

## **CHLORIDE SALT DAMAGES (14)**

**As a garment analyst I examine and test thousands of discolored, weakened and garment damages. These damages found in garments are often due to contact with chloride salts. Many foods and beverages contain chloride salts. Perspiration and deodorants also contain chloride salts. Damage from chloride salts are seldom noticeable at time of contact but subsequent exposure to moisture in the atmosphere activates the chloride salts and results in a discoloration, weakening and gradual deterioration of the fabric. Chloride salt damage to more apt to occur on garments not cleaned on a regular basis. The condition may show up after a period of time or the heat and mechanical action of drycleaning could cause oxidation and the damage is revealed. Silk is the fiber most sensitive to chloride salt damage but the condition can occur on other fabrics. Suede and leathers are also readily damaged by chloride salts.**

### **REMOVING CHLORIDE SALTS**

**Staining should not remain on garment for a long period of time. Chloride salts, when fresh are relatively easy to remove. After a period of time oxidation and permanent damage to the fabric occurs.**

#### **PREPARATION**

- (1) Add a few drops of liquid detergent to a 6 ounce bottle of water.**
- (2) Plain water**
- (3) Several towels**

#### **PROCEDURE**

- (1) Lay garment on towel.**
- (2) Apply water and detergent.**
- (3) Dab stain with towel.**
- (4) Rinse with plain water.**
- (5) Feather area to remove rings.**

**Use a towel to wipe from the center of the wet area outward so the wet area blends into the dry area.**

#### **EMERGENCY TREATMENT**

**If you accidentally contact your garment with food or beverage it is ok to dab the stain with a cloth damp with cool water. Even if the staining is not removed the chloride salts usually are since they are soluble in water.**

(2)

## **DRYCLEANING**

**When a garment is brought in for drycleaning tell the cleaner to steam out the underarm area and pre-spot any staining that you may have encountered. The drycleaning process alone does not remove chloride salts.**

## **SUMMARY**

**Chloride salts are common ingredients found in foods, beverages, deodorants and perspiration. It is often overlooked as a substance that can cause damages to fabrics. When left in a fabric for a period of time discolorations and puckering can occur. Removal of chloride salts is relatively easy when fresh. It can be removed with a little water and a mild detergent. Drycleaners should be instructed to pre-spot any staining to remove the chloride salts.**