

# UV FADE & RESISTANCE

PROCEDURE NUMBER: WE-111



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## 1.0 Purpose

To define the general resistant properties of various CSI products and what care can be applied by the end user to enhance life expectancy.

## 2.0 What is UV degradation?

Most polymers/products used by consumers are degraded by UV light (sunlight). They need addition of UV absorbers or UV blockers to inhibit this attack.

The problem appears as fading, discoloration, cracking and even disintegration if the cracking has proceeded sufficiently.

UV degradation will continue to weaken the fibers and strength of the unit leading to what we call “tendering” which is the easy tearing of the material.

## 3.0 What does CSI do to help prevent UV degradation?

Surlast material is made with a “solution dyed” polyester with UV inhibitors added to the cores thread. In addition this material has a topical UV blocker applied. The topical UV blocker will wear off rather quickly but can be reconstituted by proper care.

Canvas material (cotton) degrades very swiftly. CSI has been refined our process. This process has proven to lengthen the life of the canvas and retain the color longer than normal canvas processing.

Camo material are especially susceptible to discoloration due to the method of manufacture to obtain high resolution images. CSI works to try and utilize colorations that fade to grey/white rather than a specific color.

CSI products live in the outdoors. We always design our products with UV exposure and degradation in mind. Cost can be a factor in these designs and the attempt is still made to utilize the best UV resistant goods available.

## 4.0 General routine care

- Routinely (monthly) clean the CSI product as recommended. (normally ivory soap and water and soft bristle brush)
  - Never power wash
  - Never use hard bristles
  - Never use powdered cleaners
  - Use of citrus cleaners is not recommended
- Apply one of the 303 protectorant product lines (based on the product you are protecting) about once a month. (303products.com)
- Place unit in an area which sees partial sun/partial shade throughout the day.

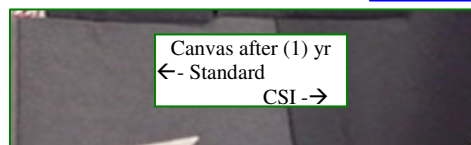
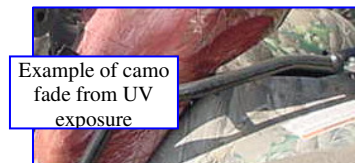
## 5.0 Stain cleaning

- Stubborn stains
  - Spray with Formula 409 and rub with a soft damp cloth. Rinse with clean water.
- For vinyl care reference [WE-114](#) & [WE-115](#)

## 6.0 Additional references

- Seasonal storage (WE-103)
- Camo material fading (WE-104)

## 7.0 Additional Source Materials



Microscopic view of vinyl shows disintegrated thread fibers from a UV damaged cover. This would look like dirt to the naked eye.

