

Professional Inspection, Repair and Cleaning Services for Turnout Gear

Ensure your gear is NFPA 1851 Compliant



What is GearClean?

GearClean is a full-service, professional company that offers inspection, repair, and cleaning services for your valuable firefighter turnout gear. GearClean offers a fully-engineered cleaning system for fire fighting ensembles that has been proven to completely wash and sanitize equipment. And like many front loading wash systems are prone to do, GearClean does not damage your turnout gear. Along with our patented cleaning system, GearClean also offers advanced inspection and repair services. Our technicians are fully trained in the inspection and repair of moisture barriers, as well as all other components of the ensemble. All of our cleaning, inspection, and repair services will ensure your gear is in compliance with NFPA 1851.

What is NFPA 1851?

National Fire Protection Association 1851 is the Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Structural Fire Fighting Protective Ensembles. Compliance with this standard includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements:

- Advanced inspections—minimum of every 12 months (or as a result of a routine inspection)
- Advanced cleaning—minimum of every six months

- Specialized cleaning—whenever ensembles are contaminated
- Repairs—As necessary, by trained personnel
- Documentation—Required for all of the above.

GearClean has the experience and trained personnel to bring you into compliance with NFPA 1851.

Why do I need GearClean?

In addition to absorbing smoke and body odors, your turnout gear harbors bacteria and other contaminants that can be absorbed into the body through the skin. Medical studies have shown that firefighters who are exposed over time to the chemicals, toxins, and carcinogens that are part of their daily lives have a cancer rate twice that of the general population. In addition, if gear is not properly cleaned, thick layers of potentially flammable materials and hydrocarbons can build up on the outer surface of the equipment, placing you in danger of having your protective gear ignited while fighting a fire.

Proper cleaning and sanitation of turnout gear eliminates contamination, protects you, and keeps your gear in service longer. Our cleaning system



meets or exceeds all OSHA and NFPA 1851 guidelines. In most cases, we have the ability to restore your gear to like-new condition after it has been contaminated, eliminating the need for condemnation and costly gear replacement.

While cleaning and sanitizing equipment regularly will keep your gear NFPA 1851-compliant, inspection and repair of damaged equipment will also extend gear life. GearClean has trained personnel to inspect firefighter gear using a certified Gore machine to test the ensemble's moisture barrier and ensure the gear is safe for continued use.

How does GearClean work?

GearClean utilizes the Esporta Wash System, which is clinically proven to kill contaminants and ensure the highest level of hygiene and safety. Independent lab testing has demonstrated that our patented process kills 99.9997% of the harmful bacteria that can be found in your equipment.

The water-based, multi-step process uses no dangerous ozone gases or environmentally hazardous dry cleaning chemicals. Instead, the patented, four-step washing process forces detergents and disinfectants deep into the foam/fabrics of your equipment, killing and removing the bacteria and germs that cause odors and dangerous infections.

The Esporta Wash System expertly cleans and sanitizes your gear without deteriorating fabrics, reducing the effectiveness of reflective material or the waterproof/ fireproof characteristics of the gear, or damaging hard goods, such as helmets. The patented technology holds items secure while hydraulically forcing environmentally-friendly cleaning chemicals through thick padding, foams, leathers, and other items that may be difficult to clean. Variables, such as water temperature and drum speed are controlled and monitored to protect your gear.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why have my gear professionally cleaned?

Have you smelled it lately? Aside from that, equipment is inundated with bacteria, mold, and fungus that can be absorbed into the skin and lead to anything from skin irritation to serious, life-threatening infections. Medical studies have shown that firefighters who are, over time, exposed to the chemicals, toxins, and carcinogens that are part your daily life have a cancer rate twice that of the general population. In addition, cleaning will:

- Eliminate offensive odors
- Eliminate exposure to hazardous bacteria
- Remove decay that destroys equipment, making valuable equipment last longer
- Sanitize equipment
- Promote good hygiene
- Help keep gear clean and sanitary longer
- Keep gear cleaner by choosing the optional dry barrier wash

Why can't we just use bleach to kill bacteria?

It's true that bleach will kill bacteria; however, it will also damage the equipment, compromising its effectiveness.

Won't my gear be ruined?

No. The gear is held in place during the washing process so it isn't tumbled, twisted, banged, or mangled. Our process uses gentle, but highly-effective detergents to deep clean and then rinse away grime, sweat, and bacteria. You get clean, disinfected, and ready-to-wear equipment. We can even safely and effectively clean your boots and helmet.

What other services do you offer for fire fighter ensembles?

GearClean offers a FREE consultation service to evaluate your current cleaning/ inspection/repair procedures for compliance with NFPA 1851. We would be happy to meet with your personnel to evaluate and train them to ensure your fire fighters' safety is uncompromised.

Does your process meet OSHA and NFPA 1851 guidelines?

Yes! Our patented process meets or exceeds all OSHA and NFPA 1851 guidelines.

How often do I need to have my gear cleaned?

NFPA 1851 instructs that firefighter ensembles should be cleaned and sanitized every six months.

How do I get our equipment to you?

You can drop it off at our location, or schedule a pick-up. We are currently working to schedule convenient drop-off locations in your area. Call for details.

How long does it take?

The actual cleaning cycle takes about three hours; then hang the gear for final drying. We strive to get your equipment back to you within 24 hours.

