

## TOOLBOX TALK

## LET'S TALK SAFETY WITH SWEET-ORR: EP15

## Key Considerations when selecting safety garments:

- Ask for certification and spec sheets to ensure the appropriate safety features and quality.
- Know the difference between inherently flame retardant and flame retardant.
- Ensure you are comparing the same features like inherently flame retardant vs flame retardant (Pro-tip: If it says flame retardant, it needs to have flame tape on it).
- Look for restricted substances like nickel that can cause allergic reactions. Sweet-Orr does not use any nickel in the manufacturing of their garments.
- Ensure the selected garment provides adequate protection for the wearer in their specific work environment and addresses the unique challenges they may encounter.

**Example 1**: In environments with high electrical hazards, such as those involving electric arc flashes, specialized arc flash protection garments are essential.

**Example 2:** The Flame Acid Range has gained popularity for its dual-purpose functionality, offering protection against both flames and acid spills. These garments are specifically designed for industries where exposure to hazardous chemicals or fire is a common risk.

Not all garments are created equal. Factors such as the number of stitches, the quality of the stitching, and the grade of material used can vary significantly. Even fabric from the same manufacturer can differ in quality. These elements directly affect key aspects like comfort, durability, and lifespan. It's important to consider these details when selecting the appropriate garment.



Pro Tip: Understanding safety fabric features

- Inherently Flame Retardant: Built into the fabric itself, this protection won't wash out or wear off, ensuring long-lasting safety.
- Flame Retardant: Treated with a coating to resist flames, but note that this can diminish after several washes.

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