Mechanical hand and arm Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be inspected before and after use for signs of weakness, damage, or wear that could indicate a reduced level of effectiveness. The need to replace hand and arm PPE will vary based on usage, exposure and application. Workers should follow their organization’s standard replacement protocols. However, below are key questions to keep in mind before and after every use:

1. Are there holes, snags, tears, or frayed yarn?
   - If so, replace the PPE.

2. Does the PPE fit?
   - If not, replace the PPE.

3. Does the coating been compromised or degraded?
   - If so, replace the PPE.
   - Can skin be seen through the coating?
   - Has the coating hardened or cracked?
   - Are there signs of chemical burns?
   - Has the hand or arm PPE swollen in any way?
   - Is there visible discoloration?

4. Look for symmetry - Does one side match the other?
   - If not, replace the other.
   - Is either side distorted?
   - One side should be a mirror image of the other
   - Are there defects hidden by stains or discolorations?
   - Does it compare to a new pair of gloves or sleeves?

Note: For reusable PPE that is not claimed and/or certified for virus protection, proper sanitization and laundering guidelines can be applied to help prevent the spread of viral contamination.

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