



# Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

**Accelerators** – Chemicals added during the glove manufacturing process, used to control the physical properties of the latex film, include carbamates and thiurams.

**ANSI – American National Standards Institute** – A voluntary organization and member of ISO that creates standards for the computer industry.

**ASTM – American Society for Testing and Materials** – A volunteer organization which executes standards used to certify products for consumer purchase.

**AQL – Acceptable Quality Level** – The AQL is the quality level that is the worst tolerable process average when a continuing series of lots is submitted for acceptance sampling. The lower the AQL number, the fewer the defects allowed.

**Chlorination** – A process using chlorine to achieve a powder-free surface finish for a glove.

**Double Polymer Coating** – A non-chlorinated process, using polymer material for both inside and outside surfaces, to achieve a powder free surface finish for a glove.

**Elongation** – The number of times a glove can be stretched from its original length until it breaks – expressed in percentage, e.g., 800% elongation demonstrates a test dumbbell stretched eight times its original length before breaking.

**FDA 510K** – Pre-market medical device approval issued by the United States Food and Drug Administration. Required for a medical glove to be imported and marketed in the United States.

**Hevea Brasiliensis** – A perennial, evergreen tree, indigenous to Brasil and widely grown in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand; that is the source of 99% of the world’s natural rubber production.

**Hole** – A hole found in a glove that is visible to the naked eye.

**Inspection Level** – The criteria that identifies the number of sample pieces to be inspected in a given lot.

**ISO – International Standards Organization** – ISO is an international organization composed of national standards bodies from over 75 countries.

**ISO 9001:2000** – Quality management system which specifies the audit requirements that will produce consistency in product quality; intended to meet or exceed customer specifications; ultimately improving customer satisfaction.

**Latex** – An emulsion of rubber or plastic globules in water used in paints, adhesives, and various synthetic rubber products including gloves.

**MIL STD** – Military Standard.

**Modulus** – The force required to stretch the glove to a specific length of its original length, e.g., the MPa measured at 300% and 500% of a gloves elongation.

**Monomer** – A single molecule that has the ability to combine with identical or similar molecules, a process also known as polymerization.

**MPa – Mega Pascals** – Unit of measure used to report tensile testing.

**Nitrile** – A synthetic material extracted from petroleum used in glove manufacturing.

**NFPA – National Fire Protection Association** – A voluntary membership organization whose goals are to promote and improve fire protection and prevention.

**Neoprene** – Chloroprene rubber, also extracted from petroleum, raw material used in glove manufacturing.

**Pinhole** – A minute hole found in a glove but not visible to the naked eye. Watertight tests are conducted to detect this size of hole.

**Polymer** – A chain of many monomers.

**Polymerization** – A chemical reaction in which two or more molecules, or monomers, combine to form larger molecules, or polymers.

**Prepowdered Glove** – A glove that has powder coated on the surface, usually corn starch.

**Protein** – A residual organic protein found in the latex base material.

**PVC – Poly Vinyl Chloride** – A chlorine based inexpensive plastic raw material used in glove manufacturing.

**PE – Polyethylene** – A thermoplastic polymer raw material consisting of long chains of the monomer ethylene.

**PP – Polypropylene** – A thermoplastic polymer raw material made from the monomer propylene.

**PSI – Pounds Per Square Inch** – Unit of measure used to report tensile testing.

**RezTak™** – A proprietary finish applied in the glove manufacturing process that eliminates tapes or adhesives from bonding to the glove surface.

**SPC – Statistical Process Control** – The application of statistical techniques to control a process.

**Smooth Surface** – The glove’s surface is smooth, can be full glove or only at palm and cuff.

**Synthetic** – A substance that is formulated or manufactured by a chemical process or by a process that chemically changes a substance extracted from naturally occurring plant, animal, or mineral sources.

**Tensile** – A measure of force at break per square area of material – expressed in mega-pascals (MPa) or pounds per square inch (PSI)

**Textured Surface** – The gloves surface has a bisque finish, can increase dexterity, can be full surface or just applied to fingers or fingertips.

**Thermoplastic Elastomers** – Plastics capable of being repeatedly softened by increases in temperature and hardened by decreases in temperature. Generally, a rubber-like substance which is easily deformed by a force but returns to its original shape.

**UL – Underwriters Laboratories** – An international test organization that conducts testing and certifies entities to various standards.

**Visual Defects** – Surface defects visible to the naked eye, e.g., non-removable dirt, stain, holes, defective beading, pleating.

**Watertight Test** – The test utilized to pass or fail the barrier integrity of a glove. A glove is filled with one liter of water, suspended and manipulated for two minutes to determine if the barrier is compromised by a pinhole defect.

## CONVERSION MULTIPLICATION FACTOR

MM to INCHES .....	x 0.03937
INCHES to MM .....	x 25.4
MM to MILS .....	x 39.37
MILS to MM .....	x 0.0254
PSI to MPA .....	x 0.006897
MPA to PSI .....	x 145
NEWTON to POUNDS FORCE .....	x 0.2248