CARE AND WEARING OF FR GARMENTS

Care Instructions:

Most flame-resistant garments can be handled safely using common laundering and care procedures. However, a few precautions must be followed to ensure your FR garments maintain their maximum effectiveness. Remember, FR clothing is safety apparel that just might save your life. It is imperative to make sure your FR garments are properly cleaned and maintained.

- Carefully follow the manufacturer's care label when laundering FR garments. Many FR fabrics require mild wash and dry conditions to maximize the life of the garment.
- Wash new flame-resistant garments prior to wearing.
- Wash flame-resistant garments separately from standard clothing.
- Make sure FR garments are clean and in proper repair before each wearing.

Laundering:

HOW TO LAUNDER YOUR FR CLOTHING:

- Wash FR clothing separate from everyday clothing.
- Do <u>NOT</u> use the following products (or detergents containing these products): chlorine bleach, hydrogen peroxide, or fabric softener).
- Use small wash loads.
- Remove oils and flammable contaminants from FR garments. Flammable contaminants
 can be a fuel source that adds to burn injury. Check with your department director if you
 are unable to remove oil or other contaminants from FR garments.
- Most FR clothing is dry cleanable (this may be helpful for the effective removal of greases and oils that are not easily removed by home laundering).
- Wash heavily soiled garments in the hottest water allowed as stated on the garment label.
- With many FR fabrics, drying on permanent press and removing while still slightly damp can help to minimize shrinkage.
- Laundering instructions for FR garments can be found on the label sewn inside each garment.

DO NOT USE:

- Do not use the following products (or detergents containing these products): chlorine bleach, hydrogen peroxide, or fabric softener.
- Do not oversize wash loads.

Remember that laundering instructions are specific to the type of fabric from which the garment is made. Manufacturers of flame-resistant fabrics provide detailed care instructions for home laundering.

CONTINUED ON REVERSE

Remove Garment From Service If:

- Soiled with a flammable substance that cannot be completely removed through laundering.
- Garment is worn out, or has visible threadbare areas or frayed edges.
- If minor repair is needed, contact your department head. Some repair services are available through Unico Corporation and in some situations the manufacturer may also be contacted for repairs.

Wear Tips:

- For maximum protection, FR garments should have a loose fit.
- Layering FR garments significantly increases FR protection.
- 100% cotton undergarments (short or long sleeve t-shirt and briefs/shorts) must be worn under FR garments and no portion of the non-FR undergarment should be exposed. Such layering improves comfort and can increase protection.
- The FR garment must be the outermost layer. Wearing flammable garments such as jackets or sweatshirts over your FR clothing will seriously add to burn injury.
- Within each fabric type (for example, Nomex or UltraSoft), the heavier the fabric, the more protection the garment will provide.