INSTRUCTIONS:

This document provides instructions on the use and care of Silver Arch cloth face coverings in accordance with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in their Interim Guidance for Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers, and as required by FSIS. After reviewing it, and prior to performing work that requires the use of face protection, your supervisor may ask you to demonstrate your understanding of the information on this handout, such as your ability to properly order, wear, and care for cloth face coverings. You must also follow the specific manufacturer’s instructions on the use and care of these items.

The Silver Arch cloth face covering is comprised of 7 performance layers of fibers working together to provide effective and efficient filtration inwardly and outwardly.

It should not be hard to breathe while wearing the cloth face covering.

Cloth face coverings should completely cover your nose and mouth.

Cloth face coverings should fit snug against the sides of your face and not have gaps.

Do not wear your cloth face covering around your neck or forehead, under your nose, on your chin, or on your arm. It should never dangle from one ear.

FABRIC SELECTION and Sizing:

Fabric Selection: The Silver Arch cloth face coverings come in two colors – black and blue. The blue cloth coverings are made of a lighter fabric; the black cloth face coverings are made of a heavier fabric. Selection of fabric type is based on personal preference. The heavier fabric may be comfortably worn under normal temperatures. Ones made of a lighter fabric may be more comfortable during the summer heat or if the user works under hot conditions.

Sizing: Each type of face cloth covering comes in small, medium, and large sizes. To determine the size you should order, please follow the guidelines below:
WHERE AND WHEN TO WEAR:
Cloth face coverings are used in public settings to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people. The use of face coverings is important in settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain. If you have trouble breathing, a cloth face covering should not be worn.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE:
- Cloth face coverings should be washed before the first use and after each use. Cloth face coverings should be washed using laundry soap or detergent. Do not use bleach or fabric softeners.
  - Handwash: The face covering should be immersed into boiling water. Then add soap, lather, soak mask for 5 minutes, and agitate for 20 seconds. Rinse with plenty of water and squeeze well. Avoid twisting motion.
  - Machine wash: Medium hot (~150 degrees F) on delicate cycle. Low spin. Air dry or machine dry on warm cycle. No ironing. It is highly recommended that the cloth face covering be placed in a lingerie wash bag to protect the seams and ear loops from fraying.
- To ensure proper protection, the cloth face covering should cover your nose and mouth completely.
- To sanitize your cloth face covering between washes, spray both sides with 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol (or greater) and allow it to air dry.
- Dry cloth face coverings should be stored in a clean bag or pouch when not in use. Used cloth face coverings should be placed in a separate bag or pouch.

The cloth face covering may undergo repeated washings without losing its efficacy. If the seams or ear loops fray, or if the nose bridge breaks, replace with a new one.

If your cloth face covering gets wet while in use, remove and wash it before reusing it.
When removing your cloth face covering:

- Carefully stretch the ear loops and handle the cloth face covering only by the ear loops.
- Fold the outside corners together.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing your cloth face covering and immediately wash your hands with warm water and soap.

**LIMITATIONS:**

Individuals with any breathing problems should avoid using this cloth face covering and consult with supervisor and Safety Specialist.
FSIS ORDERING INFORMATION:

Cloth face coverings may be ordered through the USDA Material Management Service Center (MMSC).

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QUESTIONS?

For more information, please contact your Occupational Safety and Health Specialist. Specialists may be contacted at AskEmployeeSafety@usda.gov and other information may be found on the FSIS Safety site at www.tinyurl.com/FSIS-ESHG.