
**Wildland firefighting personal
protective equipment —
Requirements and test methods —**

**Part 4:
Gloves**

*Équipement de protection individuelle pour la lutte contre les feux
d'espaces naturels — Exigences et méthodes d'essai —*

Partie 4: Gants

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC94, *Personal safety — Personal protective equipment*, Subcommittee SC 14, *Firefighters' personal equipment*.

This first edition of ISO 16073-4, together with ISO 16073-1 to ISO 16073-7 cancels and replaces ISO 16073:2011.

The main changes are as follows:

- the content has been reviewed and separated into several parts.
- the respiratory protection has been deleted from the document.

A list of all parts in the ISO 16073 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Wildland firefighting involves work carried out mostly in summer temperatures and for many hours, during which the firefighter can develop high levels of metabolic heat. Therefore, the personal protective equipment (PPE) is required to be light, flexible and commensurate with the risks to which the firefighter can be exposed in order to be effective without introducing excessive heat stress to the wearer.

It is important to train firefighters in the selection, use, care and maintenance of the PPE covered by this document, including an understanding of its limitations.

It is intended that a risk assessment be undertaken to determine if the PPE covered by this document is suitable for its intended use and the expected exposure.

This document provides minimum performance requirements for wildland firefighters' PPE designed for use for extended periods during wildland firefighting.

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Wildland firefighting personal protective equipment — Requirements and test methods —

Part 4: Gloves

1 Scope

This document specifies the minimum performance requirements and methods of test for personal protective equipment (PPE), gloves, that cover the hands whilst wildland firefighting.

This document covers the general design of the PPE, the minimum levels of performance for the materials employed and the methods of test used. This PPE is not intended to provide protection during fire entrapment. A risk assessment (see ISO/TR 21808) can be undertaken to determine if the gloves covered by this document are suitable for their intended use and the expected exposure.

This document does not cover PPE for structural firefighting (see ISO 11999-4), for use against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazards, or for use where a reflective outer surface is required (see ISO 15538).

Activities in support of wildland firefighting, such as the cutting of trees and the use of a chainsaw can require additional protection to that provided in this document. Users can refer to the relevant standards for the requirements associated with such protection.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 139, *Textiles — Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing*

ISO 3146:2000, *Plastics — Determination of melting behaviour (melting temperature or melting range) of semi-crystalline polymers by capillary tube and polarizing-microscope methods*

ISO 3175-1, *Textiles — Professional care, drycleaning and wetcleaning of fabrics and garments — Part 1: Assessment of performance after cleaning and finishing*

ISO 6330:2019, *Textiles — Domestic washing and drying procedures for textile testing*

ISO 6942:2002, *Protective clothing — Protection against heat and fire — Method of test: Evaluation of materials and material assemblies when exposed to a source of radiant heat*

ISO 9151, *Protective clothing against heat and flame — Determination of heat transmission on exposure to flame*

ISO 12127-1, *Clothing for protection against heat and flame — Determination of contact heat transmission through protective clothing or constituent materials — Part 1: Contact heat produced by heating cylinder*

ISO 12947-4, *Textiles — Determination of the abrasion resistance of fabrics by the Martindale method — Part 4: Assessment of appearance change*

ISO 14116:2015, *Protective clothing — Protection against flame — Limited flame spread materials, material assemblies and clothing*

ISO 16073-4:2019(E)

ISO 15025, *Protective clothing — Protection against flame — Method of test for limited flame spread*

ISO 17493, *Clothing and equipment for protection against heat — Test method for convective heat resistance using a hot air circulating oven*

ISO/TR 19591, *Personal protective equipment for firefighters — Standard terms and definitions*

ISO 21420:2019, *Protective gloves — General requirements and test methods*

ISO 23388:2018, *Protective gloves against mechanical risks*

EN 13087-1:2000, *Protective helmets — Test methods — Part 1: Conditions and conditioning*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/TR 19591 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Gloves

4.1 Design requirements

4.1.1 Component assembly

Gloves shall consist of a component assembly meeting the performance requirements of this document. This component assembly shall be permitted to be configured as a continuous or joined single layer or as continuous or joined multiple layers. Recommendation for general considerations of gloves design are given in [Annex A](#).

4.1.2 Wristlet or cuff

Where gloves are provided with a cuff or a wristlet or both, the sample glove body and the cuff and/or wristlet shall extend circumferentially at least 50 mm beyond the wrist crease, taking into consideration the requirement specified in ISO 21420:2019, 4.1.

Where gloves are not provided with a cuff or a wristlet, the sample glove body shall extend circumferentially at least 50 mm beyond the wrist crease, which is a 25 mm addition to the requirement ISO 21420:2019, 4.1.

The cuff or wristlet shall provide a protective interface with clothing used for wildland firefighting.

NOTE For more information, see ISO/TS 11999-2.

4.1.3 Glove sizing

4.1.3.1 Minimum sizing

Gloves shall be provided in a minimum of eight unique and distinct sizes. The manufacturer shall indicate the range in hand circumference and hand length for wearers of each glove size, as determined in ISO 21420:2019, Annex A.

NOTE The intent of this requirement is to allow manufacturers to report information to the user, which assists in their selection of the appropriate size. Standard sizes are not defined by this document.

5 Sampling, pretreatments and preconditioning

5.1 Sampling

5.1.1 Inspection

Inspection for determining compliance with the design requirements specified in [4.1](#) shall be performed on whole gloves.

5.1.2 Testing

5.1.2.1 Specimens

Testing for determining material and component compliance with the requirements specified in [Clause 6](#) shall be performed on samples representative of materials and components used in the actual construction of the protective glove.

If suitably sized representative materials and components for the respective test method cannot be obtained, samples from the glove shall be used as specified in the performance requirement.

The testing laboratory shall be permitted to also use sample materials cut from representative protective gloves.

5.1.2.2 Exposure surface

In all surface tests, the outermost surface shall be exposed.

5.1.2.3 Interpretation criteria

All the individual results of the specimens of a test shall meet the performance requirement. Depending on test methods, take either the average or worst result. If a material exhibits differing behaviour for a property in the length and cross directions of the material, the resultant property value shall be the value obtained in the lesser performing direction. In the event that only one specimen fails, another set of specimens shall be tested and all the individual results of this second set of specimens shall meet the requirements. Otherwise, the sample is considered to have failed the requirement.

5.2 Pretreatments

5.2.1 Pretreatment by laundering or dry cleaning

5.2.1.1 Laundering

When pretreatment is specified as part of the test procedure or performance requirements, the test materials shall be cycled through five cleaning cycles. Washing shall be carried out in accordance with procedure 6N as specified in ISO 6330:2019, Table B.1, at (60 ± 3) °C using a front-loading horizontal drum machine with a detergent which achieves a pH of 7,0. Drying shall be carried out in accordance with ISO 6330:2019, 10.2.1 (Procedure F - Tumble drying), unless otherwise specified in the care labelling.

A laundry bag shall not be used.

If the manufacturer's instructions indicate that cleaning is not allowed, then testing shall be carried out on new material.

5.2.1.2 Dry cleaning

Materials that are labelled as dry cleaning only shall be dry cleaned five times in accordance with ISO 3175-1.

A laundry bag shall not be used.

5.2.2 Flexing

After the five cleaning cycles, sample gloves shall be donned by a test subject and shall be flexed by making a tight fist 10 times during a 30 s period.

Gloves for which cleaning is not allowed are exempted from this requirement.

5.3 Preconditioning

5.3.1 Dry conditioning

Unless otherwise specified in the specific test methods, all sample gloves and sample specimens shall be conditioned at a temperature of (20 ± 2) °C and a relative humidity of (65 ± 4) % for at least 24 h in accordance with ISO 139.

Sample gloves and sample specimens shall be tested within 5 min of removal from conditioning.

NOTE This conditioning is used in some cases after washing pretreatment to ensure that the gloves are totally dry before testing.

5.3.2 Wet conditioning

Sample gloves or sample specimens shall be conditioned by completely immersing the glove or glove specimen in water at a temperature of (20 ± 2) °C for 2 min. If gloves are used, the glove specimen shall be first filled with water prior to immersion.

Sample gloves or sample specimens shall be removed from the water, hung in a vertical position for 5 min with the fingers uppermost and then laid horizontal with textile blotting paper both under and over the specimen, under a pressure of 3,5 kPa for a period of 20 min.

Sample gloves or sample specimens shall be tested within 5 min of conditioning.

6 Performance requirements

6.1 General requirements

All gloves shall meet the performance requirements of this clause.

All gloves shall meet the innocuousness requirements as detailed in ISO 21420:2019, 4.2.

6.2 Thermal requirements

6.2.1 Flame resistance

6.2.1.1 Test on component assembly

The glove component assembly, when tested in accordance with ISO 15025:2016, 9.1.2 (Procedure A - Surface ignition) after the pre-treatment specified in [5.2](#) and preconditioning specified in [5.3.1](#), shall meet ISO 14116:2015, 7.3 (index 3), as follows:

Table 1 — Requirements for limited flame spread on component assembly

Properties	Requirements
Flame spread	No specimen shall permit any part of the lowest boundary of any flame to reach the upper or either vertical edge.
Flaming debris	No specimen shall give flaming or molten debris.
Hole formation	No specimen shall give hole formation of 5 mm or greater in any direction, except for an interlining that is used for specific protection other than flame protection.
Afterglow	Afterglow time shall be ≤ 2 s. A glowing inside the charred area is defined in ISO 15025 as afterglow without combustion and, for the purpose of this clause, shall not be regarded as afterglow.
Afterflame	Afterflame time shall be ≤ 2 s.

If the glove assembly incorporates wristlet material, this material shall be tested separately by applying the flame to the outer surface of the wristlet material.

If the glove assembly incorporates seams, specimens of the component assembly containing seams shall be tested separately by applying the flame to the seam portion of the component assembly with the seam oriented vertically.

6.2.1.2 Test on whole glove

If suitably sized representative materials cannot be obtained, the whole glove shall be used for testing. Use the test method in accordance with ISO 15025:2016, 9.1.2 (Procedure A - Surface ignition) where the burner is placed below the glove such that it is in a plane with the vertical middle line of the middle finger (Point A of [Figure 1](#)) and is perpendicular to the surface of the glove.

The burner is mounted at an angle of $(30 \pm 3)^\circ$ to the vertical. The distance between the top of the burner and Point A shall be (20 ± 2) mm.

Performance shall be determined using the poorest results from all areas of the glove that are tested.

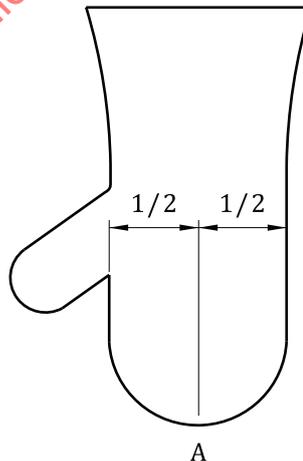


Figure 1 — Mounting of test glove

The glove shall meet ISO 14116:2015, 7.3 (index 3), as follows:

Table 2 — Requirements for limited flame spread on whole glove

Properties	Requirements
Flame spread	No specimen shall permit any part of the lowest boundary of any flame to reach the upper or either vertical edge.
Flaming debris	No specimen shall give flaming or molten debris.
Hole formation	No specimen shall give hole formation of 5 mm or greater in any direction, except for an interlining that is used for specific protection other than flame protection.
Afterglow	Afterglow time shall be ≤ 2 s. A glowing inside the charred area is defined in ISO 15025 as afterglow without combustion and, for the purpose of this clause, shall not be regarded as afterglow.
Afterflame	Afterflame time shall be ≤ 2 s.

If the glove assembly incorporates wristlet material, this material shall be tested separately, applying the flame to the outer surface of the wristlet material.

6.2.2 Heat transfer — Flame exposure

The glove component assembly, when tested in accordance with ISO 9151 after the pre-treatment specified in 5.2 and preconditioning specified in 5.3.1, shall give the following minimum performance:

Table 3 — Heat transfer — Flame exposure requirements

Performance requirements
$HTI_{24} \geq 9$ s $(HTI_{24} - HTI_{12}) \geq 3$ s

Where different, the palm and backside and/or fingertips of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean results for each part.

6.2.3 Heat transfer — Radiant exposure

When tested in accordance with ISO 6942:2002, 4.2 (Method B), with a heat flux density of 20 kW/m² after the pre-treatment specified in 5.2 and preconditioning specified in 5.3.1, the glove shall have the following minimum level.

Table 4 — Heat transfer — Radiant exposure requirements

Performance requirements
$RHTI_{24} \geq 11$ s $(RHTI_{24} - RHTI_{12}) \geq 4$ s

Where different, the palm and backside and/or fingertips of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean results for each side.

6.2.4 Heat transfer — Conductive exposure

The glove component assembly, when tested in accordance with ISO 12127-1 at a contact temperature of 250 °C after the pre-treatment specified in 5.2 and preconditioning specified in 5.3.1, shall give the following minimum performance:

Table 5 — Heat transfer — Conductive exposure requirement

Performance requirement
$t_t \geq 6$ s

Where different, the palm and backside and/or fingertips of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean results for each side.

6.2.5 Materials' thermal stability

The sewing threads utilized in the construction of the protective gloves, when tested in accordance with ISO 3146:2000, Clause 5 (Method B), at a temperature of (260 ± 5) °C, shall not melt.

Table 6 — Materials' thermal stability requirement

Performance requirement
Shall not melt

6.2.6 Materials' thermal shrinkage

When complete glove specimens are tested in accordance with ISO 17493 at a temperature of (180 ± 5) °C, no glove shall melt, drip, ignite or shrink by more than 5 % in length or width.

Table 7 — Materials' thermal shrinkage requirements

Performance requirements
No melting, dripping, igniting or shrinking by more than 5 % in length or width

6.3 Mechanical requirements

6.3.1 Abrasion resistance

Specimens of the outer material from the palm area of the glove body component assembly, when tested in accordance with ISO 23388:2018, 6.1 after the preconditioning specified in 5.3.1, shall give the following minimum performance.

Table 8 — Materials' abrasion resistance requirement

Performance requirement
Level 3 ($\geq 2\ 000$ rubs)

Where different, the palm and backside and/or fingertips of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean results for each side.

6.3.2 Cut resistance

Specimens of the outer material from the palm and back areas of the glove body component assembly and from cuffs or wristlets where provided, when tested in accordance with ISO 23388:2018, 6.3 after the preconditioning specified in 5.3.1, shall give the following minimum performance.

Table 9 — Cut resistance requirement

Performance requirement
Level A (≥ 2 N)

Where different, the palm, backside and fingers of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean results for each part and each preconditioning.

6.3.3 Tear resistance

Specimens of outer material from the palm area of the glove body component assembly, when tested in accordance with ISO 23388:2018, 6.4 after the preconditioning specified in 5.3.1, shall give the following minimum performance.

Table 10 — Tear resistance requirement

Performance requirement
Level 2 (≥ 25 N)

Where different, the palm, backside and fingers of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean of the results for each side.

6.3.4 Puncture resistance

Specimens of outer material from the palm area of the glove body component assembly, when tested in accordance with ISO 23388:2018, 6.5 after the preconditioning specified in 5.3, shall give the following minimum performance.

Table 11 — Puncture resistance requirement

Performance requirement
Level 2 (≥ 60 N)

Where different, the palm and backside and/or fingertips of the glove shall be tested. The performance of the glove shall be determined using the lowest mean of the results for each side.

6.4 Ergonomic requirements

6.4.1 Dexterity

Specimen gloves, when tested for dexterity in accordance with ISO 21420:2019, 5.2 after the preconditioning specified in 5.3, shall have a performance level of 2 or better.

6.4.2 Grip

Specimen gloves, when tested in accordance with Annex B, after the preconditioning specified in 5.3, shall not have a weight pulling capacity less than 80 % of the barehand control values.

6.4.3 Donning test

Gloves shall be tested in accordance with Annex C, and shall have an average dry hand donning and doffing time for both dry and wet gloves not exceeding 10 s and an average wet hand donning and doffing time for both dry and wet gloves not exceeding 20 s. The gloves shall allow the test to be completed with no detachment of the inner liner if fitted, or the moisture barrier, and allowing full insertion of all digits.

Table 12 — Summary of performance requirements

Performance category	Requirements	Clause	Criteria
General	Innocuousness, ISO 21420:2019, 4.2	6.1	Chromium VI < 3,0 mg/kg Nickel < 0,5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{week}$ 3,5 < pH < 9,5 Azo colorant, not detectable

Table 12 (continued)

Performance category	Requirements	Clause	Criteria
Thermal	Flame resistance, ISO 15025:2016, 9.1.2 (Procedure A - Surface ignition)	6.2.1	Defined flame spread, no flaming or molten debris, hole formation ≤ 5 mm, afterflow time ≤ 2 s, afterflame time ≤ 2 s
	Heat transfer — flame exposure, ISO 9151	6.2.2	$HTI_{24} \geq 9$ s $(HTI_{24} - HTI_{12}) \geq 3$ s
	Heat transfer — radiant exposure, ISO 6942:2002, 4.2	6.2.3	$RHTI_{24} \geq 11$ s $(RHTI_{24} - RHTI_{12}) \geq 4$ s
	Heat transfer — conductive exposure, ISO 12127-1	6.2.4	$t_t \geq 6$ s
	Materials' thermal stability, ISO 3146	6.2.5	Shall not melt
	Materials' thermal shrinkage, ISO 17493	6.2.6	No glove shall melt, drip, ignite or shrink by > 5 % in length or width
Mechanical	Abrasion resistance, ISO 23388:2018, 6.1	6.3.1	Level 3 ($\geq 2\ 000$ rubs)
	Cut resistance, ISO 23388:2018, 6.3	6.3.2	Level A (≥ 2 N)
	Tear resistance, ISO 23388:2018, 6.4	6.3.3	Level 2 (≥ 25 N)
	Puncture resistance, ISO 23388:2018, 6.5	6.3.4	Level 2 (≥ 60 N)
Ergonomic	Dexterity, ISO 21420:2019, 5.2	6.4.1	Performance level 2 or better
	Grip, Annex B	6.4.2	Pulling capacity ≥ 80 %
	Donning test, Annex C	6.4.3	Average dry hand donning & doffing of ≤ 10 s and wet hand of ≤ 20 s

7 Marking and labelling

7.1 General

Any labels or accessories shall not adversely affect the performance of the gloves or present a hazard to the wearer.

Labels shall be tested for flammability in accordance with [6.2.1](#), only where placed on the exterior of the gloves. Marking requirements shall be in accordance with ISO 21420.

7.2 Label durability and legibility

Labels, when examined at a distance of 300 mm in a well-illuminated area by a person with 6/6 or 20/20 vision or vision corrected to 6/6 or 20/20 and shall remain legible after the following treatment:

- Laundrying as specified in [5.2.1.1](#), if the glove can be washed;
- Melt resistance, as specified in [6.2.5](#), if located on the interior of the glove next to the skin;
- Abrasion for 200 cycles in accordance with ISO 12947-4, with a 12 kPa pressure and using a wetted felt abrasive.

Label shall remain visible, legible and indelible for the foreseeable useful life of the glove.

7.3 Compliance marking requirements

Each pair of gloves shall have a label permanently and conspicuously attached, upon which the following information is printed in letters at least 2 mm high:

- a) Designation of type as appropriate;
- b) Name, trademark or other means of identifying the manufacturer;
- c) Style/model designation;
- d) Size;
- e) Year and quarter of manufacture;
- f) a reference to this document, i.e. ISO 16073-4:2019;
- g) The graphical symbol given in [Figure 2](#) with “ISO 16073-4” printed alongside:



Figure 2 — Protective equipment for wildland firefighting (ISO 7000-3636)

8 Manufacturer's information

8.1 General

The gloves shall be supplied to the wearer accompanied by instructions written at least in the official language(s) of the country of use. All this information shall be clear. It shall comprise (if possible or applicable):

- a) name, trademark or other means of identification of the manufacturer or their authorized representative;
- b) full address of the manufacturer and/or their authorized representative;
- c) designation of the product type, commercial name or code;
- d) name and full address and identification number of the certification body involved in type approval and/or quality control;

- e) information on the available size range;
- f) a reference to this document, i.e. ISO 16073-4:2019;
- g) explanation of any graphical symbols and level of performance; a basic explanation of the tests that have been applied to the gloves and a corresponding list of performance levels, preferably in a table of performance;
- h) all main constituent materials on all layers of gloves;
- i) instructions for use as appropriate:
 - 1) tests that shall be carried out by the wearer before use;
 - 2) fitting: how to don and doff;
 - 3) instructions concerning appropriate use of the gloves to minimize the risk of injury;
 - 4) limitations on use (temperature range, etc.);
 - 5) instructions for storage and maintenance, with maximum periods between maintenance checks;
 - 6) complete instructions for cleaning and/or decontamination (e.g. cleaning temperature, drying process, pH value, mechanical action, maximum number of cleaning cycles);
 - 7) warnings against problems likely to be encountered (e.g. domestic washing of contaminated clothing);
 - 8) details of additional items of protective equipment that need to be used to achieve the protection intended;
 - 9) information about any materials used in the gloves that may cause allergic responses or may be carcinogenic, toxic or mutagenic;
 - 10) details of any significant ergonomic penalties incurred by using the gloves;
 - 11) instructions on how to recognize ageing and loss of performance in the gloves;
 - 12) if helpful, illustrations, part numbers, etc., shall be added;
 - 13) instructions concerning repair;
- j) reference to accessories and spare parts, if relevant;
- k) type of packaging suitable for transport, if relevant.

Annex A **(informative)**

Guidelines for personal protective equipment design

A.1 Materials

The materials used for the different items of the firefighter's PPE should not induce any risk or other inherent nuisance factors.

A.2 Design

The gloves should be designed to avoid as much as possible any restriction in movement during the tasks undertaken by firefighters.

A.3 Donning and doffing

Gloves should be designed to allow the firefighter to don or doff easily and as quickly as possible.

A.4 Accessories

Closure systems, any label, accessory, touch-and-close fastener, retroreflective/fluorescent material, etc. attached to the gloves should not adversely affect the gloves' performance.

A.5 Prevention of entry of burning debris

All closure systems should be designed to prevent the entry of burning debris.

A.6 Gloves

Gloves should be compatible with the sleeves of the firefighter's protective clothing.

A.7 Labels

Any label or accessory should not adversely affect the performance of the gloves or present a hazard to the wearer.

A.8 Training

It is very important to train firefighters in the selection, use, care and maintenance of the gloves covered by this document, as well as ensuring they have an understanding of its limitations.

Annex B (normative)

Grip test — Gloves

B.1 Principle

The barehanded lifting capacity of a test subject using a halyard and a set of weights is compared with the same test subject wearing wet gloves on a dry and wet halyard.

B.2 Equipment

Grip testing shall be conducted with a 9,5 mm diameter, three-strand pre-stretched polyester rope attached to a calibrated force-measuring device.

B.3 Specimens

A minimum of three pairs of gloves each from the smallest and largest size within the manufacturer's range shall be used for testing by at least two different test subjects. Each pair of gloves, as a complete set of gloves, shall be tested in the new, as-distributed condition.

The laboratory shall ensure that glove specimens do not receive special softening treatments prior to tests. Glove specimens shall be pre-treated as specified in 5.2, if required, and in accordance with the pre-conditioning specified in 5.3.

B.4 Procedure

B.4.1 Test subjects shall be selected such that their hand dimensions are as close as possible to the middle of the range for hand length and to the hand circumference for small and large gloves.

B.4.2 Each test subject shall make three successive attempts to lift as much weight as possible using the halyard and both hands, keeping both feet firmly planted on the ground while pulling downward on the halyard. The average weight hoisted over the three trials shall be the barehanded weight-lift capability.

B.4.3 Dry-conditioned specimen gloves shall be tested on a dry rope and then on a wet rope.

B.4.4 Wet-conditioned specimen gloves shall be tested on a dry rope and then on a wet rope.

B.4.5 Each test subject shall be evaluated with a minimum of three pairs of gloves. Test subjects shall attempt one trial with each pair of gloves for a minimum of six grip tests for each set of conditions, with at least three grip tests with small-sized gloves and three grip tests with large-sized gloves.

B.4.6 The weight-pulling capacity of a test subject with gloves shall be compared with the barehanded weight-lift capability. The percentage of weight-pulling capacity with gloves to barehanded weight-lift capability shall be calculated using the following equation:

$$C_{\text{bare}} = \frac{m_{\text{wp}}}{m_{\text{lift}}} \times 100$$

where