# MOST BREATHABLE. LESS HEAT STRESS. NO EQUIVALENT.









# GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® BARRIERS HAVE NO EQUIVALENT

To improve your safety and gear performance, Gore continues to push the technical capabilities of personal protective equipment (PPE) with unmatched product performance.



#### MOST BREATHABLE

Proven to be the most breathable when new and after multiple heat exposures, allowing for the greatest heat stress relief.



### THERMALLY STABLE

Provides excellent thermal stability in the toughest conditions as proven in garment-level Pyroman testing and actual field use.



### RELENTLESS DURABILITY

Withstands the wear and tear from abrasion better than any other moisture barriers for long-lasting protection and breathability.



#### SAFE TO WEAR

The only moisture barriers certified to OEKO-TEX<sup>®</sup> Standard 100, Class 2 in North America, ensuring the product you wear is free of bromine- and antimony-based flame retardants.





PARTICULATE HOODS

# 360° PROTECTION

TURNOUT GEAR

FOOTWEAR

# **GORE-TEX CROSSTECH®** PROTECTIVE BARRIERS

Gore has earned its industry-leading reputation by consistently delivering high breathability, long-lasting durability, and excellent thermal performance in all kinds of conditions. GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® protective barriers help you manage heat stress better and they maintain their breathability after multiple fire calls.

When evaluating materials for your next set of turnout gear, keep in mind that your selection of moisture barrier alone has more impact on your turnout gear's breathability than any combination of outer shell and thermal liner you can make. If your body's heat cannot escape from your gear, you run the risk of elevated heart rate, raised body core temperature, and accelerated dehydration, potentially leading to heat exhaustion and impaired decision-making.

### BREATHABILITY AFTER HEAT EXPOSURE

You should expect your gear to maintain its breathability after exposing it to high temperatures. Although this is not true for competitive barriers that have shown decreases in their capability to breathe, subjecting you to the symptoms that come with elevated body core temperatures.

### **PROVEN THERMAL PERFORMANCE**

Reliable performance after exposure to high temperatures is essential in a protective barrier. Pyroman, ASTM F1930-15 is an industry-recognized protocol for evaluating systemlevel thermal performance in flashover-type conditions. A 12-second exposure in this test is considered a severe situation. When tested at North Carolina State University, the GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® PARALLON® liner system performed significantly better than traditional composites on the market today, whereas GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® black moisture barrier performed similarly to Stedair® 4000 in this condition.

> Paul Dacey Breathability After Heat Exposure Test

## DRY INSULATION IS MORE PROTECTIVE

Wet conventional gear can lose 1/3 of its thermal protection compared to when it's dry. However, gear with the GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® PARALLON® liner system remained relatively unchanged even after it gets wet from sweat.

#### MOST BREATHABLE

#### **Proven by NC State University**

A group of firefighters wearing turnout gear participated in a third-party study to evaluate the physiological impact of protective barriers currently available in turnout gear.

Prior to the start of the trial, vital sign thresholds were established for the safety of the participants, which were then monitored throughout the study. When wearing the GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® protective barriers, every participant finished the trial. However, when these same participants were wearing the competitive barrier, 40 percent (4 out of 10) were pulled out during the second work cycle because their heart rates exceeded their predetermined threshold.

This study confirmed that wearing the GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® PARALLON® liner system delivered the highest breathability, followed closely by GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® black moisture barrier. Both of the GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® protective barriers performed significantly better than the competition.

# $\rho$ proof

A third-party study conducted by NC State University proves GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® protective barriers are your best choice for managing heat stress.

Small Differences Matter. United States military studies have shown that once your body reaches 99.5°F, even an increase of only 0.1°F is significant.

#### EFFECTS OF RISING BODY CORE TEMPERATURE

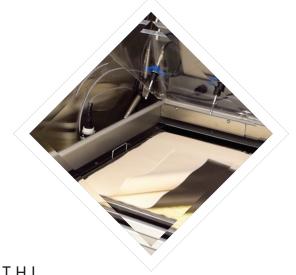


# RESISTANCE TO EVAPORATIVE SWEAT (RET) VS TOTAL HEAT LOSS (THL)

It's extremely important to consider your gear's Ret value, because your body's ability to lose heat through conduction is eliminated in warmer or sunny conditions and it solely relies on evaporative cooling. Since THL includes a conduction element in its equation, it does not provide adequate information on how gear will perform in warmer environments which are common to firefighters.



Using the Sweating Guarded Hot Plate, this test focuses strictly on wet heat loss or evaporation. The result is a value that indicates how much resistance your turnout gear layers create for evaporation (aka sweat vapor) to move through them, so a lower number or less resistance is better. The environment at which this test is ran is 95°F with 40% relative humidity.



THL

Also using the Sweating Guarded Hot Plate, this test renders its results through a complex equation that calculates a combination of wet heat loss (evaporation) plus a dry heat loss (through conduction) achieved by your turnout gear layers, so a higher number is better. The environment at which this test is ran is 77°F with 65% relative humidity.

# SELECTING THE RIGHT BARRIER FOR YOU

Because departments and firefighters face different challenges, we continue to expand our family of innovative barriers that exceed the NFPA 1971 Standard. For more than 35 years, GORE-TEX CROSSTECH<sup>®</sup> protective barriers have delivered the highest breathability in a broad range of conditions, while ensuring long-lasting durability and superior protection against hazards at the emergency scene. Which barrier product you need depends on you; but whatever you're up against, we've got you covered.

# GORE-TEX CROSSTECH<sup>®</sup> PRODUCTS PROVIDE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF BREATHABILITY AND DURABILITY IN TODAY'S MARKET.

	<b>GORE-TEX</b> CROSSTECH® PARALLON® LINER SYSTEM Highest breathability Maintains thermal protection better when gear gets wet	<b>GORE-TEX</b> <b>CROSSTECH</b> <sup>®</sup> BLACK MOISTURE BARRIER Best combination of breathability and durability Chosen by most major metros	<b>GORE-TEX</b> <b>CROSSTECH*</b> 3-LAYER MOISTURE BARRIER Most durable for long lasting protection and fewer repairs	<b>GORE®</b> <b>RT 7100</b> MOISTURE BARRIER Excellent protection, performance, and value
High breathability	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$
Garment-level thermal performance	~~~~	<b>~~</b> ~	<b>~~</b> ~	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$
Outstanding durability	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$
Warranty	5 years	5 years	7 years	4 years
OEKO-TEX <sup>®</sup> certified	YES	YES	YES	YES

# $\rho$ proof

A recent NC State trial confirmed that Ret values provide a better correlation to actual human physiological impact, whereas THL does not.





# GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® FOOTWEAR FABRIC

The advanced technology in GORE-TEX CROSSTECH<sup>®</sup> footwear fabric provides durable, breathable protection without compromising comfort or agility, while standing up to the tough conditions structural firefighters face in the field. It is exceptionally durable even when repeatedly exposed to extreme heat.

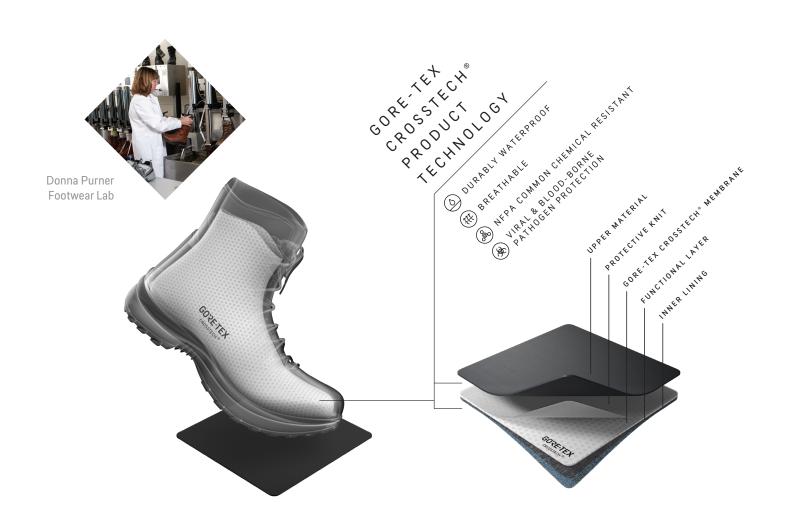
### DECONTAMINATION EFFECTIVENESS

During the course of their jobs, firefighters are exposed to many chemicals, and their gear must provide safety and protection in these extreme conditions. The fire industry has traditionally considered rubber boots to be easier to decontaminate after exposure, but firefighters have found leather boots to be much more stable, flexible, and comfortable. A study performed in W. L. Gore & Associates' laboratories indicated that leather boot materials retained substantially lower amounts of most contaminants at the matrix level than rubber boot materials after normal wash and air-dry decontamination procedures.

### PROVEN QUALITY

Every footwear bootie made of GORE-TEX CROSSTECH<sup>®</sup> footwear fabric must pass a waterproofness test before being used in a boot. The bootie is filled with air and then submerged in water. If any leaks are found, the liner cannot be used.

We couldn't find any volunteers to walk through 500 miles of water, so we built a machine to simulate it. Before a certified manufacturer can offer a new boot, its design must pass this test. The boot with GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® footwear fabric is submerged in water and flexed 500,000 times to ensure that it remains waterproof after extreme use.



# GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® GLOVE INSERTS

Protective gloves are useless if you have to remove them to get the job done. The latest technology used in GORE-TEX CROSSTECH<sup>®</sup> glove inserts combines flexibility, durability, and protection in gloves that enable you to complete challenging tasks while wearing gloves.

Improved dexterity and feel with less bulk in your palm, Gore's new technology is thinner without sacrificing durability. The insert's form-fitting construction reduces liner pull-out and provides better fit for both men and women.

#### OUTSTANDING DURABILITY

As you flex and bend your hands, the insert rubs against the glove's outer shell. Durable GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® glove inserts resist this kind of wear and tear better than any other breathable barrier, especially when they're wet.

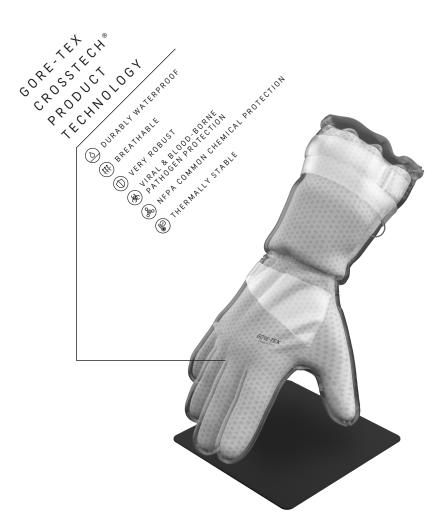
#### **PROVEN QUALITY**

Using the Gore whole glove leak tester, gloves are filled with pressurized air to ensure they are waterproof. If even the smallest bubble appears in the water trough, the glove cannot be sold.

### CONSISTENT THERMAL STABILITY

Unlike most competitive barriers, GORE-TEX CROSSTECH<sup>®</sup> glove liners do not melt, crack, or leak after being exposed to 500°F heat.





# GORE<sup>®</sup> PARTICULATE HOODS

### THE GORE<sup>®</sup> PARTICULATE HOOD IS THE ONLY HOOD<sup>1</sup> THAT

- blocks more potentially harmful particulates<sup>2</sup> than any other hood (99.9%),
- maintains its 99.9% particulate-blocking performance after 100 wash cycles,
- has an inspection opening that enables you to visually inspect the integrity of the entire barrier layer, and
- has proven its system-level reliability and durability with human FAST<sup>3</sup> testing on both new hoods and hoods washed 100 times.

#### Q PROOF

Better particulate-blocking performance after 100 wash cycles than competitive hoods<sup>1</sup>, even when they are new. FAST Results for Hoods Properly Donned—Areas of bright fluorescence indicated particulate ingress.



Ask the competition for the particulate-blocking data and FAST test results of their hoods after 100 wash cycles.

1 Excludes hoods using moisture barriers 2 Particulates in the 0.1 to 1.0-micron range, per NFPA 1971, 2018 Edition 3 FAST is Fluorescent Aerosol Screening Test, which was performed at RTI International.

# CHEMPAK<sup>®</sup> PRODUCTS BY GORE-TEX LABS

# NON-ENCAPSULATED LEVEL A SUIT

The protection of a responder's skin from exposure to hazardous materials is the key attribute that defines Level A performance, not a totally encapsulated design.

### PATENTED HEAT STRESS MANAGEMENT

Gore's patented wet-down method effectively dissipates heat generated by the responder, allowing them to remain engaged longer. (US Patent 7,730,557)

# MEETS AND EXCEEDS NFPA CERTIFICATIONS

Multi-threat suits are certified to the NFPA 1994, Class 1, 2, 2R and NFPA 1992 Standards to provide a high level of protection against a broad range of toxic industrial chemical and biological agents, including the newly declassified fourth generation nerve agents.

NFPA Standard	Respirator*	OSH
NFPA 1991	SCBA	A
NFPA 1994 Class 1	SCBA	A
NFPA 1994 Class 2/2R	SCBA	B
NFPA 1992	SCBA	B
NFPA 1994 Class 3/3R	APR/PAPR	C
NFPA 1994 Class 4/4R	APR/PAPR	C
NFPA 1999	P100/HEPA	C

\* SCBA = self-contained breathing apparatus

APR = air-purifying respirator

PAPR = powered air-purifying filter with 99.99% efficiency HEPA = high efficiency particulate air (filter)

# FLASH FIRE PROTECTION

The protective barrier is laminated between two layers of flame-resistant textiles, one of which is a highstrength textile that resists cuts, tears, and punctures.

### ENHANCED FUNCTIONALITY

Multi-threat suits provide unencumbered movement, increased range of motion, improved peripheral vision, and excellent dexterity so you can effectively complete the mission.



# PROVEN DURABILITY BACKED BY GORE WARRANTIES

As you work in extreme conditions, your protective barriers in your gear are exposed to abrasion, bending, and flexing. As your department adopts more stringent care and maintenance programs, we want to ensure our products stand up to these challenges and maintain their protective qualities.

Therefore, we test beyond the NFPA 1971 minimum requirements to provide you with durable, long-lasting protection. For example, we test our barriers using a Wet Flex and Abrasion to leakage test, which is an accelerated lab test to help understand its in-use durability. And we challenge our barriers by preconditioning them with 25 wash/dry cycles and five convective heat cycles— $2 \frac{1}{2}$ times greater than what the standard requires — before testing for the liquid and viral penetration resistance.

Gore stands behind the durability, reliability, and performance of its complete line of protective barriers. As a result of their proven performance in the lab and in the field, all of our protective barriers are covered by comprehensive warranties. Repair and replacement of a GORE-TEX product covered in our warranty program is performed by a Verified ISP or the original garment manufacturer.

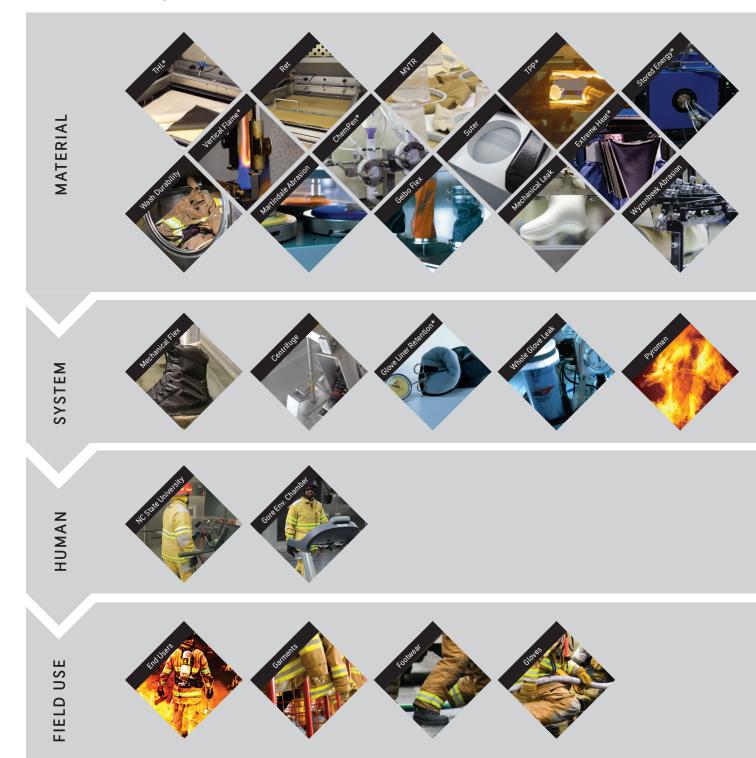


# EXTENSIVE PRODUCT TESTING

# PROVING OUR COMMITMENT

Every new product containing Gore materials is put through the paces in our Gore testing lab. If it survives there, then it's put to the ultimate test for performance and comfort in actual field use. Finally, if it passes the entire gauntlet of tests, then it earns the right to carry the GORE-TEX brand. YOUR SAFETY. YOUR PERFORMANCE. OUR COMMITMENT.

\*Tests that are currently included in the NFPA Standard



## MATERIALS AND LABOR WARRANTY

GORE-TEX CROSSTECH® PARALLON® LINER SYSTEM

5 YEAR

WARRANTY

for body-side layer\*

**GORE-TEX** CROSSTECH® BLACK MOISTURE BARRIER

5 YEAR warranty **GORE-TEX** CROSSTECH® 3-LAYER MOISTURE BARRIER

7 YEAR

WARRANTY



4 YEAR warranty



Ray Davis Gore Environmental Chamber

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# GORE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPONSIBLE USAGE OF MATERIALS

According to Oeko-Tex: "If a textile article carries the STANDARD 100 label, you can be certain that every component of this article, i.e., every thread, button and other accessories, has been tested for harmful substances and that the article therefore is harmless for human health."

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#### goretexprofessional.com

Warning: No products, including garments and accessories, protect completely, even when new; their protective performance will decline with wear, tear, abrasion, and other damage associated with use. © 2021, 2022 W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. GORE-TEX, CROSSTECH, PARALLON, GORE-TEX LABS, GORE and designs are trademarks of W. L. Gore & Associates.

