

To Whom It May Concern:

UltraSoft® fabrics are treated for flame resistance with a phosphonium salt based urea-precondensate. This chemical (in monomer form) is applied to the fabric, cross linked with ammonia to form long chain polymers embedded in the cotton yarns and oxidized with hydrogen peroxide to complete the reaction. The chemical has been used commercially for thirty years and has been extensively studied for acute and chronic toxicity with no unusual activity found.

The flame retardant used contains some formaldehyde. The formaldehyde levels in the finished fabric (as delivered to the wearer) are reduced to less than 75 parts per million (ppm). The limited level of formaldehyde present in the fabric is bound up in the fabric and is very unlikely to become airborne. UltraSoft fabrics are certified to Oeko-Tex 100, which is the most stringent voluntary textile standard for innocuousness in the world. The Oeko-Tex 100 standard sets forth a maximum of 75 ppm of formaldehyde for fabrics worn in direct contact with the skin. Furthermore, these levels have been shown not to cause skin rashes and/or dermatitis.

It is important to note that typical permanent press (crease resistant) fabrics contain formaldehyde in levels equal to or higher than UltraSoft fabric. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has set 1000 ppm as the reporting threshold per 29 CFR 1910.1200. While the levels in these fabrics are well below this, Westex has reported the values as a service to the industry. Westex processes and sells millions of yards of these fabrics every year and can assure you that the number of inquiries regarding a reaction to UltraSoft fabric is minuscule.

## PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

DATA SHEET: 00-04 UltraSoft<sup>®</sup> Fabrics

DESCRIPTION: 88% Cotton/ 12% High Tenacity Nylon, flame resistant fabric, treated with a phosphonium salt precondensate, capable of releasing some formaldehyde. When tested by AATCC Method 112 Release levels are substantially below 1000ug/g (0.1%) and typically are below 500ug/g (0.05%)

MANUFACTURER'S ADDRESS: Westex Inc.  
2845 W. 48th Place  
Chicago, IL 60632  
Attn: Joshua Moody  
Vice President of Technical

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (773) 523-7000

## HAZARDOUS INGREDIENT

<u>CHEMICAL</u>	<u>CAS. NO.</u>	<u>LIMIT - TWA</u>	<u>ATMOSPHERIC EXPOSURE REFERENCE</u>
Formaldehyde	000050-00-0	0.75	29 CFR 1910.1048

## FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS

Flame resistant fabric may ignite in contact with flame; however, it should self-extinguish upon removal of ignition source. Products of combustion include carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide.

## EXPOSURE CONTROL METHODS

General ventilation should be used to maintain exposures below applicable exposure limits. Recirculating systems should, whenever practicable, be operated in the bypass mode to avoid concentrating air contaminants in the workspace.

## WASTE DISPOSAL

Landfill disposal of waste fabric may be made in accordance with local government regulations.

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