

NFPA Codes and Standards
Summary of Chapters

NFPA 1851: Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.

This standard establishes requirements for the selection, care, and maintenance of fire fighting protective ensembles to reduce health and safety risks associated with improper maintenance, contamination, or damage.

This standard shall specify the minimum selection, care, and maintenance requirements for structural fire fighting protective ensembles and the individual ensemble elements that include garments, helmets, gloves, footwear, and interface components that are compliant with NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.

Chapter 4: Program

- a. The organization shall establish a program for the selection, care and maintenance of fire fighting protective ensembles
- b. The program should have components that include records, cleaning and decontamination, repair, storage and disposal.

Chapter 5: Selection and Purchase

- a. To mitigate risk, organizations shall ensure the selection of fighting ensembles and elements meet NFPA requirements.
- b. The purchase of ensembles must meet industry certification and specifications.

Chapter 6: Inspection

- a. For inspection purposes, organizations must determine actions for cleaning, decontamination and repairs for soiled and contaminated damaged ensemble elements.
- b. Both routine and advanced inspection would be required for proper and effective functionality of ensembles.
- c. Individual members shall conduct a routine inspection upon issue and after each use.

Chapter 7: Cleaning and Decontamination

- a. Organizations shall provide a means of having ensembles cleaned and decontaminated.
- b. Specific guidelines should be made available for having ensemble elements cleaned and decontaminated. Not permitted is washing in the home, at public or commercial facilities.
- c. Contaminated ensembles and ensemble elements should be isolated from non-contaminated ensemble and ensemble elements in order to prevent associated hazards.

- d. Organizations must adhere to manufacturer's label and user information for instructions and other precautionary measures. Each component of the ensemble will have specific instructions

Chapter 8: Repair

- a. Repair of ensembles are best done through the original manufacturer
- b. Provision of training is required by the manufacturer for managing repairs
- c. Advanced cleaning is also required before undertaken any repair work on ensembles.

Chapter 9: Storage

- a. Before storage, ensemble should be always be clean and dry
- b. Ensembles should not be stored closed to hazardous contaminants and shall be hung to prevent creases and folds.
- c. Storage facilities should be well ventilated, room temperature with no direct sunlight.

Chapter 10: Retirement, Disposition, and Special Incident Procedure

- a. Ensembles shall be retired no more than 10 years after their manufacturing date.
- b. Retired ensembles shall be disposed of, or marked for training that does not involve live fire, or other conditions as determined by the organization.
- c. Ensembles that cannot be repaired, or decontaminated shall be disposed of.

Chapter 11: Verification

Applies to a certified organization or company that provides verified advanced inspection, advanced cleaning, and advanced repairs of garment elements

- a. The certification organization shall design verification program, conduct an inspection and testing as well as designing a quality management program.

Chapter 12: Test Procedures

Applies to testing procedures and methods used for advanced testing and repairs