



National Institute of Justice Compliance Testing Program

A program of the National Institute of Justice

Feb. 13, 2013

MEMORANDUM from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Compliance Testing Program (CTP)

SUBJECT: Microflex[®] Spike-Resistant Fabric Produced by Teijin Aramid

On January 25, the CTP sent a memorandum to participants of the program that have combination armor on the Compliant Product List (CPL) for NIJ Standard 0115.00 *Stab Resistance of Personal Body Armor*. In that correspondence, the CTP requested manufacturers to:

“Please determine if any combination armor you have manufactured could be impacted by the inclusion of both stab and ballistic material within the same package. This includes both those combination armors using Microflex[®] and those without.

If so, please contact the NIJ CTP and provide the following information:

- 1. How many models are affected?*
- 2. How many fielded units are now in service for each model?*
- 3. What course of action will you be taking?”*

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide further clarification regarding the CTP expectations of manufacturers of combination armor and those manufacturers of combination armor models that may be affected by the CTP correspondence of Jan. 25, 2013.

Manufacturers of compliant combination armor models that are listed on NIJ’s CPL for NIJ Standard-0115.00 must notify the NIJ CTP which of the following three categories applies to each one of the model(s) on the List:

1. The model is being voluntarily withdrawn from each of the corresponding stab/ballistic CPL by the manufacturer.
 - a. When did production stop?
 - b. How many units have been fielded and are currently under warranty?
 - c. What notification is being provided to end users?
 - d. How will the manufacturer recall the fielded armor or remove it from the market?
 - e. Will the armor be replaced?
2. The model is being investigated by the manufacturer to determine if the model is impacted. This may apply to armors **with or without** Teijin Aramid Microflex.
 - a. Does the armor contain Teijin Aramid Microflex?
 - b. Has production stopped?
 - c. What notification will be provided to end users? (Please provide copies to the CTP).
 - d. What course of action will you take to ensure end users are not exposed to unanticipated risk or unacceptable levels of reduced armor performance?
 - e. Dates of planned milestones for items identified above.

3. The manufacturer has determined that the model is not impacted by this issue.
 - a. Does the armor contain Teijin Aramid Microflex?
 - b. What (if any) notification will be provided to end users?
 - c. Provide the CTP with copies of any notifications that are being provided to end users.

For those manufacturers from which the CTP does not receive a response, the CTP may:

1. Suspend all combination armor models from the CPL for NIJ Standard-0115.00 and any associated CPLs for combination armor models.
2. Issue Advisory Notices for each combination armor model for which no response has been received.
3. Provide an Applicant Notification to each manufacturer detailing the actions taken by the CTP.
4. Notify the Bureau of Justice Assistance Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) of the actions taken by the CTP.

For models voluntarily withdrawn by the manufacturers, the CTP shall:

1. Withdraw the affected model(s) from the CPL for NIJ Standard 0015.00 and any associated CPL.
2. Publish a Safety Notice for each affected model.
3. Provide an Applicant Notification to each manufacturer(s) detailing the actions taken by the CTP.
4. Notify the BVP of the actions taken by the CTP.

All responses to this CTP Memorandum should be received by the CTP by **COB Feb. 22, 2013**.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact the CTP at (800) 248-2742 or email us at bactp@justnet.org.