

## User instructions

### Maintenance Manual for Protective Gloves for Firefighters - with Membrane – Combined – Leather

Dear customer,

**Congratulations on your purchase of Holík protective gloves.**

**This product complies with all requirements and standards for protective gloves for firefighters.**

**The gloves are designed for normal and extreme firefighting interventions and for other rescue and salvation activities.**

To ensure the functionality and safe use of the gloves, observe the instructions contained herein.

This is not only the way to extend the service life of the gloves, but also to protect the lives of firefighters. The lining of the protective glove is in direct contact with the user's skin, which can cause the absorption of contaminants (often of a carcinogenic nature) through the skin to the firefighter's body, thus causing health problems.

This risk can be significantly reduced by the regular maintenance of the outer and, in particular, the inner parts of the gloves.

#### 1. Notice to Users

- Before each use of the gloves and after it, visually inspect the gloves, in particular the seams and possible tearing of the material. If you notice damage to the glove structure to the extent that they cannot provide sufficient hand protection, discard the gloves immediately. Perform this inspection by yourself.
- Remove coarse dirt after each use.
- In the event of chemical contamination (e.g. spillage of petrol or diesel), contact a specialist company which will ensure the cleaning of the gloves, or discard the gloves immediately.
- When washing, never use fabric softeners, chlorine-based agents, optical bleaches or powder washing detergents or alkaline additives intended for household washing.
- Before washing, close any velcro fasteners and remove any carabiners.
- When working with washing and cleaning detergents, observe safety data sheets and use protective gloves and goggles.

#### 2. Procedures

##### 2.1. Machine Wash

###### General Instructions and Information

- It is allowed to wash the leather gloves together with the firefighter's protective clothing. Use only liquid washing detergent containing a decontamination component for washing of firefighter's PPE.
- To prevent discoloration of the gloves when washing, it is advisable to wash color models separately.
- Make sure you wash and rinse both the inner and the outer structures of the gloves thoroughly.

###### Tips for Efficient Washing

- Put a floorball ball into each glove. The ball ensures thorough washing and rinsing of the inner structure of the glove.

- When washing, use high levels of water. This is to avoid strong mechanical abrasion of the outer fabric.

### **Washing-Machine Load**

- Observe the correct load, i.e. 30-60 % of the useful washing-machine load.
- If the washing machine is not loaded up to 30 % of volume - for example you wash only 1 pair of gloves, insert accompanying textiles into the washing machine.
- If you start the washing machine which is overfilled (> 60 %) or which does not meet the requirement for the minimum load (< 30 %), the result of washing will be negatively affected.

### **Examples of Loading the Washing Machine with a Drum Capacity of 6 kg of Laundry**

- Maximum load:
  - up to 10 pairs of Holík gloves
  - 1-3 pairs of Holík gloves + 1 part of firefighter's protective clothing.
- Minimum load:
  - 1 pair of Holík gloves + accompanying textiles
- Maximum allowable washing-machine load is 3.5 kg of laundry.
- 1 washing-machine load of approx. 2-3.5 kg = 30-60% of optimum useful load.

### **Dosage**

- Dosage of washing gel Holík per 5 kg of laundry is 80-120 ml.

### **Washing Temperature**

- Normally wash at 40 °C, short program. Fill the machine with water so that the water is visible at the bottom edge of the load window.

### **Rinsing, Spinning**

- Gloves - in particular the inner part shall be rinsed so that there are no detergent residues inside the lining. 3 cycles of rinsing, each lasting 4-5 min., are recommended.
- Drain by spinning at maximum of 800 rpm.

### **End of the Washing Process**

- Remove the floorball ball from the glove. Insert your hand into the glove to shape the glove.

## **2.2. Disinfection**

- If there is a high risk of infection, add disinfectant to the washing detergent and proceed according to the instructions of the detergent manufacturer.
- Then wash as detailed in 2.1.

## **2.3. Adding fat to Leather**

- It is advisable to add fat to leather to avoid hardening of the leather when drying.
- Pull the glove on your hand and shape it. When the leather is still wet or partly dry, apply oil emulsion "Holík" to it in such a volume that a thin white layer remains on the leather. To do so, use the foam applicator. The layer is absorbed gradually when drying.
- If necessary, the oil emulsion application procedure shall be repeated after partial drying and mechanical treatment.

## 2.4. Drying

- The gloves shall be dried in the vertical position, with the fingers up, on glove and footwear dryers, at a circulating-air temperature of  $\leq 40$  °C.
- If the dryer cannot be used, dry the gloves vertically, with the fingers up, in a room at a uniform warm-air flow.
- When drying, reshape the glove on your hand and pull the glove to the length several times. The cuffs, palm and back to the length and width so that the gloves remain soft and keep their correct shape.
- After drying, insert your hand into the glove again and shape the glove.
- Do not dry the gloves in direct sunlight or place them directly on heat sources.
- Do not use a dryer.
- Never accelerate drying.

### Our Tip

- To improve the water-repellent properties, the dried parts of grain leathers on the gloves can be lightly ironed over tissue paper, using an iron without steam.



## 2.5. Impregnation

- Fluorocarbon-based impregnation adds water-repellent, oil-repellent and anti-dirt properties of the face part of the gloves.
- Impregnate the outer part of the glove structure. Use cross spraying. Apply two layers of fluorocarbon spray to the dry face of the glove. Brush the spray lightly, using a soft brush and allow to dry for about 12 hours.

### Notice

- It is not recommended that you apply fluorocarbon from a water bath to impregnate the gloves because there is a risk of membrane clogging and change to the properties of the lining.
- Spray shall be applied in a well-ventilated room.

## 3. Storage

- The gloves shall be kept and stored exclusively in the dry, clean, dark and ventilated environment and at a room temperature.
- Moisture, dirt, mold or any other factors significantly reduce the protection level and user comfort.

## 4. Disposal

- At the end of their life, the gloves become waste.
- The gloves contaminated with environmentally hazardous substances shall be disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Discarded gloves shall be disposed of in accordance with local regulations.

## 5. Related Documents

- European Parliament and Council (EU) regulation No. 2016/425

- Link to the testing and certification laboratory: [www.itczlin.cz](http://www.itczlin.cz)
- Link to the declaration of conformity: [www.holik-international.cz](http://www.holik-international.cz)

Improper maintenance can irreversibly damage the gloves!

No glove can provide 100% protection. Be careful with all activities!

**Maintenance Symbols:**

