

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Technical Services

DATE: May 13, 2019

SUBJECT: Leather Boot Polish

This memo is in response to the question of whether it is acceptable to use commercial boot polish on our protective footwear. Unfortunately, there are so many different formulations in the marketplace, that it is impossible to provide an unequivocal reply. We are able to state that our in-house lab has conducted flame testing on Globe boot leather treated with a few different aftermarket products: Obenauf's Heavy Duty LP, Obenauf's Leather Oil, Obenauf's Water Shield, and KIWI heavy duty water repellent (a silicon spray also referred to as "CAMP DRY").

While we cannot and do not endorse any specific products, we are able to say that the products we have tested on new leather did not have a negative impact on the flame resistance of the leather.

NFPA 1971 requires a very stringent flame test for footwear and our primary concern is that there might be some component in a polish which could negatively affect the flame resistance of the boot. Specific to those items we tested, we need to be very clear in explaining that our testing was performed on new leather and that the products being tested were applied exactly as directed without the presence of any additional chemicals or contaminants.