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## CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOME LAUNDERING PROBAN<sup>®</sup> / FR-7A<sup>®</sup> FABRICS

During the past few years, we have had an increasing number of inquiries concerning **home washing** of flame resistant cotton fabrics. With the current expanded usage of flame and thermal protective clothing by new industries, the likelihood of washing clothes at home is greater. We pass on the following suggestions to you as a clothing supplier to use with end-users who inquire about how to best wash their clothes. **For optimum performance and comfort, we recommend laundering this garment prior to the first wearing.**

Flame resistant cotton fabrics of the above descriptions by their very nature require proper consideration of washing and drying method to maximize performance life of the garment. The following points are important.

### IN THE HOME WASHER

- (1) For best results, an adequate supply of soft water is required for home laundering garments.
- (2) Use a water level sufficient for the quantity of clothes washed, preferably the high level on the washer. Do not overload the washer.
- (3) Use a quality detergent in the manufacturer's recommended amount for effective cleaning. Where possible, phosphate built detergents are preferred for this purpose.
- (4) To minimize edge and surface abrasion, wash clothes inside out. Avoid overloading.
- (5) Use a water temperature sufficient to clean clothes, but as low as possible to minimize wash shrinkage. With quality detergents, a warm or cold setting may suffice.
- (6) **DO NOT USE CHLORINE BLEACH (SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE) OR HYDROGEN PEROXIDE EITHER SEPARATELY OR IN DETERGENTS..**

### IN THE DRYER

- (1) Use the minimum temperature setting required to dry clothing in a practical time. Use permanent press setting with cool-down cycle if possible.
- (2) As in washing, dry clothes inside out.
- (3) Remove clothes immediately when dry or when slightly damp to minimize shrinkage. In the latter case, hang to complete drying.

While this discussion is directed to home washing, the principles involved apply to **industrial washing** as well. For additional details on washing, request Westex's technical information sheets entitled:

"Home Laundry Practices for Flame Resistant Fabrics"