



A Letter from the CEO

Thank you for selecting or considering FirstLine Gloves as your supplier for hand PPE.

Twelve years ago I started FirstLine Gloves with a desire to be instrumental in bringing about dramatic change in the glove selection process for the EMS industry. My career path began in 1985, at which time I specialized in the procurement of clean room gloves for IBM. In 1993 I was recruited by a clean room glove manufacturer to assist in building a glove business. At this juncture, as VP of Operations, I became intimately familiar with the factories and quality standards associated with glove manufacturing.

During my tenure as VP, a Florida-based EMS agency approached me regarding their use of our clean room gloves for their EMS operations. I vigorously researched the standards and quality assurance processes for medical glove manufacturing and importation and how it compared to that of our clean room gloves. Looking back, I refer to this time in my career as a "Pandora's Box." I became educated on how medical gloves were imported daily into the United States medical market with little to no quality assurance testing being conducted; while clean room gloves were produced to more stringent quality standards. As I delved further into the medical glove world, I became aware of "short cuts" and "business practices" that I felt were compromising the well being of the medical glove users in the United States. Quality testing is absolutely critical to certify medical gloves as an approved barrier to reduce potential exposures and assure safety for the end user.

Determined to provide a quality glove for EMS, I ventured into the entrepreneurial world, starting my own glove business in 1997. My mission and commitment was to educate each and every end user on the importance of selecting a glove based on the manufacturing process and quality, as opposed to marketing literature or gimmicks, whereby very little quality criteria was being disclosed about the product. Because medics treat patients daily with no history, they have quickly become the most AT RISK segment of the medical field.

Twelve years later, FirstLine Gloves supports over 600 departments nationwide with our revolutionary technology designed specifically for the rigors of EMS. Having been appointed to serve on the NFPA 1999 committee in July of 2002, I have dedicated my career to improving the standards used for reference and certification of gloves used in the EMS industry. Today, FirstLine Gloves has unequivocally redefined the quality standards and education criteria that is utilized daily by EMS departments nationwide in their glove selection and bidding processes.

I feel blessed to have been fortunate to be introduced to this industry, where I now call many heroes my friends, and where going to work every day is a welcomed opportunity, filled with challenges I feel thankful to overcome. To each and every customer or potential customer I have met during this amazing journey, thank you for making my dreams come true, my reality a blessing, and sharing your experiences, which have greatly enhanced my education. My door remains forever open to each and every end user, to simply say hello or share a moment of laughter, compassion and hope.

With Sincere Regards,
FirstLine Gloves, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Colette Perches'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue rectangular background.

Colette Perches
CEO/President