

KNOWING WHEN TO RETEST RUBBER INSULATING GLOVES




WHAT WAS THE CONFUSION?



The previous version of ASTM F496 (Section 7.1) was unclear if the user of new gloves (never put in-service) had up to 18 months' service (12 months from previous test + 6 months until the retest date). Consequently, the ASTM F496 standard was updated to clarify the difference between new gloves and gloves previously put in-service.




WHAT CHANGED IN ASTM F496-24?

SECTION 7.1.1 : GLOVES (ELECTRICALLY-TESTED BUT NEVER IN-SERVICE)

- ✓ Can be stored, as required in Section 8.6, for up to 12 months before issued 
- ✓ Once issued, they are considered in-service and should be tested 6 months from the issue date or 12 months from the last test date – whichever comes first  

SECTION 7.1.2 : GLOVES PREVIOUSLY IN-SERVICE, ELECTRICALLY RETESTED & STORED





- ✓ May be placed back in-service within 12 months of the test date 
- ✓ Must be retested every 6 months from the issue date (in-service date) or 12 months from the last test date – whichever comes first  



IN NO CASE CAN A GLOVE (NEW OR PREVIOUSLY IN-SERVICE) BE USED BEYOND 12 MONTHS OF THE TEST DATE!



SECTION 8.6 : GLOVE STORAGE GUIDELINES

- ✓ Store in cool, dark, dry locations away from ozone, chemicals, oils, solvents, damaging vapors and fumes, and away from electrical discharges and sunlight 
- ✓ Keep in natural shape (not folded, creased, inside out, or compressed)
- ✓ Can be stored inside dry protectors, bags, boxes, or containers made exclusively for glove storage 

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