



For Immediate Release

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Lion Apparel Provides Technical Rescue First for Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service

GLASGOW, UNITED KINGDOM– July 7, 2008 – Lion Apparel, the global protective equipment specialist, has developed the first Technical Rescue Garment to comply with EN469 Performance Level 1 based on a design specification led by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on behalf of the Scottish Fire Service.

The new, one-piece coverall is being issued to all Strathclyde's 3,200 firefighters, making Strathclyde the first fire and rescue service in the U.K. to issue a garment that can be worn as an alternative to the traditional fire kit for all appropriate non-structural or compartmental fire and rescue requirements, subject to an appropriate dynamic risk assessment.

The new garment combines a flame retardant ripstop outer fabric, which has high resistance to tearing, puncture and abrasion and strong colour fastness. The outer face of the fabric has been treated to repel water and other substances, such as petrol and body fluids. The inclusion of a moisture barrier ensures that the garment is waterproof and breathable and offers a combination of comfort and performance for the wearer.

Firefighters will benefit from a task-driven design specification that includes comfort reinforcement for elbows and shoulders and across the back and knees, as well as a variety of pockets and loops for the safe carriage of equipment.

The Technical Rescue Garment is designed as a multitask ensemble that can be used for a variety of duties, including RTC extrication, USAR, wildland fire applications and rope rescue operations. Certain water rescue, flood and high volume pump applications may also find the garment beneficial. It will not however be worn for structural or compartment firefighting.

"The new Technical Rescue Garment will be issued to all of our firefighters in addition to the existing structural kit, creating a new flexibility in protection that ensures that they can wear clothing that is most appropriate for the job at hand, without compromising in protection and comfort," said John Cairns, PPE officer at Strathclyde Fire and Rescue. "Because it is EN469 compliant, the new garment can be worn for

the majority of operations, other than structural firefighting, which will deliver the additional benefit of prolonging the life of existing structural kit."

"I would also acknowledge the collaboration and support provided by all Fire and Rescue Services in Scotland via the CFOA Scotland AEU (Appliance, Equipment & Uniform) committee, and the Scottish Fire Service Procurement Consortium, who facilitated the procurement process," Cairns said.

"Firefighters in Strathclyde are the first in the U.K. to have the flexibility of a Technical Rescue Garment that meets the EN469 standard for performance," said Alex McAllister, manager of technical sales for Lion Apparel Systems (UK) Ltd. "They can respond to rescue operations with the confidence that they have an excellent level of protection that has been designed specifically to meet their needs."

For more information about Lion Apparel Systems (UK), visit '<http://www.lionapparel.co.uk>'.

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Lion Apparel Inc. is a 111-year-old, family owned global company based in Dayton, Ohio, USA. Through offices in the U.S., Canada, U.K., Germany, France, Australia and Spain, Lion serves the uniform and personal protective equipment (PPE) and logistics requirements of police and fire departments, civilian government agencies, emergency services, and military organizations around the world. Each and every day, Lion fulfills the personal safety, readiness and identity needs of its customers around the world.