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MILLIKEN LAUNCHES NEW FLAME RESISTANT FABRIC FOR FIRE STATION WEAR

SPARTANBURG, SC (September 8, 2003) – The Military & Protective Fabrics Business, a unit of Spartanburg, S.C.-based Milliken & Co., announces the introduction of a new fabric for fire station wear uniforms.

CXP™ (Comfort x Performance) is the next generation of NOMEX® flame-resistant fabrics that provides superior comfort with superior safety and long-lasting good looks. Made of DuPont's NOMEX IIIA fiber, CXP has improved flame-resistant properties, and has been proven to be more comfortable and more durable than traditional NOMEX and other flame-resistant fabrics.

“The big news is that NOMEX is finally comfortable, the fabric looks newer much longer than all other station wear fabrics, and we’re offering it at a competitive price,” said Bill Steller, Senior Account Manager for Milliken’s Military & Protective Fabrics Business. “At Milliken we’re known for our research capabilities and for bringing innovative fabrics to the market. CXP is the result of more than a year of development efforts and it has been recognized by UL as passing the requirements for NFPA 2112 and ASTM 1506.

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“CXP is softer and more breathable, which helps people stay comfortable when it’s hot, and our deep-dye processing means it resists fading in sunlight and in the wash. CXP utilizes our VISA® technology, for stain release and wicking, as well as our patent-pending Softouch Technology®, which gives it the soft feel. CXP shirting has three times the tear strength of poly/cotton shirting and CXP pantweight

fabrics are one and a half times stronger than poly/cotton pant fabrics, so your uniform will last twice as long, and you'll look better while you're wearing it. Its lighter weight versus FR cotton and regular cotton means the fabric is much more comfortable when it's hot. CXP can be washed and tumble dried, and doesn't need to be ironed. In total, uniforms made from CXP provide a better value, a better image, and are more comfortable for the wearer."

CXP is inherently flame-resistant, whereas cotton products must be chemically treated to become flame-resistant. With CXP, there is no risk of a garment losing its flame-resistance during its lifespan because according to DuPont, the inventor of NOMEX, the fiber does not sustain combustion in the air and will not melt, drip or burn when exposed to heat or flame. CXP meets or exceeds the flammability standards of other NOMEX fabrics, so the wearer gets better protection in hazardous situations.

"We have raised the bar for the performance of flame-resistant fabrics," Steller said.

Milliken & Company is a leading international textile and chemical firm. Headquartered in Spartanburg, S.C., the company employs more than 16,000 in over 60 manufacturing facilities worldwide. For more information about Milliken's CXP flame-resistant fabrics, for user references, sample swatches, or to inquire about a wear trial, call 1-800-828-3034.

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