not lay the gloves on radiators or dry them in hot air dryers. Hot air drying will stiffen the leather and severely shorten the service life of the gloves.
- Do not dry the gloves in direct or indirect sunlight, or in fluorescent light. Light will severely reduce the strength and protective qualities of the gloves.
- Do not wring dry your gloves; wringing may tear the Moisture Barrier Layer. The gloves may be gently squeezed to remove excess water from the leather shell.
- DO NOT DRY CLEAN - Dry cleaning will damage the gloves and reduce protective qualities.

Repair of Gloves

Damaged gloves should always be removed from service. Never try to repair gloves yourself, because of the complex 2/3 layer construction, all repairs should be referred back to the manufacturer/supplier.

Retiring Gloves

Protective gloves should be removed from service when they can no longer be deemed safe to wear and protect. Gloves should be assessed for continued usability at regular inspection periods. If you have any doubts or queries regarding the functionality of your gloves, get assistance before wearing your gloves into any emergency situation.

Obsolescence

When stored as recommended, the gloves will not suffer any change in the mechanical properties, from date of manufacture.

Service life cannot be specified, and depends on application and responsibility of the user to ascertain the suitability of the glove for its intended use.

Disposing of Used Gloves

Retired protective gloves should be destroyed to prevent their unauthorised or mistaken use. The gloves need to be cut into several pieces and disposed of. Retired gloves which are contaminated with chemicals should be placed in a plastic bag, and properly disposed of, following national and local regulations governing disposal of contaminated materials.