

Second Chance Body Armor IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE – TRI-FLEX VEST WEARER

Dear Tri-Flex Vest Wearer:

Our concern over the degradation of body armor constructed from Zylon® fiber is well known within the law enforcement community. As the concealable body armor industry leader for over 30 years, we were the first manufacturer to conduct a comprehensive performance evaluation of used vests made from Zylon® and the first to give notice of a potential safety problem.

Independent laboratory testing on used Tri-Flex vests to date have not demonstrated a drop in performance below that to be expected in light of NIJ standards. However, used vest testing no longer appears to be a satisfactory way to determine the reliability of Zylon vests.

We have recently received new information from a technical expert advising us that even those products that only partially rely on the stability and strength of Zylon® fabric may be subject to unexpected failure. In light of this new information, we are no longer confident that our Tri-Flex products, which contain up to 31% Zylon® by weight, will perform to expectations for the life of the original warranty period.

AS A RESULT, AND DUE TO A POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH, SECOND CHANCE RECOMMENDS THAT YOU TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO REPLACE YOUR TRI-FLEX VEST, WHICH SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM SERVICE ONLY AFTER YOU HAVE OBTAINED A REPLACEMENT.

The mechanism of failure is known as “hydrolysis,” which is a form of degradation that occurs in individual Zylon® fibers used in the construction of soft body armor. We believe this condition is inherent to all of the Zylon® fiber products supplied for use in the manufacture of ballistic vests. The fact that this hydrolytic degradation can result in a sudden, dramatic or catastrophic loss of tensile strength, critical to the performance of our product, only became known to us on May 17, 2005. We have been informed that this sudden loss of tensile strength will vary with individual use and environmental conditions, but could occur within our warranty period even under normal use conditions. While our analysis of Tri-Flex vests in current use indicates modest loss of performance as compared with new products, we have learned that there is no reliable way to predict when the Zylon® fibers might reach the point of failure. We have therefore decided to provide this safety notice even though there have been no field failures reported.

We recognize that you will expect a full and immediate remedy as a result of this notification to remove your Tri-Flex vest from service. Unfortunately, the financial consequences that have resulted from our use of Zylon® fiber have forced us into a bankruptcy reorganization proceeding. We will petition the bankruptcy court and ask that it approve a procedure for presenting claims that may result from this new information. You will be notified once a procedure is established. We did not want to delay this notice while a claims procedure was being developed.

For more information please visit our website at www.secondchance.com, or call 1-800-828-VEST.

NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT TO US THAN YOUR SAFETY.

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