

IFR AND WASHES



ABOUT WHOLESAFETY FABRICS

Wholesafety OHM SERIES Arc clothing is **Inherent Flame Resistant**: the FR protection is **lifelong** and **not subjected to any degradation** during the **garment's entire life**. The reason is that no chemical treatment is involved in the FR properties as the fabrics are Inherently Flame Resistant.



LONG LIFE FLAME RESISTANT



FLAME RESISTANT IS NOT COMPROMISED BY WASHES



FABRICS ARE NATURALLY AND ITSELF FLAME RESISTANT

WHY WASHES NUMBER?

Any manufacturer has to fulfill the **mandatory requirement** (EU Reg. 425/2016 point 2.4) to **test the mechanical resistance** and the **physical** resistance of their garments after a certain number of washes/temperature: **it is up to the manufacturer to decide this mandatory number of washes** and which temperature and indicate it.

MECHANICAL FEATURES ARE VERY IMPORTANT

These mechanical/physical data are **involved in any arc, flame, antistatic, chemical etc. certification process**.

Any Standard's **preoccupation** is to focus also on the **resistance** of a garment under a **breaking or tear strength point of view**. The protection given by a clothing is done, among other aspects, by its capability to **resist the kinetic energy occurring during an arc flash event**.



MANDATORY - ESSENTIAL



SIMULATE THE AGING

Verify the behavior of our garments **simulating the aging** and understanding their **mechanical strength during their real life**.



We do this **through the washing** cycles we decide to perform **before** the testing rounds.



NO BREACHES

Nobody wants that his **clothing** will be **opened during an arc flash** because of **poor tear resistance**: this would vanish any Fr protection



OUR CHOICE

Wholesafety's choice to fulfill the mandatory request of number of washes for **ARC FLASH** test is **100**. And the temperature is **75°C**

GARMENTS' STRENGTH

100 washes is the number of the ARC FLASH protection of Wholesafety's Arc Garments (together with the other multi-protection standards). This number is the mandatory number that must be clearly written:

- in the Certificate
- in the garment's care label
- in the washing instruction (inside the User's Instruction leaflet)

STRENGTH'S TEST OUTPUT



For this reason, thanks to our **very strong verification and aging simulation** done with our 100 washes at 75 degrees, we assess that at this moment, Wholesafety ARC clothing is the most durable and with the longest Arc protection in the market: the double of the usual number adopted.

HOW TO CHECK THE NUMBER WASHES

There are 2 main methods to keep track of the washing number.

SIMPLE ONE: CHART

- Old-fashioned way, simple and not expensive
- It is a **chart inside the clothing**. The user at any wash, marks a cell.
- This method is **not 100% precise** as it happens that sometimes the user forgets to mark the washes
- From an "average" point of view it works to understand where the number of washes is.

INDUSTRIAL LAUNDRY

- RFID tag stitched inside the garment
- In the tag is uploaded the name of the user at the begging of the service
- At any washing cycle the Laundry upload 1 cycle to the user.
- The responsibility of the marking the n° of washes is up to the laundry

