

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – Product Bulletin

8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric

1. Product Description

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric is intended to be applied on high visibility warning clothing such as fire fighting clothing and flame resistant occupational work wear. It can be used where enhanced visibility of the wearer during day time and night time, in combination with heat resistance and wear durability, is required.

The fabric will appear brilliant white when illuminated by vehicle headlights, even when the wearer is situated at the side of the road.

When converting/storing the reflective material, certain circumstances may change the uniform appearance of the reflective material; the reflective properties – and hence the defined functionality – will not be affected by this.

2. Product Features

2.1 Product Design

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric consists of exposed high performance glass lenses bonded to a special polymer layer and a flame resistant, durable cloth backing (100 % Cotton).

2.2 High Performance according to ISO 20471

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric:

- Exceeds the highest brightness requirements for combined performance material
- Is non-orientation sensitive.

2.3 Special Feature

To ensure consistency of performance, 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Materials are manufactured within an ISO 9001 controlled manufacturing environment.

3. General Safety Information

Read 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric Product Bulletin carefully.

The wearer is ultimately responsible for his/her own safety.

- Verify the suitability of 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric for the intended use of the PPE (EC Directive 89/656/EEC Art. 4 and Art. 5; EC Communication 89/C328/EEC Annex §7).
- No reflective material can guarantee absolute visibility.
- Various factors (e.g. environmental) can influence visibility. For further details see chapter 8 “Specific Safety Information”.
- Field test the finished garment to verify its suitability for intended use and to select appropriate care conditions.

4. Product Application

Retroreflective materials are important in applications where being visible can reduce the risk of an accident. Example of environments where high-visibility garments should be worn include applications of vehicular hazard such as motorways, rural and urban roads, railway environments, airports and docks. 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric is a durable material recommended for garments subjected to domestic wash care procedures.

Occupational Application

Fire fighting clothing and flame resistant occupational work wear, where flame and heat resistance as well as wear durability is required, such as: fire coats, turnout coats, trousers, coveralls, coats, jackets, waistcoats and trousers, uniforms, rainwear.

Accessories

Head-, arm-, legbands, belts, back packs, headwear, footwear, gloves, emblems, logos, ropes and piping.

5. Product Converting

5.1 Cutting

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric can be handcut, die-cut or guillotined (max. 5cm stack height).

Note: Use very sharp cutting knives only and cut from the reflective side.

5.2 Sewing

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric can be applied directly to a fabric. It is best suited for flame resistant fabrics with a weight of 230 - 350g/m².

The reflective fabric should be sewn with a coated brand circular top needle, using a flame retardent thread (e.g. aramid). To minimise edge fraying, sew in place using a lockstitch of 3mm stitch length, placed at least 3mm from the edge of the reflective fabric.

Note: Whenever two or more pieces of reflective fabric are used together on a single surface or as a set, they should be matched to ensure uniform day time colour appearance.

5.3 Silk Screen Printing

Due to the product construction, durable prints on glass bead products are difficult to obtain.

Choice of ink will depend upon usage condition and care procedure. User should make test applications and select the appropriate care instruction for the finished product to ensure adequate adhesion of the ink. It is recommended to test the ink adhesion on the actual batch of 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8986 NFPA Fluorescent red-orange Flame Resistant Fabric being used before production.

When illuminated by e.g. vehicle headlights, opaque silk screen printing inks will appear black and greatly diminishes the brightness in the printed areas, transparent inks will reduce brightness when viewed as retroreflected light at low light conditions.

Note: For more information refer to 3M Technical Information “Printing Guidelines for Glass Bead Products”.

For further information contact your 3M representative

6. Handling and Storage

6.1 Product Storage

Store in a cool, dry area and use within 1 year of receipt.

Rolls should be stored in their original cartons, whilst partially used rolls should be returned to their carton or suspended horizontally from the core via a rod or pipe. Cut sheets should be stored flat.

7. Product Cleaning

Reflective fabrics and films naturally age. Ageing depends upon material type, conditions of use, environment and maintenance procedures.

The retroreflective performance of all reflective materials is affected by soiling. Any kind of dirt, liquid chemicals, grease and alike will reduce brightness in the area of contamination.



7.1 Caution

Washing/cleaning conditions harsher than those recommended below could diminish the brilliance of the fabric and shorten the product's lifetime significantly. Therefore, the instructions must be strictly followed.

- No pre-soaking.
- No application of high alkaline products (e.g. heavy duty products or stain removal products).
- No application of solvenated detergents or micro-emulsions.
- No additional bleaches.
- Do not overdry.

Before use, the suitability of the intended care process for the above mentioned products must be determined. Test duration should mirror the anticipated maximum number of care cycles in use.

8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric**7.2 Homewash****7.2.1 Washing Conditions**

A colored clothing wash program without pre-wash should be used.

Recommendation:

Wash temperature range: up to 40°C
 Max. wash time at highest wash temperature: 12 minutes
 Max. program time: 50 minutes

Detergent: Brand powdered household detergents should be used. Recommended are detergents for delicate or coloured laundry. Refer to the detergent manufacturer's recommendations for dosage in areas of high water hardness and for various degrees of garment soiling.

Wash temperatures higher than 40°C and industrial laundering processes are not recommended.

The use of bleach or detergents containing organic solvent will result in a reduction in retroreflective performance. Actual lifetime will be dependent upon the detergent system and its dosage level.

**7.2.2 Do not use additional bleach.**

- No chlorine bleach.
- Do not store a wash batch even in a low concentration of bleach.

**7.2.3 Drying conditions**

Tumble Dryer: Tumble drying should be performed in a commercially available household dryer using the medium dry setting.

Do **not** overdry. Damp dry only.

Air Drying: Line drying is recommended where possible

**7.4 Dry Cleaning Conditions**

- For best retention of the retroreflective performance, dry cleaning is recommended.
- Cleaning process should be based on a pre- and main-bath only.
- For P it is recommended to only use pure perchloroethylene.
- Adjust load and solvent level to give a moderate mechanical action.

Max. solvent temperature:	30 °C
Recommended drying temperature:	48 °C
Max. inlet temperature:	80 °C
Max. exhaust temperature:	60 °C
Max. drying time:	15 minutes
Max. program time:	60 minutes

If stain removing substances (e.g. surfactant-based cleaning booster) need to be used, their compatibility with the reflective material should be determined prior to the application.

**7.5 Ironing Conditions**

- Use medium setting, use press cloth.
- Do not apply steam.

8. Product Maintenance**8.1 Maintenance Misuse**

3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric is an optical system. Coating of the fabric with material of high refractive index, such as oil, will greatly diminish reflective performance.

- No harsh mechanical treatment, e.g. abrasion with wire brushes or sand paper.
- No uniform coating or spraying of oils, protective waxes, inks or paint.
- No application of products such as leather spray or shoe shine.

8.2 Inspection

High-visibility warning clothing should be maintained in good condition and inspected regularly for signs of damage or deterioration.

Where frequent care cycles are performed, inspection should be pursued after every cleaning cycle. Records of test results should be kept for reference.

Replacement of the reflective material must be considered, if the retroreflective performance is below $R' = 35 \text{ cd/lx/m}^2$ (refer to ISO 20471).

For specific guidance contact your local 3M representative.

8.3 Product Disposal

Product can be recycled attached to the garment. The product can be incinerated in a commercial or industrial facility or disposed in a sanitary landfill. Before recycling, the compatibility shall be determined with the intended recycling process.

9. Specific Safety Information

Visibility Limits see chapter 3

“General Safety Information”

Various environmental factors like line of sight, rain, fog, smoke, dust and visual noise can influence visibility.

Recognition of the wearer can also be significantly reduced, if the reflective material is covered, e.g. by simultaneously wearing other personal protective equipment or by obstacles in the working zone.

In such instances the wearer should be aware of these limitations.

The brightness of 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric can also be diminished in extreme weather conditions.

- Test results show, that 3M™ Scotchlite™ Reflective Material – 8987 NFPA Fluorescent lime-yellow Flame Resistant Fabric exceeds the retroreflective performance requirements for combined performance material in rainfall conditions as defined in ISO 20471. Initial brightness levels return as the material dries.
- Fog, mist, smoke and dust can scatter the light from headlights. The wearer must be aware that detection distances will be severely reduced.
- Visual noise (contrast variations in the visual field) decreases the contrast of the reflective material with the background and affects the visibility in low-light conditions.

Important Notice to Purchaser / Converter / Wearer:

All statements, technical information and recommendations herein are based on tests we believe to be reliable, but the accuracy or completeness thereof is not guaranteed. We shall not be liable and no warranty shall apply for products not applied according to our published information folder. Before using / converting, the user / converter must determine the suitability of the product for its intended use / converting, and the user / converter assumes all risk and liability whatsoever in connection therewith. All questions of warranty and liability relating to this product are governed by the terms of the sale subject where applicable to the prevailing law. No statement or recommendation not contained herein shall have any force or effect unless in an agreement signed by officers of us.



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