

# User Information Guide



## Shirt Models:

- Battalion
- Bravo
- Brigade
- BDU Attack Shirt
- Station

## Trouser Models:

- Traditional
- Western Jeans
- Pleated Shorts
- BDU Attack Pants
- Regular and Full Cut Trousers with Triple Needle Stitching
- EMS Shorts

- Tactix® BDU Attack Shirt and Pants
- EMS Shorts

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## Introduction

This User Information Guide gives important information regarding the use, care, and maintenance of Station/Work Uniforms. **DO NOT REMOVE** this User Information Guide from the clothing prior to final delivery to the fire fighter or emergency response personnel. In the event this Guide becomes detached from the clothing before reaching the fire fighter or emergency response personnel, keep this User Information Guide available to those responsible for maintenance and use of this clothing. Upon receipt and inspection of the garments, the fire fighter or emergency response personnel should remove this User Information Guide, read thoroughly, and save for future reference.

### **NO ONE SHOULD USE THIS STATION/WORK UNIFORM UNTIL:**

- A. The fire fighter or emergency response personnel, who has been trained in the proper use of fire fighting and emergency response equipment, as well as protective clothing, has read and understood all the warnings as well as the User Information Guide provided with the clothing.
- B. The clothing has been inspected inside and out for any tears, holes or cuts.
- C. The fire fighter or emergency response personnel understands the limitations of the clothing, which can be gained from training, and has knowledge of the material used in the protective clothing (information which can be supplied by the material manufacturer).
- D. The clothing is cared for and maintained according to instructions in this User Information Guide.

To ensure proper use of this clothing, it is recommended that the user read and become familiar with the current edition of NFPA 1975, *Standard on Station/Work Uniforms for Fire and Emergency Services*. A copy of the standard can be acquired from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

## Read Before Wearing This Garment.

# Safety Considerations

This Station/Work Uniform is not structural, proximity, or entry gear. It is not designed to be kept in direct contact with flames or molten metal, or for protection against hazardous, chemical, biological or radiological agents. User must have the background necessary to select correct clothing for the job, and use it safely. If you do not have expertise, do not take chances. Get expert assistance.

FOR ALL FIRE-FIGHTING ACTIVITIES protective clothing and equipment appropriate for the type of fire fighting operation must be worn for limb/torso protection. Additional items of protective clothing and equipment will be needed for respiratory, head, hands, and foot protection. Failure to comply with this warning may result in serious injury or death.

As soon as you have selected and received our product, look it over carefully, starting with a complete review of all warnings, use and care instructions provided.

Your Station/Work Uniform will carry a label indicating whether or not your garment has Fire Retardant (FR) properties. Read this label carefully. Failure to understand the performance properties of FR and non-FR uniforms may result in serious injury or death.

# User Marking

It is recommended that emblems, shields or heraldry, embroidery, silkscreens, and heat transfers that designate a governmental entity, a specific organization, rank, title, position, or some professional status, etc. NOT be affixed to your Station/Work Uniform unless it meets the thermal shrinkage resistance and heat resistance requirements of NFPA 1975, current edition.

For marking an individual or department name on the inside of a garment for identification, it is recommended that an industrial laundry marker be used.

# Storage Considerations

After clothing has been cleaned and inspected, it should be stored in a place that will protect it from direct sunlight, heat, and excessive moisture. Never store clothing in direct sunlight. Exposure to ultra-violet light will reduce the tear strength of the fabrics in the garment.

Avoid exposure to sunlight, particularly when exposed behind glass, such as in the back window of a vehicle, or through windows of a fire station. Exposure to ultra-violet light will cause the clothing to lose tensile strength. Once started, there is no way to repair this type of deterioration.

# Maintenance

Station/Work Uniforms for fire fighters and emergency services personnel consists of many components (shirt, pant, thread, trim, etc.) which work together as a system. All components require periodic inspection and maintenance.

- A. Inspection procedures should include the following:
  - 1). Inspect all components for rips, tears, burn damage, and abrasion damage. Close attention should be paid to thread, shoulders, elbows, cuffs, crotch, and knees.
  - 2). All major seams (i.e. shirt side seams, sleeve seams, shoulder seams, and trouser seat seams, outseams, inseams, etc.) should be physically inspected for structural damage.
  - 3). If any component is found to be damaged, the clothing should be removed from service and repaired or replaced.

# Frequency and Details of Inspection

- A. Inspection Frequency: Inspections should be accomplished upon receipt, at least once a month, before and after each use, cleaning, and/or following any application where the clothing has been subjected to damage or contamination. In the event of exposure to hazardous materials, the clothing should be isolated and inspection should be performed after clothing has been decontaminated.
- B. Details of inspection: Inspect each article of clothing for the following types of wear or damage:
  - Rips, tears, holes
  - Discoloration
  - Damage to pockets
  - Cleanliness
  - Hardware
  - Seam integrity
  - Reinforcements
  - Fabric damage
  - Embrittlement (stiffness of material)
  - Closure system
  - Char
  - Sizing and Fit
- C. Performance properties of the garment cannot be tested by the user in the field.

# Methods of Repair

BEFORE ANY REPAIRS ARE MADE TO STATION/WORK UNIFORMS, GARMENTS MUST BE CLEANED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS. IT IS AGAINST OSHA GUIDELINES TO EXPECT WORKERS TO ALTER OR REPAIR SOILED AND POSSIBLY CONTAMINATED CLOTHING.

- A. All repair to LION uniform clothing should be done at an authorized LION facility. Unauthorized repairs done to LION uniform clothing invalidates all express or implied LION warranties and may expose wearer to hazardous or life threatening conditions.

# Laundering Instructions

## WARNINGS

1. Chlorine bleaches should never be used on this Station/Work Uniform under any condition. Chlorine bleaches may discolor the fabrics, and cause clothing materials to lose their performance characteristics, such as fire resistance (if uniform has FR properties), strength, etc.
2. Do not use fabric softeners. Fabric softeners are oil-based and can contribute to fabric flammability.
3. Do not use soap cleansers because soap fat residues will contribute to flammability.
4. Do not use hot water (over 140° F). Hot water may cause material shrinkage.
5. Do not use automatic dryers if you have reflective trim on your garment. Automatic dryers will damage the reflective trim, which will negate its effectiveness.

Keep protective clothing clean. Life expectancy and flame resistance (if FR uniform) increase if abrasive, flammable dirt and contaminants are removed after each use. While aramid fibers, for example, are inherently flame retardant, protective clothing contaminated with unburned byproducts of combustion as well as other flammable contaminants may negate the ability of clothing to resist flame, and may not only ignite but the clothing may also continue to burn when it would normally self extinguish. IF NOT CLEANED, CONTAMINATION WILL REDUCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FR CLOTHING, AND MAY CAUSE ILLNESS.

## IN-HOUSE MACHINE WASHING INSTRUCTIONS

- A. Station/Work Uniforms should be turned inside out and washed separately from other garments.

**\*\* The use of home washers, and washers used by the public, are not recommended in order to prevent the spread of contamination to other laundry.**

- B. These instructions can be used for cleaning any of the following wash loads in a large capacity washing machine:
  - 1) 1 shirt + 1 pair of trousers
  - 2) 2 shirts
  - 3) 2 pairs of trousers

**\*\*Heavily soiled garments should be “pretreated using procedures outlined on “SPOT CLEANING AND PRETREATING OF GARMENTS.”**

- A. While the washing machine is filling up with warm water (temperature between 110° F and 120° F) add 1/2 cup (4 oz.) of OXYGENATED BLEACH and one cup (8 oz.) of liquid detergent to the machine. (Use 1 1/2 cups of detergent if wash water is considered very hard.) These detergents are readily available in super-markets around the country.
- B. Fill washing machine to highest water level.
- C. Add garments to be washed.
- D. Set washing machine for normal cycle, cotton/white, or similar setting.
- E. Machine should be programmed for double rinse.

## IN-HOUSE DRYING INSTRUCTIONS:

Remove garments from washing machine and dry by hanging in a shaded area that receives a good cross ventilation, or hang on a line and use a fan to circulate the air. DO NOT HANG IN THE SUN. ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT MAY CAUSE GARMENTS TO LOSE TENSILE STRENGTH.

## SPOT CLEANING AND PRETREATING OF PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- A. Spot cleaning.** Precleaners can be used to clean light spots and stains on protective clothing. Squirt precleaners one or two times onto the soiled areas. Gently rub fabric together until a light foam appears on the surface. Carefully rinse off with cool water.
- B. Pretreating.** Apply liquid detergent directly from the bottle onto the soiled areas. Gently rub fabric together until a light foam appears on the surface. Place garment into washing machine as instructed in CLEANING PROCEDURES and add the remaining amount of the recommended detergent. To clean garments that are heavily soiled, use a liquid detergent or precleaner solution, prior to laundering, in the following manner:
1. Air dry garment before applying product.
  2. Squirt the liquid detergent or precleaner directly onto stain and the surrounding areas (use 3-4 squirts). Make sure that the soiled area is soaked with the product.
  3. Use a soft bristle brush (toothbrush or fingernail type brush dipped in water) to gently scrub the soiled area for about 1 1/2 minutes.
  4. Reapply liquid detergent or precleaner onto the soiled areas again (use 1 or 2 squirts).
  5. Place garment into washing machine as instructed in previous section.

## LAUNDERING AND CLEANING PRODUCTS

There are industrial cleaner/degreaser products available for clothing that the user may wish to purchase for cleaning. Contact LION for additional information. Confirm use instructions with LION. Examples of household products that may be utilized for cleaning, spot cleaning, and pretreating are as follows:

**Cleaning:** Liquid Wish®, Liquid Tide®, Liquid Cheer®, Liquid Fab® Oxygenated Bleaches: Liquid Clorox® 2, Liquid Vivid®

**Spot cleaning and pretreating:** Liquid Spray & Wash®, Liquid Shout®, Liquid Tide®.

## CONTRACT CLEANING-OUT OF HOUSE

There are companies that specialize in cleaning and repairing of protective clothing, and can be utilized for such services. Many LION distributors have the capability to properly clean and/or repair protective clothing.

# Decontamination Procedures

## A. Blood and/or body fluids.

- 1) Station/Work Uniforms that are obviously contaminated by large amounts of blood or body fluids must be placed and transported in bags that prevent leakage. Personnel involved in the bagging, transport, and laundering of contaminated clothing must wear gloves and gowns. Clothing must be washed in a front loading industrial size washing machine with a mild laundry detergent at a water temperature of 130-140° F for 25 minutes. Protective clothing must be line dried only. Bleaching may compromise structural integrity and therefore must **NEVER BE USED**.
- 2) Small stains from blood or body fluids may be “spot cleaned” and then disinfected. Gloves must be worn. Clothing can be “spot cleaned” in accordance with cleaning instructions in second section.
- 3) **Contaminated clothing must not be laundered at home.**

## B. Hazardous materials.

- 1) For contamination from hazardous materials, such as dusts, mists, fumes, and vapors, clothing should be immediately removed from service. If contaminant is known, consult manufacturer as to the feasibility of decontamination. If contaminant is not known, clothing should be removed from service and tested to determine contaminant and whether clothing can be properly decontaminated. Always demand MSDS information and be prepared to share your findings with LION, Lion TotalCare®, or another facility that attempts to decontaminate the protective clothing.
- 2) If clothing can not be decontaminated, it must be destroyed and disposed of properly, according to Hazmat guidelines. One suggested method of disposal is a landfill.

# Retirement Criteria

Users of Station/Work Uniforms must realize that these products do not have an indefinite useful life. LION recommends that a regular clothing replacement program be conducted by fire and emergency department to address the useful service life of these garments. Details of such a program must be developed based on previous experience in the department, as it is impossible to provide a specific time frame for clothing replacement.

Other retirement considerations would include:

- A. Garments that have been affected by sunlight, or ultra-violet light, to the point where the outer shell or linings become brittle, or weak.

- B. Garments that have been exposed to hazardous materials to the point that decontamination is not practical.
- C. Garments that have been affected by improper care procedures (See pages 4-5).

**Station/Work Uniforms that have to be retired from service should be destroyed. One suggested method of disposal is a landfill (see local landfill requirements for appropriate disposal protocol because of the possible contaminants left on clothing).**

# Warranty Information

## LION LIFETIME WARRANTY

Lion warrants its fire fighter products to be free from defects in workmanship and materials for the useful life of these products when used by appropriately trained personnel following proper fire fighting procedures and when the products' warning, use, and care instructions are followed.

LION's obligation under this warranty is limited to, at LION's option:

- repair or replacement of the product without charge;
- granting a credit to be applied toward purchase of an equal or better garment from LION in an amount equal to the original purchase price of the product, prorated over the useful life of the product;
- refund of the original purchase price.

These warranty obligations apply only to any product, part, or component which is returned to LION with prior authorization and proof of purchase, and which LION agrees to be defective as covered by this warranty.

The word "product" includes the product itself and any parts or labor furnished by LION with the sales, delivery, or servicing of the product. Lion does not warrant, or assume responsibility for any modification or decorations to the product.

The term "useful life" means the length of time the garment reasonably can be expected to be worn for fire fighting activities, without needing major structural repairs that would be economically infeasible. (A general rule recommended by SAFER is that a garment should be retired when the costs of repair would exceed 50% of the replacement cost.) The useful life will vary from garment to garment, according to type and frequency of use, and the weight and type of materials used in the garment. Lighter weight fabrics will have a shorter useful life than heavier fabrics. NOMEX lasts longer than cotton. FR blends of cotton (FireWear) will probably not wear as long as non-FR blends.

In practical terms, the average useful life of a fire fighter uniform undergoing normal wear in an active fire department is 2-3 years.

"Defects in Workmanship and Materials" means poorly manufactured seams, stitching, or components (for example, loose or broken seams; zippers or snaps that fall off or do not function properly); and fabrics which have such flaws as holes, uneven spots, weak areas, or other flaws caused by irregularities in their manufacture. Most defects in workmanship or materials can be recognized immediately upon receipt and inspection of the product. Some defects are not apparent until the garment has been worn for a while.

## EXCEPTIONS TO WARRANTY

This lifetime warranty does not cover the following items after receipt of products by end user:

- A. Claims made after 60 days from the date of shipment for damage to fabrics;
- B. Damage or color change from exposure of raw materials to ultraviolet light;
- C. Shade changes or variations among textiles used;
- D. Damage caused by improper cleaning or maintenance (for example, use of chlorine or petrochemicals to clean);
- E. Damage from exposure to hazards which may cause rips, tears, burn damage, or abrasion;
- F. Replacement of zippers worn partially sealed, or damaged by heavy wear and tear;
- G. Color loss due to abrasion (creases, folds, pleats, edges, collar points, etc.).
- H. Button loss or trouser hem seam loss.



**LION**<sup>®</sup>

ready for action

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# **IMPORTANT!**

**You must register the warranty  
on your garment.**

**Go to**

**[http://www.lionprotects.com/  
stationwear-care-and-use](http://www.lionprotects.com/stationwear-care-and-use)**



**StationWear**<sup>™</sup>

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