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CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES PPE Regulation 2016/425

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RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

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Question related to PPE Regulation		⊠ EN 143	325:2018	Other:	
Article:	Annex:	Clause: 4.3			
Key words: Certification, reusable Protective clothing, pre-treatment					
Question:		•			

If a garment claims reusability, a pre treatment has to be performed. EN 14325:2018 states that in case no number of washing cycles was given by the manufacturer 5 cycles have to be performed.

Question 1: If the garment has to be reimpregnated with a substance after less then 5 washing cycles, is it still necessary to perform 5 washing cycles?

Question 2 (In case the answer to Question 1 is "no"): What type of pre-treatment should be performed?

Question 3 (In case the answer to Question 1 is "no"): Should this modified pre-treatment be used for all testing or for specific test methods only?

Solution:

Answer 1: No.

Answer 2: The test should be performed as a "worst case" for the garment i.e., washing the garment one time less then would require the reimpregnation with a foreign substance.

Examples:

- Reimpregnation after every washing cycle → no washing before testing and re-test after washing and reimpregnating once (see also EN 469:2020, clause 5.4)
- Reimpregnation after 5 washing cycles → washing 4 times before testing
- Reimpregnation after 25 washing cycles → washing 24 times before testing

Answer 3: This form of pre-treatment should only be used for test methods that test for chemical resistance and test concerning flammability. Therefore, the modifications should be used for testing according to clauses 4.11, 4.12, 4.13, 4.14 and 4.15.

All other tests, 4.4 to 4.10 do not require reimpregnation.