

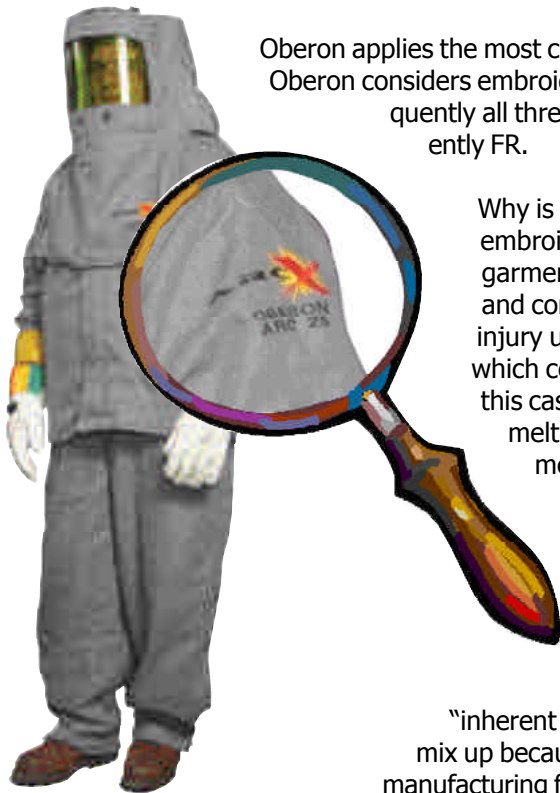
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is it important for FR garment heraldry to be flame resistant (FR) including embroidered logos and embroidered name tags?

The short answer from Oberon's perspective is "yes".

According to ASTM F1506-02a Section 6.1, "Thread, findings and closures used in garment construction shall not contribute to the severity of injuries to the wearer in the event of a momentary electric arc or related thermal exposure."

Also pertinent is Section 6.1.1 "Sewing thread utilized in the construction of garments shall be made of an inherently flame-resistant fiber and shall not melt when tested at a temperature of 260°C (500°F) in accordance with Federal Test Method Standard 191A, 1534."



Oberon applies the most conservative interpretation to ASTM Sections 6.1 and 6.1.1, i.e. Oberon considers embroidery thread to be part of the garment construction. Consequently all thread in Oberon garments including embroidery thread is inherently FR.

Why is this important? Since there is a concentration of thread in embroidery, this adds a significant fuel source in this section of the garment. If flammable thread is used for embroidery, it could ignite and continue to burn in the embroidery area causing increased burn injury under this area of the garment. Flammable sewing thread which contains polyester or nylon fibers can melt as well as burn. In this case, in addition to the thread ignition problem, there is a thread melting hazard. The inside surface of the embroidery thread can melt against the clothing or skin, and this can increase the severity of the burn injuries to the wearer.

There is another important factor regarding flammable sewing thread. If inherently FR thread is used in seams and for closures, but flammable thread is used for embroidery, there is a risk of inadvertently using the flammable thread for seams and closures. Oberon's "inherent thread only" policy avoids the possibility of this type of thread mix up because flammable thread is simply not permitted in the Oberon manufacturing facility.

For over 20 year, since Oberon created the first Arc Flash faceshields and clothing, the industry has looked to Oberon as the leader.


Pioneer and Leader in Arc Flash PPE

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