SAFETY+REDEFINED™
We started this journey more than a decade ago. A group of hardworking people with a new technology that no one had ever seen. One that had the potential to change the cut and puncture safety market. One that could save the lives and livelihood of workers across the world. So we started with one industry. And one glove.

We changed and altered and tested and trialed until we successfully eliminated all hand injuries for a large waste and recycling company. Eliminated – as in zero – none. That’s when we knew we had something.

S A F E T Y + R E D E F I N E D™

Our thought was: If we stopped dictating the safety products people used, and started working one-on-one with people to develop the safety product they actually need...well, we’d have something pretty unique for this industry. Not to mention, we’d be able to change the conversation from price and product to “is this the right PPE to effectively reduce injuries and protect our people?”

It was possible, but it wasn’t simple. We set off to work with people, side-by-side, day after day to experience the kind of dangers and hazards they encountered.

From there we grew and expanded our hand safety line one industry at a time – with our team of safety advisors hitting worksites and manufacturing floors, working hand-in-hand with their workers, listening to their input, and giving them the protection they deserve. And that’s what’s most important to us. Because, in the end, we aren’t just gloves and PPE. We’re the confidence, safety, and livelihood of those we protect.

HexArmor. We’re Safety, Redefined.
14 Qts. (13.2 L.)

BIOHAZARD WARNING PELIGRO

The ONLY way to avoid injury...
Needlestick Injuries: What’s the Risk?

The Cost of Needlestick Injuries

Although there are not exact numbers on how many work-related needlesticks occur each year across the US, estimates indicate that 600,000 to 800,000 injuries occur annually, about half of which go unreported.

Of those, a recent CDC study estimates that an average of 385,000 needlestick injuries occur in hospital settings. This means roughly half of all needlesticks occur outside of hospitals where the ramifications can be more severe.

Who is at Risk of Needlestick Injuries?

• Children with relatives or neighbors using needles
• Cleaners of public toilets, parks, trains, cinema seats
• Healthcare workers
• People who maintain areas where needles may be used for illegal drug use
• Police and security officers especially while searching suspects or their property
• Sanitation and recycling workers dealing with refuse

Needles are used to draw blood or deliver medicines. A dirty needle may contain infected blood causing disease or infection. These diseases may be spread to anyone who gets stuck by the dirty needle. There are many diseases which can, and have, been spread through contaminated needlesticks:

• HIV/AIDS
• Hepatitis B
• Hepatitis C
• Blastomycosis
• Brucellosis
• Cryptococcosis
• Diphtheria
• Cutaneous gonorrhea
• Herpes
• Malaria
• Mycobacteriosis
• Mycoplasma caviae
• Rocky Mountain spotted fever
• Sporotrichosis
• Staphylococcus aureus
• Streptococcus pyogenes
• Syphilis
• Toxoplasmosis
• Tuberculosis
Safety Technologies and Testing: Puncture Resistance

One of the most common and potentially devastating health issues faced by employees in waste and recycling is the risk of being poked by dirty hypodermic needles. Equipping these workers with puncture-resistant hand protection is critical. When selecting gloves for puncture resistance, ensure they were tested using the proper puncture standard:

Blunt object puncture threat: EN 388:1994
Fine object puncture threat: ASTM F1342
Needlestick threat: ASTM F2878

For applications where workers are dealing with more blunt puncture threats, such as glass shards, frayed wire, or wood splinters, choose a glove tested according to EN 388:1994. This test uses a probe about the size of a ballpoint pen.

To protect workers against hypodermic needles and other fine puncture threats, select gloves that are tested to the ASTM F1342 standard, which uses a thinner, more pointed probe. The ASTM F2878 test method may also be used. Both of these methods use probes that more closely replicate a needlestick hazard.

HexArmor® products are tested both in the lab and in real-world applications, and are proven to reduce needlestick injuries. Using the correct test will ensure you have the right glove to protect your employees. Keep in mind that even the most thorough lab tests cannot guarantee safety performance, so we always recommend proper field testing to validate the level of protection necessary for your application.
Needlestick Protection

Waste sorters regularly encounter small, often hidden, hazardous objects in waste streams including metal burrs, frayed wire, wire rope, glass shards, and hypodermic needles. Sticks or punctures from needles pose a particular danger to workers due to the risk of infection from blood-borne pathogens such as HIV and Hepatitis C.

According to the American Hospital Association, one case of serious infection by blood borne pathogens can add up to $1 million or more in expenses for testing, lost work time, and disability payments. Even when no infection occurs, the cost to organizations is estimated to be more than $3,000 per injury for testing, counseling, and time off work.

The international standard ASTM F2878 addresses the unique mechanics of hypodermic needle puncture related to PPE, and can be performed using a 21G, 25G, or 28G needle. Standardized safety tests like the ASTM F2878 have made the selection process easier for safety managers seeking out application-specific PPE.

HexArmor® sets the industry standard for needle protection by providing solutions that use layering of high-dexterity, protective guard plates to arrest and stop punctures from reaching the skin’s surface. These guard plates make up our SuperFabric® brand material. SuperFabric® brand material blocks and deflects needles, effectively trapping them in the small gaps between each guard plate. When layered, SuperFabric® provides even higher levels of needlestick resistance.

Needlestick Resistance Comparisons

We tested our needlestick and puncture-resistant gloves against competitors with these results:

**ASTM-F2878 Needle Resistance Comparison**

Our needlestick-resistant gloves and arm guards are thoroughly lab tested using actual 25-gauge needles to give you maximum protection and peace of mind.
Don’t Get Stuck With Faulty Hand Protection

Recycling, though desirable and necessary, is extremely hazardous work. Employees are exposed to scrap metal, electronics, batteries, hypodermic needles, used oil and other chemicals on a daily basis. Work-related injuries in this industry can be disastrous.

“HexArmor needlestick gloves are the best hand protection on the market. They drastically reduced our injury rates.”

– Regional Safety Manager, Large U.S. Waste Handler/Recycler
9014 SharpsMaster II®

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- Cotton blend shell provides exceptional dexterity and feel
- Wrinkle rubber palm coating with Actifresh™ antimicrobial treatment
Available in sizes 6/XS through 10/XL

7082 SharpsMaster HV®

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- Single-glove needle solution with incredible dexterity and comfort
- Flat nitrile three-quarter knuckle coating
Available in sizes 7/S through 10/XL
**6044 PointGuard® X**

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- Recommended use as an underglove solution with appropriate top-glove combination
- Lightweight spandex shell with elastic wrist

Available in sizes 5/XXS through 11/XXL

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**3041 Hercules® NSR**

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- Full coverage design and pre-curved shape for maximum comfort and protection
- Silicone dot palm grip

Available in sizes 7/S through 11/XXL

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**AG8TW 8” Arm Guard**

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance
- Won’t fall down like knit sleeves
- Spandex wrist insert with thumb hole and snap fasteners

Available in sizes 7/S through 12/3XL
Case Study

EMBRACING ULTIMATE SAFETY

Working directly with the safety team at a large waste and recycling firm, HexArmor® designers created a series of protective gloves that resist needlestick punctures, as well as cut hazards commonly encountered in recycling operations including glass shards, steel, wire, and wood splinters. The company had experienced multiple incidents involving needlesticks including cases where needles had been discarded in plastic bottles, leaving employees vulnerable to injury and infection. HexArmor® SuperFabric® brand material technology was the key to preventing these needlesticks, punctures, and cuts. When tested during sorting and debris handling, SuperFabric® brand material stopped needlesticks at the point of attack, allowing employees to work efficiently and safely.

The collaborative nature of the relationship led to the development of a mandated hand and arm protection program, specifically for material handlers and sorters. The mandate required that all operators and line workers wear HexArmor® products with SuperFabric® brand material exclusively while on the job.

In addition to developing a complete line of recycling and sorting gloves, HexArmor® has developed needle-resistant arm guards, which are now also required in the company’s Recycling Protection Mandate. HexArmor® continues to collaborate with the company to improve current products, and to engineer advanced solutions that offer superior protection and extended service in a wide range of waste handling and recycling applications.
Law Enforcement is clearly one of the most difficult jobs available due to the nature of unexpected situations and potential hazards. Perpetrators have been known to carry a wide array of hazards on their body, including hypodermic needles, blades, knives, and shivs. HexArmor® tactical gloves and law enforcement gloves are built to handle the unexpected.

“Our HexArmor® gloves give us the confidence to handle pat downs and arrests while limiting risk of hand injuries.”

- Jack R. State Trooper
  State Highway Patrol Division
4041 NSR

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- Back-of-hand knuckle padding for incidental bumps/impact
- Comfortable memory span liner
- Silicone dot palm grip
- Neoprene™ cuff with Velcro® closure
Available in sizes 6/XS through 11/XXL

4045 Search and Duty

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- AirMesh™ breathable back-of-hand
- Neoprene™ cuff with Velcro® closure
Available in sizes 7/S through 11/XXL

4046 Leather Tactical

- SuperFabric® brand material provides industry-leading needlestick resistance (in noted enhanced areas)
- Kevlar® liner for back-of-hand protection
- Premium goatskin leather
- Slipfit® cuff
Available in sizes 7/S through 11/XXL
A glove trial is the process of field-testing different models of safety gloves, either from a single source or several manufacturers, in order to identify the best glove for a particular job. When done correctly, the benefits of a glove trial include:

- Improved hand safety program and equipment, and reduced rate of hand injuries
- Increased awareness of hand safety issues among workers
- Higher rates of compliance with hand safety PPE requirements
- Reduction in costs related to hand protection, through increased efficiency and durability of work gloves, or reduced insurance rates, medical costs, and worker’s comp claims

Because work conditions vary from one job to another, there is no way to tell how effective a particular safety glove will be without testing it in the field to see how it holds up, and protects against the actual hazards encountered in the workplace. Although a glove may have tested well in laboratory settings and been granted a high cut rating, it may lack abrasion resistance and break down quickly in the field. If a glove doesn’t offer the same level of protection at the end of the work day as it does at the beginning, then you need to consider another option.

To ensure you avoid wasting time and energy on a poorly-run glove trial, we have outlined a set of proven steps you can take in the glove trial process. These tips and recommendations come from over a decade of experience working with large industrial companies.

For the full white paper, please contact your HexArmor® rep, or visit http://hexarmor.com/glovetrial
Proper Glove Care

Improper glove care can shorten the life of your PPE. It can also lead to dermatitis, decreased dexterity, loss of protective abilities, and odor. Glove care refers not only to laundering, but also proper storage, routine glove checks, and knowledge of materials and their particular strengths and weaknesses.

Because there are so many different work gloves on the market, experienced safety managers should be aware of what workers’ gloves are made of and how they will stand up to the applications they’re being used for. Common glove materials include nylon, spandex, leather, cotton, SuperFabric®, Kevlar®, and knit fibers. Each of these materials need to be cared for in a particular way, and often there is a blending of the materials, making proper care even more crucial.

Proper storage
Gloves should be ideally stored in clean, dry conditions, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

Routine glove checks
Glove life varies depending on the application, environment, and amount of use. Because of this, it is vital that you perform routine glove checks before beginning work every day. Take note of areas that have begun to wear down, such as loose Velcro® or a worn-down name tag. If you see holes in the synthetic leather or TP-X® material on the palm or fingertips of your glove, this is an indication that its protective qualities may be compromised, putting you at risk of injury. Lingering moisture or a strong odor are also signs that your gloves may need to be replaced.

Keeping an eye out for these issues and others keeps you one step further from a worksite hand injury, which is the ultimate goal of hand protection in the first place.

Care and content
Our C&C tag, which indicates washing instructions and fiber content, is located on the inside cuff of all our gloves.

- Wash With Care
- Hand Wash Only
- Do Not Bleach
- Tumble Dry Low
- Hang Dry (Indoors)
- Line Dry

Companies who properly launder their gloves can increase lifespan by up to 300%

Laundering removes harmful chemicals, perspiration, and everyday grit and grime that can weaken protective fibers and seams. Our team of HexArmor® solutions specialists are here to help you with this process, and they are more than happy to provide you with all the information you need.
HexArmor® products are cut and puncture resistant, NOT CUT AND PUNCTURE PROOF. Do not use with moving or serrated blades or tools. User shall be exclusively responsible to assess the suitability of the product as specified for any individual application or use. Protection zones are to be used as a general guide. Actual product protection zones may differ.

Protected by patents and patents pending.

SuperFabric® is a registered trademark of HDM, Inc.

All products, product descriptions, and performance scores are current as of April 2016. For current product information, please visit hexarmor.com, or call 1-877-MY ARMOR.