

TAKING ON THE TEXAS HEAT

WESTEX HELPS LUMMUS TECHNOLOGY FIND MORE COMFORTABLE, HIGHER PERFORMING FR APPAREL

PROJECT DETAILS

- *Lummus Technology*
- *Pasadena, TX*
- *110 employees in FR apparel*
- *Daily Wear program provided by an industrial launderer*
- *Fabrics used in FR apparel program: Westex DH Air™*

THE OPPORTUNITY

Sitting just south of Houston, the employees at Lummus Technology faced a potentially hazardous and categorically inconvenient truth—the FR gear they had been wearing for years wasn't comfortable.

For the men and women working at the Lummus manufacturing and chemical process plants, the Texas heat proved to be a major safety risk. Temperatures reach 100°F on average 102 days a year. This makes having FR apparel that is lightweight and breathable not just a matter of comfort but a critical tactic for the safety team to reduce the risk of an on-site health incident.

HOW WE BUILT A BETTER FR/AR PROGRAM

In conversations with their garment provider, Lummus specifically requested shirts, pants and coveralls made with highly breathable and moisture wicking material. Of course, there couldn't be any sacrifice to the hazard protection and standards compliance needed to work in these high-risk environments.

Their crew asked for comfort, specifically clothes that were easy to move in, would dry quickly when they came indoors or during breaks and didn't feel unnecessarily heavy. That's where DH Air came into the conversation. Known as one of the market's lightest fabrics and soft to the touch, the company opted into a three-week wear trial to put it to the test.

WEAR TRIAL TAKEAWAYS

After three weeks, the multi-person pilot team at Lummus unanimously decided to make the switch to DH Air, noting the following insights as reasons why:

- ➔ Its "favorite t-shirt" feel instead of the "itchy and scratchy" feel of their previous FR shirts.
- ➔ Its ability to dry quickly and feel like a new shirt after taking a break.
- ➔ Its compliance to all necessary standards.
- ➔ Its ability to withstand repeated wash cycles without losing performance.

HOW THE LUMMUS TEAM FEELS TODAY

Now three years into their conversion to FR apparel made with DH Air, the Lummus team has no plans to go back to their old materials. Allan Williams, the senior safety and health advisor responsible for the Lummus FR program said, "The last time our Westex rep came to the office, I had a couple of guys stop me and say, 'You're not changing our uniforms are you? We're not giving these up.' That right there told me we made the right decision switching to DH Air fabrics."



Interested in having your team try garments made with Westex DH Air? Email FRinfo@milliken.com to set up a wear trial today.

For more information on Westex and our line of high-performance FR/AR fabrics, go to www.westex.com.

