

This message is UNCLAS

RTTUZYUW RUCBCLF0001 0361359-UUUU--RHMCSUU.

ZNR UUUUU

R 051859Z FEB 18

FM COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA

TO ALFLTFORCOM

INFO CNO WASHINGTON DC

COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI

COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA

COMNAVSEASYS COM WASHINGTON DC

CHINFO WASHINGTON DC

NEXCOM NORFOLK VA

DLA FT BELVOIR VA

COMNAVSUPSYSCOM MECHANICSBURG PA

BT

UNCLAS

PASS TO OFFICE CODES:

COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA/N41//

COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI/N4//

COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA/N41//

COMNAVSURFLANT NORFOLK VA/N41//

COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA/N41//

COMNAVAIRPAC SAN DIEGO CA/N41//

COMNAVSURFPAC SAN DIEGO CA/N41//

COMSUBPAC PEARL HARBOR HI/N41//

COMNAVSEASYS COM WASHINGTON DC/SEA05//

SECINFO/U/-//

MSGID/GENADMIN,USMTF,2008/COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA// SUBJ/INTRODUCTION OF THE

IMPROVED FLAME RESISTANT VARIANT COVERALL AND MANNER OF WEAR PROMULGATION

CORRECTED COPY// REF/A/MSGID:GENADMIN/COMUSFLTFORCOM/191900ZJAN2017//

AMPN/REF A IS COMUSFLTFORCOM APPROVAL OF THE IMPROVED FLAME RESISTANT VARIANT (IFRV)

COVERALL MESSAGE.

POC/JENNIFER BIBY/LCDR/UNIT:USFF N412/NAME: NORFOLK, VA/TEL:

757-836-3787 DSN 836/EMAIL: JENNIFER.BIBY@NAVY.MIL// GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. THIS IS A

COORDINATED U.S. FLEET FORCES (USFF)

N41 AND PACIFIC FLEET (CPF) N4 MESSAGE ANNOUNCING THE INTRODUCTION AND MANNER OF WEAR

FOR THE IMPROVED FLAME RESISTANT VARIANT (IFRV) COVERALL.

2. BACKGROUND. THE ORIGINAL FRV WAS RAPIDLY INTRODUCED TO THE FLEET IN 2013 WITH THE INTENT OF REPLACING PREVIOUS AFLOAT UNIFORMS THAT LACKED FLAME RESISTANCE.

IN LIGHT OF THESE SAFETY CONCERNS, SPEED OF DISTRIBUTION WAS THE PRIMARY DRIVER IN THE FIELDING PLAN.

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANT DISSATISFACTION ACROSS THE FLEET WITH THE COMFORT AND DURABILITY OF THE FRV, USFF AND THE NAVY CLOTHING AND TEXTILE RESEARCH FACILITY (NCTRF) BEGAN DEVELOPING AN IMPROVED VERSION (IFRV) IN 2015. FOLLOWING AN EXTENSIVE WEAR TEST AND RESEARCH PHASE, USFF, IAW REF (A) AUTHORIZED THE IFRV COVERALL AS APPROVED FLEET ORGANIZATIONAL CLOTHING TO REPLACE THE LEGACY FLAME RESISTANT VARIANT (FRV) COVERALL.

3. IFRV COVERALL. THE IFRV COVERALLS ARE CONSTRUCTED USING A TRI-FIBER BLEND FLAME RESISTANT FABRIC. THE IFRV COVERALLS PASSED ALL SYSTEM LEVEL FLAME AND FLASH FIRE TESTING REQUIREMENTS AND THE FLAME RESISTANT PROPERTIES DID NOT DEGRADE WITH WEAR OR LAUNDERING FOR THE SERVICEABLE LIFE OF THE COVERALL. THE IFRV COVERALL PROVIDES THE SAME LEVEL OF FLAME RESISTANCE AS THE FRV COVERALL AND IT IS ALSO NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) 70E HAZARD RISK CATEGORY (HRC) 2 COMPLIANT, PROVIDING ELECTRIC ARC FLASH PROTECTION FOR AN ARC RATING THAT IS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 8 CAL/CM<sup>2</sup>, BUT LESS THAN 25 CAL/CM<sup>2</sup>; MAKING IT AN APPROPRIATE SUBSTITUTE FOR DAMAGE CONTROL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING COVERALLS.

THE IFRV WILL BE ISSUED AS ORGANIZATIONAL CLOTHING AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE ASHORE.

4. MANNER OF WEAR. THE MANNER OF WEAR WILL BE THE SAME AS THE FRV WITH EXCEPTIONS AS FOLLOWS. UNIT COMMANDING OFFICERS HAVE THE DISCRETION TO AUTHORIZE THE WEAR OF THE EMBOSSED LEATHER NAME TAG OR DEVELOP A FABRIC EMBROIDERED UNIT SPECIFIC NAME TAG SIMILAR TO THOSE WORN ON GREEN NOMEX FLIGHT JACKETS. NAME TAGS WILL BE VELCRO BACKED AND BE WORN 1/4" CENTERED ABOVE THE LEFT BREAST POCKET. NAME TAGS WILL BE SIMILAR IN SIZE, SHAPE AND CONTENT TO THE V-NECK SWEATER NAME TAG. UNITS ARE AUTHORIZED TO PROCURE NAME TAGS FOR USE ON THE IFRV USING UNIT OPTAR FUNDS. RANK TABS AND INSIGNIA MAY BE SEWN OR PINNED ON BASED ON WEARER'S DUTIES AND UNIT PREFERENCE. THE IFRV COVERALL WILL BE WORN WITH A BLACK COTTON WEB BELT FOR E1-E6 PERSONNEL AND A KHAKI COTTON WEB BELT FOR CPOs AND OFFICERS.

RIGGERS BELTS ARE AUTHORIZED AT COMMAND DISCRETION. BLUE COMMAND BALL CAPS AND NAVY BALL CAPS ARE AUTHORIZED FOR WEAR WITH THE IFRV.

BLUE OR BROWN UNDERSHIRTS WILL BE AUTHORIZED UNTIL THE BLUE UNDERSHIRT IS PHASED OUT OF THE SEA BAG WITH THE NWU-I. FOOTWEAR REMAINS IAW FRV GUIDANCE. WEAR OF ORGANIZATIONAL OR SEABAG ISSUED OUTER WEAR IS AUTHORIZED AT COMMAND DISCRETION. UNIT PATCHES OR THE U.S. FLAG WILL NOT BE ATTACHED TO THE IFRV AS THESE POTENTIALLY DEGRADE THE COVERALL'S FIRE RETARDANT PROPERTIES. IN ADDITION, SHIPS SHOULD NOT STENCIL OR SERIALIZE ANY PART OF THE COVERALLS OUTER FABRIC BUT MAY REQUIRE STENCILING OF SAILORS' NAMES IN THE INNER PART OF THE COVERALL FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES.

5. OCCASION FOR WEAR. THE IFRV COVERALL OCCASION FOR WEAR SHALL BE LIMITED TO AN UNDERWAY UNIFORM (I.E. FROM STATIONING AND SECURING THE SEA AND ANCHOR DETAIL/MANEUVERING WATCH WHEN LEAVING AND ENTERING PORT RESPECTIVELY). COMMANDING OFFICERS CAN AUTHORIZE THE WEAR OF IFRV COVERALLS ASHORE OR IN-PORT WHEN SAILORS ARE EXPECTED TO OPERATE IN ENVIRONMENTS THAT PLACE AN EXCESSIVE AMOUNT OF WEAR ON WORKING UNIFORMS OR EXPOSURE SAILORS TO CONDITIONS NECESSATING FR/ARC-FLASH PROTECTION. THIS POLICY DOES NOT ALLEVIATE THE COMMAND'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PROCURE COVERALLS FOR WORK IN AREAS THAT ARE LIKELY TO PERMANENTLY SOIL OR PREMATURELY DESTROY THE UNIFORM.

THE IFRV IS APPROVED FOR ALL GENERAL SHIPBOARD USES AND IS A PHASE REPLACEMENT TO THE CURRENT 12 CAL/CM<sup>2</sup> ARC FLASH COVERALLS DESCRIBED IN NSTM 300 TABLE 300-I-2 FOR NFPA 70E HRC 2 ARC FLASH PROTECTION.

6. ISSUE AND SUSTAINMENT. EACH SAILOR SERVING ON BOARD SURFACE SHIPS AND SUBMARINES WILL BE ISSUED A MINIMUM OF TWO IFRVS VIA PHASED REPLACEMENT. ISSUING OF THREE IFRVS IS ENCOURAGED DURING THE TRAINING PHASE AND DEPLOYMENT. FLEET INTRODUCTION IS EXPECTED IMMEDIATELY. UNITS ARE DIRECTED TO CONTINUE ORDERING LEGACY FRVS UNTIL EXISTING STOCKS

ARE EXHAUSTED. THE IFRV WILL BE DESIGNATED AS AN AUTHORIZED SUBSTITUTE FOR THE FRV COVERALL TO ENSURE THAT UNITS RECEIVE THE IFRV WHEN THE LEGACY FRV SYSTEM STOCK IS EXHAUSTED. IFRV ORDERS PLACED IN ADVANCE OF FRV STOCK EXHAUSTION WILL BE REJECTED WITH CQ STATUS. AS WITH ALL ORGANIZATIONAL CLOTHING, IFRV COVERALLS WILL BE REPLACED BY THE COMMAND WHEN NO LONGER SERVICEABLE. UNITS SHOULD MAINTAIN ADEQUATE STOCKING LEVELS TO SUPPORT REPLACEMENT AS REQUIRED. PHASED REPLACEMENT OF THE IFRV WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE TYCOM. COMMANDS SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROCURE THE CURRENT 12 CAL/CM2 ARC FLASH COVERALLS DESCRIBED IN NSTM 300 TABLE 300-I-2 FOR SAILORS EXPOSED TO ENVIRONMENTS REQUIRING HNFA 70E HRC 2 ARC FLASH PROTECTION THROUGHOUT THE PHASED REPLACEMENT PERIOD AS LEGACY FRV COVERALLS DO NOT FULLFILL THIS REQUIREMENT.

7. THE FOLLOWING STOCK NUMBERS HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE IFRV (READ IN TWO COLUMNS; NSN/SIZE) 8415-01-661-2047/34XS 8415-01-661-2064/34S 8415-01-661-2065/34R 8415-01-661-2071/36XS 8415-01-661-2076/36S 8415-01-661-2078/36R 8415-01-661-2082/36L 8415-01-661-2273/38XS 8415-01-661-2277/38S 8415-01-661-2279/38R 8415-01-661-2287/38L 8415-01-661-2293/38XL 8415-01-661-2314/40XS 8415-01-661-2325/40S 8415-01-661-2327/40R 8415-01-661-2337/40L 8415-01-661-2338/40XL 8415-01-661-2349/40XXL 8415-01-661-2363/40XXXL 8415-01-661-2370/42XS 8415-01-661-2375/42S 8415-01-661-2464/42R 8415-01-661-2472/42L 8415-01-661-2478/42XL 8415-01-661-2674/42XXL 8415-01-661-2676/44S 8415-01-661-2680/44R 8415-01-661-2683/44L 8415-01-661-2711/44XL 8415-01-661-2718/44XXL 8415-01-661-2733/46S 8415-01-661-2736/46R 8415-01-661-2741/46L 8415-01-661-2758/46XL 8415-01-661-2793/46XXL 8415-01-661-2798/48R 8415-01-661-2812/48L 8415-01-661-2826/48XL 8415-01-661-2828/48XXL 8415-01-661-2833/50R 8415-01-661-2839/50L 8415-01-661-2844/50XL 8415-01-661-2849/50XXL 8415-01-661-2887/52R 8415-01-661-2890/52L 8415-01-661-2894/52XL 8415-01-661-2895/52XXL 8415-01-661-2897/54L 8415-01-661-2899/54XL 8415-01-661-2903/54XXL 8415-01-661-2904/56R

8. MARITIME TWO-PIECE FR VARIANT DEVELOPMENT. FOCUS GROUPS AND SURVEYS HELD DURING IFRV TESTING ALSO REVEALED A STRONG DESIRE AMONG SAILORS, CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS, AND OFFICERS FOR A TWO-PIECE FR VARIANT THAT CAN BE WORN AT SEA AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT COMMANDS ASHORE (TO INCLUDE OFF-BASE). IN RESPONSE TO THIS DEMAND SIGNAL, USFF IS AGAIN TEAMING WITH NCTRF TO FAST TRACK DEVELOPMENT OF PRELIMINARY DESIGNS OF A MORE PROFESSIONAL LOOKING, MODERNIZED TWO-PIECE FR VARIANT. THE INTENT IS TO PROVIDE LAYERING OPTIONS TO ALLOW FOR DE-BLOUSING FOR CERTAIN EVOLUTIONS (I.E., WORKING PARTIES) OR REMOVAL OF OUTER GARMENTS IN WARMER ENVIRONMENTS. UNDER LAYERS MAY INCLUDE FLAME RESISTANT, DRIFIRE-STYLE MOISTURE WICKING SHIRTS. THE TWO-PIECE VERSION WOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY VERSATILE TO APPEAL TO ALL AFLOAT COMMUNITIES. TO ENSURE SAILOR FEEDBACK IS INCORPORATED TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE, THESE CONCEPTS AND ASSOCIATED DESIGN FEATURES WERE REVIEWED BY FOCUS GROUPS IN FLEET CONCENTRATION AREAS EARLIER THIS YEAR. AN EXTENSIVE WEAR TEST WILL BE CONDUCTED IN 2018 AND WILL INFORM FINAL DESIGN CRITERIA. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE TWO PIECE VARIANT DEVELOPMENT EFFORT WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN AVAILABLE.//

BT

#0001

NNNN

\*\*\*For inquiries, please contact the POCs listed above\*\*\*