

Advisory Note –

Potential safety hazard with Trelchem VPS FLASH

Purpose

The purpose of this advisory note is

- To alert users of the Trelchem VPS FLASH suit of a potential hazard of visor separation from the suit due to improper bonding.
- To provide users/customers with guidance on measures to be taken.
- To provide users/customers with details of the corrective action that will be undertaken by Ansell Protective Solutions.

Immediate actions to be taken

Please note that this advisory note only applies to Trelchem VPS FLASH types CV and VP1 i.e. totally encapsulating suits with visors. No other Trelchem suits are affected. See images below to identify Trelchem VPS FLASH suits.

Suits for immediate response

- Identify and contain the suits.
- Inspect the suits according to the enclosed instruction (or contact Ansell Protective Solutions).
- Report the number of suits on site, serial no and the results of the inspection using the attached form and send it to Ansell Protective Solutions, contact details below. **IMPORTANT:** Report the number of suits and their serial numbers as soon as possible regardless if you carry out the inspection or not.
- All defective suits will be repaired by Ansell Protective Solutions.
- Contact Ansell Protective Solutions to deal with potentially defective suits or to schedule an on-site visit for inspection.

Suits in pods, warehouses, stock etc for potential use

- Identify and contain the suits.
- Report the number of suits and serial no for each suit, using the attached form, to Ansell Protective Solutions.
- Contact Ansell Protective Solutions to schedule an on-site visit for inspection.
- All defective suits will be repaired by Ansell Protective Solutions.





Trellchem VPS FLASH suits can be identified using the left sleeve label.

Background

Ansell Protective Solutions markets the Trelchem VPS FLASH Suit. The suit is intended to provide chemical protection according to the requirements of NFPA 1991 including the optional chemical FLASH fire escape and liquefied gas protection.

Ansell Protective Solutions has detected a potential problem with visors separating from the suit material. The potential problem only concerns Trelchem VPS FLASH. So far, only a few suits have been found to actually exhibit the problem in the field. Root cause of the visor separation is due to the welding of a reinforcement tape around the visor, which does not appear to be sufficient. Although there have been no reported adverse incidents associated with these suits, Ansell Protective Solutions is exercising an abundance of caution to insure that any future hazard is mitigated.

Corrective action

- Ansell Protective Solutions has identified that a small portion of the VPS FLASH from a time frame of production may exhibit the described problem.
- Ansell has identified all customers who purchased the suits from the manufactured period.
- Ansell is providing instructions and will conduct customer site visitation to inspect the suits and fix the visor if necessary.
- Ansell has taken measures beyond the American and European standards in inspection and quality control for these suits and the production process has been improved. Consequently, no suits being shipped today are affected by the potential problem described above.

Ansell Protective Solutions AB
Johan Kocksgatan 10
SE-231 81 Trelleborg
Sweden

Tel. + 46 410 518 00
Fax. + 46 410 518 50
Web. <http://protective.ansell.com>



Contact

Please contact the Ansell office in (closest to) your region.

Ansell Protective Solutions Inc, North America

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Phone: +1 800-344-4458

Fax: +1 508-261-1449

Email: aps.na@ansell.com

Ansell Protective Solutions AB, Sweden

Johan Kocksgatan 10, SE-231 81 Trelleborg, Sweden.

Phone: +46 (0)410 518 00,

Fax: +46 (0)410 518 40

Email: order.protective@eu.ansell.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Magnus Andersson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Magnus Andersson

Managing Director

Ansell Protective Solutions (formerly Trelleborg Protective Products)

This letter is addressed to you under reservation of all our rights and without any prejudicial acknowledgement.

Enclosures:

Response form.

Suit inner label with serial number.

Inspection instruction.



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RESPONSE FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Please fax this completed form to +1 508-261-1449

or e-mail to aps.na@ansell.com

RESPONSE REQUIRED:

1. Do you have any of the products in question on hand? (Please check inventories before answering)

YES _____ NO _____ Inventory Remaining, number of suits: _____ pcs

2. Have you inspected the suits as described here and, if so, found any signs of a poor bond between the

visor and suit? Potential problems detected _____ YES _____ NO

3. Any adverse events associated with the product in question? _____ YES _____ NO

If YES, Please explain:

4. If you have distributed this product to other sites, please forward a copy of this **notification letter and response** form for their review and action.

Your Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

YOUR PROMPT RESPONSE IS APPRECIATED.



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Inside label of Trelchem VPS FLASH suit with the serial number marked with a red ring.

TRELLCHEM®  Cert. Mod. (NFPA 1991:2005)
NFPA 1991 CERTIFIED VAPOR PROTECTIVE SUIT U.S. PATENT PENDING

MODEL # TRELLCHEM® VPS FLASH SIZE _____
 SERIAL 123456

DATE OF COMPLIANCE OF TESTING TO ASTM F 1052 /
 DATE OF MANUFACTURE _____

GARMENT MATERIAL:	TRELLCHEM® VPS FLASH
VISOR MATERIAL:	2 MM HIGH IMPACT PVC
GLOVE:	KEVLAR® OUTER GLOVE / RUBBER GLOVE / MULTILAYER INNER GLOVE
FOOTWEAR ITEM:	TRELLCHEM® VPS FLASH SOCK

THIS VAPOR-PROTECTIVE ENSEMBLE MEETS THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS OF NFPA 1991, STANDARD ON VAPOR-PROTECTIVE ENSEMBLES FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCIES, 2005 EDITION, AND ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AS NOTED BELOW.

THE TECHNICAL DATA PACKAGE CONTAINS INFORMATION ON CHEMICALS AND SPECIFIC CHEMICAL MIXTURES FOR WHICH THIS ENSEMBLE IS CERTIFIED.

CONSULT TECHNICAL DATA PACKAGE AND MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS LABEL

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO
LIMITED CHEMICAL FLASH FIRE PROTECTION FOR ESCAPE ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A CHEMICAL FLASH FIRE	X	
LIQUEFIED GAS PROTECTION	X	

FOR COMPLIANCE WITH NFPA 1991, THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS MUST BE WORN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS VAPOR-PROTECTIVE ENSEMBLE:

GENPHILL MK30-4-XL KEVLAR® OVER GLOVE / RUBBER GLOVE #072 251 010 / ANSELL BARRIER® Q2-100 INNER GLOVE OR NORTH SAFETY PRODUCTS SILVER SHIELD®/4H TINGLEY HAZPROOF BOOT #82330 OR #82331

ANSELL PROTECTIVE SOLUTIONS AB
 JOHAN KOCKSGATAN 10, SE-231 81 TRELLEBORG, SWEDEN
 MADE IN LITHUANIA
 © ANSELL PROTECTIVE SOLUTIONS AB 1211

DO NOT REMOVE THIS LABEL



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CHECKING OF VISOR TO SUIT BOND

<p>1.</p>	<p>Lay down the suit and unzip it. Check the suit serial number on the inner label and note it. (A larger image of the label can be found above.) This label is on the hump inside the suit.</p>	
<p>2.</p>	<p>Take a flat and blunt plate (no sharp edges, rough spots etc) and check if the bonding is proper between the suit and visor reinforcement by moving with this plate all around the visor:</p>	<p>If it is OK, the plate will not go inbetween suit and visor reinforcement.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Close the zipper and inflate the suit (as described in the user manual).</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>With the same flat and blunt plate check welding between reinforcement and suit by moving plate all around the visor outside the suit:</p>	<p>If this welding is OK, the plate will not go inbetween suit and visor reinforcement.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>If any defective bonding or separation is detected take the suit of service and contact Ansell.</p>	