

Marion Environmental, Inc. – MEI Monthly

MARCH 2016

VOLUME # 5 ISSUE #3

Marion Environmental Inc. is one of the leading providers of environmental consulting, remediation, and emergency response in the southeast. Our goal is to provide cost effective solutions to environmental problems.

Making our standard, industry standard.



Profile of Month – Ray Morgan

An ideal MEI employee is cross trained in many disciplines. Marion is legendary for its diversification. Ray's background as a Marine, as an equipment operator, as a CDL driver, and as a utility foreman have all positioned Ray to excel at Marion.

Ray Morgan is the quintessential Marion professional. He is utilized in many disciplines, sometimes driving a box truck for a drum run, sometimes in charge of the drum room at Aqua Treat, and a member of the emergency response team.

Whatever the situation, Ray brings his A-game to the task. He accomplishes the challenges of the day as a team player, and an equally effective leader.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Much focus is given to Marion's equipment capabilities. Vacuum trucks, grapple trucks, marine vessels, it's understandable that we take a lot of pride in our machinery and equipment, but something else in which we take a lot of pride, though don't often discuss, is our PPE. Marion has gone to great lengths to ensure our responders have the best protection out in the field. Here are just some of the suits our ER has at its disposal.



An FRC (Flame Resistant Clothing) suit is typically worn in oil and gas refineries, plants with flammable products, and emergency responses, such as train derailments, where flammable material may be present. FRC suits provide zero chemical protection, and can only be worn in Level C and Level D applications. FRC suit is not FIRE resistant, but only FLAME resistant, which means that the suit is designed to protect the wearer against a flame or arc flash for 1 to 2 seconds. This protection allows the wearer enough time to escape a sudden flame and get to safety.



A chemical protective suit (CPF), sometimes called a Gumby suit due to its green color and hood, can be worn in Level B and Level C applications. It provides skin protection against acids, bases/caustics, and a host of other chemicals that require skin protection. When the suit is donned, the cuffs on both hands and feet are taped. This creates a seal so that chemicals cannot seep inside the suit.

In addition, the hood needs to be taped around the face piece of the APR (air purifying respirator), or SCBA, which prevents any seepage through the hood that could cause facial burns.

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An Encapsulated Level B Suit provides more sufficient skin protection than CPF 2, CPF 3, when dealing with extremely hazardous conditions, while still allowing the wearer flexibility to perform the task at hand. This suit is less cumbersome than a fully encapsulated Level A suit, but can still be worn when dealing with high concentrations of acids and caustics where the wearer may be subjected to product exposure.

Level B suits are worn when certain chemicals that are IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health), such as phenol, ammonia, chlorine, etc., are present. However, it is important that all cuffs (both hands and feet) are wrapped with Chemical tape in order to prevent seepage into the suit.



A Fully Encapsulated Level A Suit is used for the most extreme potential chemical exposure tasks. The suit is very cumbersome to wear, and makes fine grain tasks more difficult. Level A suits are fully enclosed, requiring supplied oxygen for the wearer. The hands and feet are totally encapsulated, while chemical tape is applied to the zipper seam. In addition, the wearer must always don inner boots and gloves inside the suit.

Our hope as first responders is to never have to wear Level A protection, however, in certain circumstances, the situational hazards may well demand it, and so all of our responders are trained in its operation.



A survival suit, or float suit, is designed to provide protection against hypothermia and drowning in cold water environments. These suits are required to be worn during water operations when the ambient temperature is 45 degrees F or below, or when the water temperature is 50 degrees or below. Survival suits will protect the wearer from hypothermia for at least several minutes. In addition, the wearer can inflate the suit by using the blow tube on the left side. Though not a true "immersion survival suit", which can provide protection for several hours, our survival suits, when used in tandem with our rescue vessels, are fully equipped to support a variety of water operations.

Marion thanks our suit models – Corey Tramble, Stephen Runnels, Brandon Fryer, Charles Zinzer, and Carl Ellis.



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