

NFPA 2112

Should you be certified?

NFPA 2112, the “Standard for Flame-Resistant Garments for Protection of Industrial Personnel Against Flash Fire,” has been around since 2002, but in the past few years has skyrocketed in industry attention. While numerous fabrics are certified to the NFPA 2112 standard, more and more employers in industries with flash fire hazards—such as petroleum refining, chemical processing, manufacturers generating combustible dust and the oil and gas drilling industries, in particular—are looking for their FR garments to be certified, as well. This could be fueled in part by OSHA’s increased safety inspections in these industries, leading to a sharp rise in the use of FR garments as additional pieces of personal protective equipment for certain job categories.

The certification guarantees that the garments themselves have been certified as a whole, finished product, including all items that make up the garment, such as fabric, thread, zipper tape, buttons and trims.

So what does it mean to have an NFPA 2112-certified garment? This additional certification is performed by an independent third-party organization, such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL), as is required by the standard. The certification guarantees that the garments themselves have been certified as a whole, finished product, including all items that make up the garment, such as fabric, thread, zipper tape, buttons and trims. NFPA 2112 also requires an ongoing audit for FR garment manufacturing facilities to verify that there is a quality control process in place to

make sure all the garments are manufactured as certified. This process gives the safety manager confidence and trust that every garment ordered meets all the requirements of the NFPA 2112 standard.

In response to the growing need and interest in NFPA 2112-certified garments, Workrite has taken an extra step by placing external labels onto these certified garments to give safety managers and employers a quick visual confirmation that the garments their employees are wearing are NFPA 2112 certified. An internal label is required for all certified garments, but this new, easily seen “NFPA 2112” external label guarantees that the employees are wearing garments that are certified to these stringent safety standards.

OSHA doesn’t currently require that whole garments be certified to NFPA 2112, but many safety managers have decided to take this additional safety step for their employees. With more than 160 NFPA 2112-certified styles, Workrite has been working to offer this assurance to their customers since the standard was introduced more than a decade ago. Workrite has certified a variety of their FR workwear, including coveralls, shirts, pants and non-insulated outerwear in Ultra Soft®, Indura®, Nomex® IIIA, Protera® and Tecasafe® Plus.

Workrite’s innovative external label provides at-a-glance verification that a garment is certified to NFPA 2112, making the task of compliance monitoring quick and easy—a necessity for the fast-paced nature of these jobsites. In order to continue to provide the kind of service and quality FR workwear Workrite has become known for in the past 40 years, they are continually adding new NFPA 2112-certified styles based on customer needs, updated industry standards and OSHA requirements.



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