

User Information Guide

User Information Guide for Fire-Dex Structural Fire Fighter Hoods Third Party Certified to NFPA 1971, Current Edition

WARNING: Do not use this hood until you have read and understood all provisions of this User Information Guide and the information provided on the hood label. THIS INFORMATION SHALL BE REMOVED BY END USER ONLY.

Pre-Use Information: Fire fighting is an extremely dangerous activity involving unlimited hazards that may cause burns, injuries, infections or death. Fire fighters must follow the instructions in this Guide before using their Fire-Dex hoods. Even when correctly used and maintained, Fire-Dex hoods will not eliminate the dangers and risks of fire fighting. Your Fire-Dex hood must fit properly and interface with your turnout so that no gaps in coverage occur during all ranges of movement. Do not use your Fire-Dex hood if it does not fit or interface properly with your other protective equipment. Hoods are designed for structural fire fighting only and meet the requirements of NFPA 1971, current edition. Your Fire-Dex hood may be marked using permanent, non-toxic ink on the outer shell and/or the label inside the hood. You must clean, maintain and store your Fire-Dex hood properly. Failure to do so will increase your risk of injury or death. Do not alter your hood in any way as it may increase your risk of injury or death. Your fire department must independently evaluate the suitability of Fire-Dex hoods on a regular basis to determine when the hood must be removed from service. Do not continue to use hoods that are damaged contaminated or otherwise do not pass inspection. Even when properly used and maintained protective qualities of Fire-Dex hoods will diminish in time and need to be replaced for your safety. Most performance properties of the hood can not be tested by the end user in the field; however, it is the responsibility of the end user to inspect the hood regularly. It is also the responsibility of the end user to become familiar with the applicable NFPA and OSHA standards. Fire-Dex, LLC warrants its structural fire hood to be free from defects in workmanship for the serviceable life of the product when used by appropriately trained personnel following proper fire fighting procedures and when the product's warning use and care instructions are followed. Inasmuch as Fire-Dex, LLC has no control over the manner or way in which our product is used after it leaves our facility, we can not be responsible by warranty or otherwise for results or effect of its use. Please follow the criteria established by your fire department to determine the suitability of our product for its particular application.

Preparation for use: One size fits all on Fire-Dex hoods. Hoods should be cleaned with a mild detergent and dried thoroughly and stored in a cool, dry place. Keep hoods out of direct sunlight or fluorescent light as that could weaken or damage the hood.

Inspection: For best results, clean the hood before inspection. Inspection shall be on a regular basis, at least once a month, or after evidence of damage or contamination. Inspect the hood for cuts, tears, worn areas, loose or open seams, discoloration or charring. If damage has occurred, the hood should be taken out of service for repair, cleaning and/or disposal.

Donning/Doffing: Place hood over head with face opening over face, pull hood face opening over the head so hood is around neck. Put on SCBA face mask and adjust straps. Pull hood up and over back of head, covering mask straps. Assure that SCBA face piece and hood overlap so that no gaps occur in protection in any body position encountered during use. Be sure that the hood does not interfere with the SCBA face piece seal to the wearer's face. Remove the hood in reverse order from that which was just described. Slip two hands under the inside of the hood and gently pull the hood off in an upward motion to avoid any contact of the outside hood layer with the skin. Inspect the hood for any change or damage in condition. If your hood has become contaminated during use, exercise extreme caution in removal and avoid contact of the hood with your bare skin. Contaminated hoods should be bagged and disposed of in accordance with local, state and federal standards.

Use: Hoods are to be used consistently with NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program, and 29 CFR 1910.132, General Requirements of Subpart I, Personal Protective Equipment.



User Information Guide

Maintenance and Cleaning: Do not use hoods that have not been thoroughly cleaned and dried. Doing so could jeopardize your safety. Hoods may be hand washed or machine washed, do not dry clean.

Hand washing:

Fill basin with warm water 105 °F (40 °C) and add a mild detergent (10.5 pH). DO NOT USE CHLORINE BLEACH as it will diminish the protective qualities of the hood. Protective gloves must be used for both heat and contaminate protection.

Add hood and soak until thoroughly wet.

Hand wash by rubbing together.

Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

Do not wring hood. Squeeze hood to remove excess water. Reshape and dry flat in a cool shaded location.

Dispose of all wastewater according to local, state and federal standards.

Machine washing:

Fill machine with warm water 105 °F (40 °C)

Add a mild detergent (10.5 pH). DO NOT USE CHLORINE BLEACH as it will diminish the protective qualities of the hood. Protective gloves must be used for both heat and contaminate protection.

Add hoods (up to 20 per standard washer size)

Wash using normal wash cycle with a double rinse

Squeeze hood to remove excess water. Reshape and dry flat in a cool shaded location or machine dry on a "no heat" or "air dry" setting. Be sure the dryer temperature does not exceed 105 °F (40 °C)

Inspect hood before use. If hood is still contaminated or does not pass inspection, do not use it. Turn in the hood to your department and order a replacement hood from Fire-Dex, LLC.

Retirement and disposal of hood: Dispose of hoods that have been exposed to extreme heat, hazardous materials or that fail to pass inspection procedures defined by your fire department. If hood has been contaminated with hazardous materials, blood, body fluids or other chemicals isolate and bag the hood avoiding contact with the contaminated hood. Continued water resistance of hood does not indicate viral or chemical resistance. Dispose of hood according to local, state and federal standards.

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