

## CORRECT REMOVAL OF CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Type 3 & 4 AlphaTec® chemical protective suits and gloves

### Best Practice - Working in your chemical protective suit

- Chemical protective suits will only help to protect you if they are:
  - Properly selected
  - Correctly fitted
  - Used for the correct environment
  - NOT torn, cut, punctured or otherwise damaged
- Be considerate to colleagues working in the vicinity
- Non-active people in the hazardous zone should wear a protective garment in the case of an emergency
- Do not remove your chemical protective clothing and/or ancillary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) whilst working in a hazardous area
- YOU are responsible for your own safety and well-being!



#### Using the Buddy System

Individuals who are paired up to assume responsibility for one another's safety and to ensure Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is worn correctly



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#### Prior to doffing the suit

- Always remove as much contamination as possible before entering the washing or changing areas
- If required, use a decontamination shower
- Move to a designated decontamination area away from workplace hazards
- Where possible, stand over a decontamination bag for disposal of the suit
- Ideally have somewhere to lean against for extra stability



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#### Use the buddy system

- Depending on the risk assessment and level of contamination a 'buddy' who is also suitably protected may be required to help assist you to doff your chemical protective suit
- In this instance a buddy is being used to highlight best practice
- Your buddy should be trained to ensure the correct doffing procedure is followed
- Carefully remove chemical tape to avoid the risk of further contamination



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#### Unsealing the suit

- If the suit has been taped, take care to slowly pull away and unstick
- Avoid any risk of further contamination
- The buddy finds the outer zip puller under the chin
- The buddy carefully unzips to the waist
- The buddy unfolds the inner flap and unzips the inner red zip



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#### Removal of the hood

- Using both hands, the buddy pinches the hood at each temple
- The buddy pulls the hood upwards and backwards to stretch the hood away from the head



5

#### Removal of the suit

- The buddy rolls the hood outwards to minimise further contact with contaminated suit surfaces
- The buddy rolls the suit outwards over the shoulders and down to the waist



6

#### Removal of gloves

- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for removal
- The buddy holds the glove to help with the removal of the sleeve
- The wearer removes one arm and holds it in front of their chest
- This procedure is then repeated for the other arm



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#### Removal of footwear

- Sit down if possible to ensure footwear can be removed safely
- The buddy carefully removes the chemical tape
- The buddy holds footwear and suit legs
- The wearer moves to the uncontaminated area



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#### Disposal

- Remove any further PPE in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- Buddy safely disposes of the contaminated suit and other ancillary PPE
- Ensure no contaminated equipment is left in the work area