# **Technoaide**

# Protective Apparel Cleaning & Care Guide

To ensure the continued health and safety of medical staff and patients, Techno-Aide provides the following cleaning & care recommendations for all protective apparel items. The recommendations provided within are meant to be a guideline based on manufacturing specifications and best practices. All recommendations are intended to increase safety by decreasing the risk of cross-contamination and extending the life of all applicable protective garments. In order to be eligible for Techno-Aide's manufacturer warranty, the following guidelines must be adhered to.

- 1) Initial Testing
- 2) Cleaning & Care
- 3) Storage
- 4) Inspections
- 5) Disposal

# **Initial Testing**

In order to be eligible for Techno-Aide's limited manufacturer warranty, all fabric-based protective apparel containing lead, or lead equivalent material, must be inspected upon receipt by the customer before being put into service or used in any non-testing imaging environment. Techno-Aide requires radiographs and/or x-ray images of all applicable fabric-based apparel containing lead, or lead equivalent material, be taken and documented within 10 business days upon receipt of the initial delivery. These images must be documented and notated with accurate and qualifying dates and must include the appropriate Techno-Aide part numbers with each applicable image in the event of a manufacturing anomaly or defect.

## Cleaning & Care

Protective garments, even those containing lead or lead equivalent media, require regular preventative maintenance and care in order to fully extend the life of the product. Techno-Aide recommends protective garments are cleaned after each use to remove surface-level debris and contaminants. Garments should also undergo a quarterly deep cleaning & sanitization process to protect against the potential accumulation of bacteria & biofilm and to extend the life of the garments. Our preferred partner for deep cleaning surfaces is Radiological Care Services (RCS).

The following cleaning recommendations should be followed as best as possible within facility guidelines and/or governing requirements.

## **After-Use Cleaning**

- Use <u>Clorox Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes</u> or <u>Ecolab Quaternary Based Wipes</u> to wipe down your garments after each use. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on the container.
- Wipe the entire garment surface clean, despite lack of visible contamination or uncleanness, as harmful microorganisms may not be apparent.

Hang or lay the garment flat to dry without creases in an undisturbed environment.

## **Quarterly Deep Cleaning**

- Garments should also undergo a quarterly deep cleaning & sanitization process performed by a third-party company.
- Our recommended partner is <u>Radiological Care Services (RCS)</u>.

#### What to Avoid

- Do not allow garments to go without regular cleaning and maintenance.
- Do not machine launder, autoclave, dry clean, or use abrasive and caustic chemicals and/or cleaners such as bleach-alternative, petroleum-based cleaners, chlorinated solvents, ether, and aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbons.
- Do not allow cleaning solutions to pool or sit longer than recommended by the original manufacturer of the cleaning solution.
- Do not soak or submerge any protective apparel item in either water or chemical solutions for any length of time.
- Do not fold an/or crease garments when drying or while in storage.

## **Storage**

Properly storing protective garments is a critical way to maintain the integrity of any garment and helps ensure the continued safety of patients and medical staff. The following storage recommendations should be followed as best as possible within facility guidelines and/or governing requirements.

## 1) "Do's" for Apparel Storage

- **a.** Techno-Aide recommends all protective garments be safely hung on a specialty designed apron/garment storage rack, hanger, or equivalent storage unit.
- **b.** Store garments in a cool and dry location.
- **c.** Always close and secure any closures a protective garment may have when storing between use.
- **d.** If garments are unable to be hung, ensure all garments are stored flat and uncreased in a low-traffic and undisturbed area.

### 2) "Do Not's" for Apparel Storage

- a. Do not store garments in direct sunlight.
- **b.** Do not allow garments to be creased or sit folded for an extended period of time.
- **c.** Do not store with closures hanging or resting loosely and unsecured.
- **d.** If garments are unable to be hung, do not stack more than three garments of equal size when storing flat.

## Inspections

Techno-Aide recommends regularly inspecting protective garments, at minimum once a year, via radiographs and/or x-ray images to ensure long-term performance and maintain medical staff and patient safety. Frequent inspections can identify any issues quicker and help maintain compliance and safety standards. Techno-Aide recommends considering replacements of protective garments every 18-24 months based on the historical industry use and the average levels of wear and tear.

## **Disposal**

Any product that contains lead must be disposed of properly and adhere to local and federal safety guidelines. Please consult directly with the proper authorities regarding local regulations and requirements governing your facility. Non-lead (lead equivalent) materials, such as Techno-Aide's Super-Lite Lead-Free media are safe to dispose of via your regular trash disposal service. For any questions regarding Techno-Aide's lead or equivalent lead-free media, please contact us toll free at 1-800-251-2629 during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8AM to 4:30PM CST) or email <a href="mailto:customerservice@Techno-Aide.com">customerservice@Techno-Aide.com</a> anytime.