

# CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF PROTECTIVE CLOTHING FOR AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USERS

The correct care and maintenance of protective clothing for agricultural chemical users is an important health and safety measure and is applicable for all clothing that is exposed to chemical contamination. Regular cleaning of garments after use will reduce the chance of personal contamination from a build up of chemical residue. A build up of chemical residue will also degrade the performance properties of fabrics and reduce effective levels of protection and longevity of garments, unless removed with regular cleaning.

We recommend the following procedure for Riggers® Premium Breathable Rainwear apparel which may be adapted to suit your own conditions or application. Please read care labels inside garments before use.

## STEP 1. DECONTAMINATION - PRE WASH RINSE DOWN

Rinse thoroughly prior to removal. Remove immediately if badly damaged or contaminated and dispose of in a safe manner.

**WASH CYCLE** - Hand or machine wash in warm water with mild detergent. We do not recommend cold water detergents washing of clothing as they may damage the fabric coating. The preferred detergents are those used for washing woollen garments.

**RINSE CYCLE** - Rinse thoroughly inside and out to ensure removal of all detergent resides. Unless the garment is thoroughly rinsed, detergent residues may cause skin irritation. Washing machines and/or troughs must be rinsed with hot water and detergent before re-use.

**DRYING CYCLE** - Drip dry after washing. Do not Spin dry. The garment should be completely dry before reuse.

**DRY CLEANING** - Garments may be dry cleaned using the Perchlorethylene process.

#### STEP 3. INSPECTION

Inspect garments visually for: tears, damage to the coating or seam sealing on a regular basis. If your garment becomes damaged or requires repair please contact your Riggers® Premium Breathable Rainwear distributor or Workwear Industries. Small tears or holes in the fabric may be repaired. The longevity of Riggers® Premium Breathable Rainwear apparel is dependent on correct and regular care and the extent and frequency of use. If your garment becomes badly damaged or contaminated it should be disposed of in a safe manner.

### **STEP 4. CHECK WATER REPELLENCY**

The water repellent finish on the outer surface of the garments is an important protective property and part of the waterproofing system. It needs to checked regularly and maintained to ensure optimum performance for wearer comfort and protection. The water repellency needs restoring when water droplets stop beading, and sink into the surface of the fabric. Water repellency can be restored by warm ironing under a cloth (after washing cycle), spraying with Scotchgard® or Nik wax® or by asking your dry cleaner to reproof surface.

### **STEP 5. STORAGE**

Do not store garment in direct sunlight. Fluorescent colours fade if exposed to sunlight. Do not store your garment in a soiled or damp condition, this may effect performance of the fabric and degrade its properties.

#### **LIMITED PROTECTION**

For water based agricultural chemical drift and splash, drift and spray only. Not recommended for contact with dyes, solvent based chemicals, alkaline or acid based chemicals. Do not use for high pressure spray, large spillage, overflow, highly toxic or hazardous chemicals. Always read manufacturer labels prior to use to ensure adequate protection. Do not use when exposed to flame, undue heat or potentially explosive environments. Always check suitability of garment for intended application, if in doubt please contact Workwear Industries Group.