



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



How to Know When It's Time to Replace FR Clothing Safety Message

There are a number of signs that it's time to retire a uniform because of its lack of flame resistance:

Thin patches or worn areas. If the fabric is worn out, there are abrasions to the fabric or there are any areas where you can see the fabric, the uniform's integrity has been compromised, and it's time to discard it.

Rips or tears. Similarly, rips or holes in the fabric mean that it is no longer able to protect the wearer's skin from flames and thermal injury. Any flames will go directly to the skin because there is no barrier.

Significant alterations. If the fabric is cut and re sewn aggressively, it may no longer be serviceable as protection, especially in the areas of the new seams.

Misshapen uniform. If the fabric is old enough to become baggy or it no longer fits the wearer the way it should, it may not be protective and should be replaced.

Bleach contact. If any part of the uniform comes into contact with bleach on the job or in the process of being cleaned, it's time to replace it.

Irreparably dirty. If the uniform has been cleaned but still smells like chemicals, has greasy stains or is otherwise no longer serviceable, a new uniform is needed.