

November 14th, 2014

Dear Trelchem Customer,

## **IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE CONCERNING GLOVES ON TRELICHEM EVO AND VPS FLASH NFPA 1991 APPROVED ENSEMBLES**

### **Issue**

This letter is to inform you that we have been made aware of an issue concerning the chemical protection performance in terms of normalized permeation breakthrough time for one chemical, namely dichloromethane (a.k.a. methylene chloride) for the glove combination on some of our Trelchem EVO and VPS Flash chemical protective ensembles. This chemical is showing a 40 minute breakthrough time instead of the required 60 minutes within NFPA 1991-2005. All users must be aware that the glove combination does not achieve a full 1 hour breakthrough time when tested under laboratory conditions and as defined by NFPA 1991. Please note that this concerns the glove combination only, any other parts of the ensemble and its materials are not affected.

We are working very hard to resolve this issue and we have started the certification process of a new glove combination.

The inner barrier glove, the Ansell Barrier, offers generally good chemical protection but for the chemical identified it needs to be used in conjunction with a highly qualitative synthetic rubber glove such as the one we are currently certifying now in order to reliably provide the permeation time required by NFPA 1991 for dichloromethane.

### **Consequences**

Until the issue has been resolved please be aware that the affected suits cannot be considered NFPA 1991 approved. This is due to the issue described above concerning the glove element of the ensemble.

Any use of the ensembles as non-certified chemical protective ensembles is up to each user.

A new glove combination is available already for non-NFPA certified use. We have chemical data permeation data (see attachment) with dichloromethane for this glove combination although not to NFPA 1991 specification (meaning the samples were not flexed and abraded prior to permeation). We can offer you this glove as a replacement free of charge.

### **Actions to be taken by end-user**

If your ensembles are affected (see below) you need to be aware that they are not NFPA 1991 certified ensembles until this issue has been resolved.

Use of the ensembles as non-certified ensembles is up to each user. Alternatively, the new glove is available already and could be used for any non-NFPA certified use. We can offer you this glove as a replacement free of charge as an interim solution. Please let us know if you wish to do this.



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### **Identification of concerned suits**

Affected suits are manufactured from March 2012 to August 2014, have the white Ansell Barrier inner glove fitted and have batch numbers as given in the attached list. Batch numbers are handwritten and can be found on the label inside the suit.

### **Others**

I hope that you accept our apology for any inconvenience that this causes, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



**Magnus Andersson**

*Vice President and General Manager - Global Protective Clothing*

*Tel: +46 (0)10 205 18 40*

*Mobile: +46 (0)708 16 18 13*

*e-mail: [magnus.andersson@ansell.com](mailto:magnus.andersson@ansell.com)*

### **Attachment:**

*Batch numbers of affected suits*

*Non-NFPA glove permeation data.*



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