

INTERNAL MEMO

EVALUATION OF COLD TEMPERATURE STORAGE ON NH15 ESCAPE HOOD

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Introduction

Justin Hine requested testing of the donning behaviour of an NH15 escape hood after cold temperature storage. The objective of the test was to understand the time taken to don a hood that had been conditioned at low temperature and to determine that there was no damage to the hood following the donning process

Experimental

Packed NH15 hoods were selected from current production and stored in an environmental chamber for 24hrs @ -40°C to ensure the target temperature had been reached.

At the end of the storage period the packed hoods were removed from the chamber, one at a time, and 3 test subjects were timed to record the time to open the packaging and correctly fit the NH15 hood.

Once fitted the subject wore the hood for a few minutes so that the level of misting in the hood could be observed.

Following the removal of the hood, the hood was visually inspected to determine if there was any damage such as holes or tears.

Results

HOOD ID	TEST SUBJECT	GENDER	TIME TO REMOVE FROM PACKAGING	TIME TO DON HOOD	TOTAL TIME	VISION	ANY DAMAGE RECORDED
NH15-1	J. HINE	Male	23	45	68	OK	NONE
NH15-2	A. JONES	Female	22	43	65	OK	NONE
NH15-3	M. SMITHSON	Male	18	32	50	OK	NONE

Conclusion

This testing demonstrates that suitable trained users can don an NH15 escape hood in times between 50 and 68 seconds. Once donned, the user confirmed that the vision was acceptable for escape purposes. There was also no visible damage to any of the three hoods used in this trial.