PRODUCT MANUAL

EURO XV Protective Hood

Size: ONE SIZE
Composition: Interlock 180 g/m2
50% Meta Aramid - 50% FR Lenzing

- EN ISO 11611:2015
- EN ISO 11612:2015
- EN ISO 11612:2015
- A1 B1 C1 F1
- EN ISO 13688:2013+
- EN ISO 13688:2013,A1:2021

READ THIS INFORMATION BEFORE USING THIS HOOD

- Do not use this protective element if you have not read or understood this Guide and the tag inside your Hood.
- Do not use it if you have not been trained and supervised on its proper use.
- It will not protect you against all the hazards under all conditions.
- It should be used as part of a complete protective ensemble. It is the responsibility of your employer or organization to determine both the suitability of this Hood for its intended use, and to provide complete and compatible equipment to ensure protection.
- It is important to properly take care of, clean, inspect, store and maintain this Hood in accordance with the recommended instructions in this Guide for it to provide effective protection.

CAUTION - DANGER - WARNING

You may die or suffer from burns or serious injury if you have not been taught or trained on how to properly use this Protective Hood and/or if you have not read and understood this Guide. Do not use this Hood until you are prepared to do so, and you are unaware of its usage limitations, you have any doubts, or if the Hood is damaged, illegible, or missing, you should inform you department or organization or contact Infenord SRL to request a new Guide.

INTRODUCTION

Your protective Hood is intended to provide protection only limited to the head and neck as an interface element of a properly selected and fitted protective ensemble for use during structural firefighting and other high hazard emergency operations. The number of hazards you will face in fire and emergency situations is unlimited and it constantly changes, so it is impossible to list all the risks you could be exposed to.

It's important to mention that while your Protective Hood is designed to provide protection against only a certain number of hazards, it will not provide protection against all types of exposure and under all conditions, even when used correctly.

This Guide provides information and instructions related to the selection, use, care, and maintenance of your Protective Hood. It does not indicate when to use it and under which circumstances, but it does indicate how to use it. It also provides you with information so that you know and understand the limitations on how it may or may not protect you.

Determining the suitability of your Protective Hood for specific emergency operations is the responsibility of your department or employer, who have the legal responsibility to conduct a risk assessment and decide whether this product provides you with the required protection against the hazards you encounter.

Besides, this Guide provides basic information on how to properly take care of and maintain your Protective Hood. It also lists the recommended inspections that should take place on a regular basis and/or qualified personnel (such as, but not limited to, advanced inspection, advanced cleaning, decontamination and decomissioning).

INSPECTION BEFORE USE

General construction and features

Your Hood has been manufactured to meet the following standards:

EN ISO 13688:2013+, EN ISO 13688:2013,A1:2021, EN ISO 11612:2015 / EN ISO 11612:2015 and EN ISO 13349:2010, which refer to General Requirements, Innocuousness, Sizes, Ergonomics, Compatible for helping hands for firefighters, and it is certified in a current release at the moment of manufacture.

The protective Hoods by INFOREST SRL are made from a specialized textile that has been engineered to cover the neck and head, and have a face opening designed to fit around the mask of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and a "Flap" or "skirt" that extends to the sides, the front and the back side, over the upper torso of the user.

Additional information is available at **www.inforest.com.ar**. INFOREST SRL's website.

Safety considerations and limitations of use:

It is extremely important that you have read and understood both this Guide and the labels on the back of your Protective Hood before use. To reduce risks (though not eliminate them), follow these instructions:

Read the label, the Warnings and User Information Guide; and applicable standards:

- It is necessary that you have read and fully understood this Guide as well as the standards listed in the label printed in the hood and the rest of the equipment and tool manuals applicable to emergency operations.

Need for risk assessment:

- Your department, organization, or employer has to conduct a risk assessment upon handing over this product to determine if it provides an adequate level of protection against the identified hazards and risks, and to determine additional requirements for protective clothing, material, ergonomical and ancillary equipment, and accessories.

Limitations of protection:

- You have been trained on and educated about the Hood not providing protection against all hazards and the ways of selecting and using the Hood properly to protect against the expected exposure and/or risk.

Heat sensation awareness:

- Wearing this Protective Hood may decrease your ability to feel heat feeling heat or discomfort while wearing the Protective Hood could result in burns or injury without warning, and you should have your exposure time calculated. Do not assume that you have already suffered burns or are about to suffer burns.
- You must be constantly aware of changes in the potential for exposure to heat and other hazards, exercising caution at all times.

Additional hazards:

- Your Protective Hood, even if kept clean and dry, may not protect you from electrical shock, film, drips, or molten metal/liquid splashes, may increase your risk of death, burns, or injury; it will not protect you from hazards such as, but not limited to, explosions, toxic atmospheres, and burns by drying alcoholic or glycols, or hot pipes or contaminated, unpressurized, wires, enabled or modified from its original.

Use it in accordance with applicable and relevant standards:

- Use it in accordance with applicable and relevant standards.

The use of this Protective Hood is consistent with the safety and hygiene standards of your department or organization, and any specific requirements of your country. Use it only for its intended use, and within its design, performance, and use limitations under the standards described on the label of your Hood.

Hood in Contact with Water:

- Your Hood must be adjusted and used in a proper way to protect the face and the back head, and neck and the upper torso covered by either the SCBA mask or the protective jacket collar and the helmet.

Burn injuries:

- Your Hood in contact with hot protect you from burns, injury, illness or dangerous situations. If your Protective Hood is exposed to radiant, convective and conductive heat, and comes into contact with a flame, nonresistant or objects you may suffer burns under the Protective Hood and/or injured without signs of damage or warning. Do not use it if it is damaged.

Vapor barrier:

- Your Hood is not equipped with a vapor barrier material. It does not protect you against liquid exposure to the head, face, or neck area. Penetration of liquids or dust under the Protective Hood could result in burns or other serious injuries. Do not use it in environments where liquids may enter through the opening between the hood and other protective ensemble interfaces. It does not protect the face and eyes from protection against hazardous vapors or gases, liquefied gases, or cryogenic liquids.

Complete ensemble:

- This Hood is effective only when worn properly, creating a proper interface between the protective clothing, helmet, and SCBA mask. It is a part of a complete ensemble that must include appropriate clothing, helmet, and other components. Your department or organization must conduct risk assessments and determine which elements to use.

Care and maintenance:

- This Hood must be properly inspected, maintained, cleaned, and taken care of by you and your department, organization, or employer in accordance with these instructions and applicable national, state and local laws and regulations. Any dirt, contaminants, damage and wear and tear that may compromise both the integrity and the protective capacity will result in the Hood being immediately removed from service.

INSTRUCTIONS OF USE

Fitting
Follow these steps.

1. Put your Protective Hood over your head with the face opening around your face. Pull your Hood through the face opening until the Hood is around your neck.
2. Make sure that the bib or skirt portion of your Protective Hood covers the full and exposed neck and upper torso so that it remains under the protective clothing and helmet. Your Hood should be adjusted to prevent or minimize interference with the jacket manufacturer's instructions.
3. Put on the SCBA mask and adjust the straps according to the SCBA manufacturer's instructions.
4. Pull the Hood up from the face opening and fit it around the SCBA mask straps. Positioning the Hood around the straps will minimize exposure gaps.

Interface issues and adjustment recommendation:

5. Position the opening of your protective Hood so that it does not interfere with the SCBA mask and that the eye port covered by the SCBA hood.
6. Tie and adjust your helmet according to the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure that the fit and adjustment do not compromise the protective Hood covering the face and neck area.

Your Protective Hood must fit properly and not interfere with other ensemble elements to ensure adequate protection. Improper fit and adjustment of the Hood may allow exposure of the face and neck area through the ear or interface with the SCBA mask seal.

- Adjusts the protective helmet, if needed, to ensure hood and secure on your head. The bib or skirt portion of your protective Hood should be tucked in under the collar and top of your protective garment so as not to bunch and cause cliff-in-your-face. If it does not stay tucked in after adjustments, notify your supervisors as you may need a hood with a longer bib or skirt.

Removal

The procedure of removing your Hood varies depending on whether your Protective Hood is contaminated or not.

UNCONTAMINATED - FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

1. Remove your helmet first, according to the helmet manufacturer's instructions.
2. Pull the face opening area of your protective Hood and remove it from the SCBA mask, down around your neck, so that your head promotes through the face opening of the Protective Hood.
3. Remove the SCBA mask according to the manufacturer's instructions.
4. Take the protective Hood off the head by gently pulling it up and over the hood. Hold the skirt of the Hood should come out from under the protective garment or jacket.
5. Place your Hood as described in the instructions above.
6. Clean and store the Hood as specified in these instructions.

CONTAMINATED - FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

If this protective item has been contaminated with blood, bodily fluids, pesticides, chemicals, or other hazardous substances, exercise extreme caution when removing it to avoid exposure to yourself and others. Use gloves, barrier creams, or other protective gloves. Remove your protective gaiment by folding it with bodily fluids from under your chin, lifting it up and back over your head, and folding it inward and downward to contain the fluids. Use hand sanitizers to remove the Hood and other parts of your ensemble to minimize exposure to any contaminants. Avoid spreading contaminants to personal belongings, vehicles, work areas, or broker rooms. Damage or changes should be checked and corrected before using your Hood again.

CONSIDERATIONS

This Hood is not guaranteed to fit a particular purpose. Read carefully the WARRANTY information at the end of this Guide. If the fit on the Hood is missing or eligible, contact INFOREST SRL for further instructions which may include removal of the Hood from service.

Size:

All INFOREST SRL Protective Hoods are offered in one universal size, intended to provide a fit for most users. Dimensions provided in the next section to ensure proper use of this product.

Design and Performance Requirements:

Representative samples of your Protective Hood and its components have been tested and found to meet the minimum design and performance requirements set forth in the EN ISO 13688 standard, and EN 11612. Such test requirements include hood dimensions, flame resistance, resistance to heat, heat transfer, and heat stored, resistance to convective and radiant heat, resistance to molten aluminum, resistance to molten iron, fabric tear resistance, seam tear resistance, and dimensional stability to multiple laundering. Your protective Hood has been tested and certified to the field, only in accordance with the specifications as given herein, please talk to your department or organization, who is in turn can contact INFOREST SRL.

INSPECTIONS

It is recommended to inspect your Hood before its first use and after each use.
It is essential that your department or organization establishes a control system and procedure for cleaning, with scheduled inspections on a systematic and regular basis. It is recommended that written records of these inspections be kept on file.

Inspection before the first use:
Before using the Hood for the first time, make sure that it does not have any manufacturing defects or damage when put into service.

Routine inspections:
After each use, inspect your protective Hood for:
- Hood damage such as, but not limited to, cleaning, burns, melting, and discoloration of any layer.
- Seam and stitch integrity, ensuring there are no broken or missing seams.
- Deformation of the elastic opening of the face. Evaluate if it is still elastic and that not stretched or deformed too much. The face opening of your Protective Hood should fit securely around your face and SCBA mask to be effective.
- Label legibility: Labels should not be removed, and the information and/or markings must be legible.
- Suspicious appearance or characteristics.

After inspection, if any of the above conditions have been detected, promptly notify your department or organization supervisor to request an answer about the continued serviceability of your Protective Hood. Given the cost of the Protective Hood, repairs are generally not recommended.

Advanced inspections:
Your Protective Hood should undergo a more thorough inspection at least every 12 months after each advanced cleaning or decontamination process. Inspections should be performed by a competent person (a person with the required training or education and experience to be a competent person) or by a qualified person (a competent person who has demonstrated the ability to resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the issue). Contact INFOREST SRL if you need a copy of the current standard for the selection, care, and maintenance of structural firefighting protection ensembles is recommended.

When properly cleaned and maintained, the Hood will keep its protective properties, but not indefinitely.

CARE, MAINTENANCE, CLEANING, AND STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

It's important to keep your Protective Hood clean, free from contamination, and stored properly at all times. Protective clothing that is soiled or contaminated is a potential risk to the user.

Soiled or contaminated protective hoods may present both severe or immediate hazards, like long term illnesses, as many contaminants are flammable or can be absorbed through the skin, and some of which may be carcinogenic.

Dirty protective hoods do not provide an adequate level of protection and/or compromise the wearer's health and safety. Cleaning, care, and maintenance and application of the various standards for the selection, care, and maintenance of structural firefighting protection ensembles is recommended.

When properly cleaned and maintained, the Hood will keep its protective properties, but not indefinitely.

Preventive measures/ Cleaning precautions: Incorrect cleaning procedures can severely damage your Protective Hood.

1. Do not use chlorine, bleach or detergents containing chlorine. Chlorine and bleach can severely damage the fabric of your Hood and quickly deteriorate the constituent materials.
2. Do not wash or dry in industrial and/or commercial dry cleaners.
3. Do not dry or store in direct sunlight.
4. Do not dry. Do not tumble dry.
5. Hot water temperature should not exceed 30 °C (86 °F) (cold or just warm water is recommended).
6. Do not spin dry.
7. Do not use fabric softeners or detergents containing fabric softeners. Fabric softeners can severely damage your Hood together with clothing or personal items.
8. It is recommended to use a regular mild detergent.
9. Hot drying should not exceed 70 °C (86 °F) (cool or low heat drying is recommended).

Machine washing instructions:

Washing machines and dryers can be used but only under the specified conditions. If you wash your Hood together with other protective garments, do so only together with the same parts or barriers. Never wash the Hood together with the outer layers of other protective ensembles, as accessories and hook fasteners will damage your Hood.
Follow these procedures when machine washing or using a domestic washing machine:

1. Preliminarily use a specific washing machine to clean protective clothing. While top loading washers are more effective than front loading (if preferred), as they are less likely to physically damage the clothing, front loading washers are ideal for water hoses, hydrants, and pressure.
2. Pre-wash and remove any loose soil. Even if any material attaches to the components and/or fabrics of the Hood, it will not affect its performance. It is thoroughly important to ensure its integrity and solid in order to prevent the Hood to serviceable condition.
3. Pre-treat areas that are very dirty or stained.
4. Use a regular mild detergent in quantity according to the detergent supplier's instructions.
5. Only at low temperature or in a well-ventilated and cool shaded place. Never in direct sunlight.
6. After washing it, inspect the Hood. If it is not clean, repeat the cycle and/or send for advanced cleaning procedures.
7. Unless otherwise indicated, do not load the machine to more than 85% of its rated capacity. Overloading can cause improper cleaning.

Routine cleaning:
Clean your Protective Hood after each use or when dirty.

Advanced cleaning:
Your protective Hood should undergo an advanced cleaning at least every 12 months, at the time of the advanced inspection, or when contaminated with substances that are known to be carcinogenic. Cleaning should be performed by a qualified member of your department or organization, or an independent service provider. It is important that full written documentation of advanced cleaning be kept on file.

Decontamination:
The appropriate decontamination procedure will depend on the type and level of contamination. Do not use a decontamination procedure that is not recommended or that has been contaminated.

Blood or body fluids:
If your Protective Hood becomes contaminated with blood or body fluids, isolate it immediately and notify your supervisors, department, or organization. The garment should undergo an advanced cleaning procedure, using specialized procedures.

Chemicals, toxins, fuels, or other hazardous substances:
If the garment comes into contact with these substances, it should be removed from service immediately and properly cleaned. Other garments or surfaces should be avoided. Notify your supervisor in order to proceed with decontamination.

Repairs:
Do not attempt to repair your Hood. If it is damaged, inform your supervisor, department, or organization and request a new hood or equipment. Repairs are generally not cost-effective and a new Protective Hood is usually more practical our recommended.

Recommended storage:
Once the Hood already is clean, dry and free from contamination. Storage of wet Hoods can lead to the development and growth of germs, bacteria, fungi and cause skin irritation, rashes, and/or diseases, and fungi can damage the fabric and compromise its protective capacity. Do not store your Hood in direct sunlight.
Store your protective garment in a dry, clean and ventilated area, away from direct sunlight.
Do not over pack your Hood with other personal belongings or in shared spaces with particular garments or items.
Do not store your Hood with other personal Hood in the pocket of your protective coat or pants, as it could get contaminated, dirty, and/or damaged.

CONTINUOUS SERVICE, REMOVAL FROM SERVICE, FINAL DISPOSAL, LIFESPAN

The decision to keep your protective Hood in service should be made by a qualified person within your department or organization. If you are in doubt about your protective Hood and its condition, immediately report this concern to your supervisor, department or organization. Protective garments that are no longer considered safe for use due to damage, contamination, or other conditions are to be taken out of service and destroyed in a way that prevents further use or abuse, and in accordance with federal, state/provincial, or local regulations so that the hood cannot be reused, e.g., the Hood may be cut into pieces.
If you have been burned or injured while wearing your protective hood, you must remove it from service and retain it for as long as your department or organization deems necessary.

Service life

It is generally less than 10 years, regardless of where it was originally purchased. These guidelines should be followed to determine its useful life:

- It should be routinely inspected and replaced if it shows signs of damage.
- Remove it if it does not comply with current regulations.
- Replace it when it is more than 10 years old. The manufacturing date on the label inside your protective Hood indicates when it was produced and its wear-ready.

WARRANTY

INFOREST SRL warrants its protective Hoods to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for one year.
This warranty does not cover:

- Normal wear and tear.
- Unusual exposure or exposure above the required test limits.
- Damage caused by accessories in contact with or in close run to the Hood, which could be abrasive, sharp, or damaging.

This warranty supersedes all other warranties, express or implied, including any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, and to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.
INFOREST SRL shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages.

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