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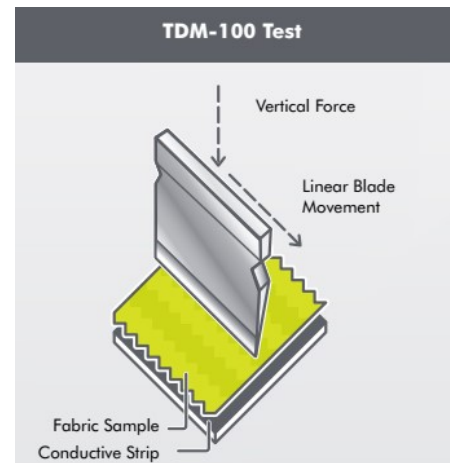
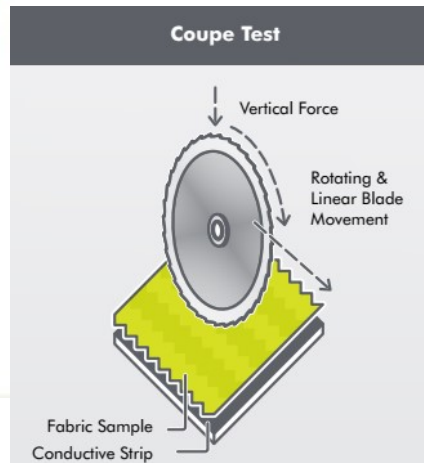
Glove Cut Levels EN388:2016

Lets Cut to the Chase...

After noticing much confusion in the Industry, a common question we hear is...

- Is a cut level 5 glove equivalent to Cut Level D....?
- The answer is no, there is no direct comparison (1)

It is like comparing Centimetres to Kilograms, it can't be done, why...?



Over the last decade, anti-cut fibre technology has advanced to the point where the blade used in the coupe test (see graphic) is blunted leading to inconsistent readings. The TDM-100 test is closer to 'real-world' situations and measures the amount of force required for a new, straight blade to cut through the glove liner material at a constant speed of 2.5mm/s over a distance of 20mm. Some manufacturer's cut level 5 gloves are only achieving a cut level C in the EN ISO 13997:1999 TDM test which could mean workers are under protected. Describing the cut rating of a glove as '5C' could therefore be misleading. (2)

So which EN388 Cut Level should you choose? PTO...

(1) Reference material for this statement is the Portwest Catalogue Z947GBL issued in November 2019

(2) Reference material for this information is the Supertouch standards guide EN388:2016 explained.

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Lets Cut to the Chase...

Which EN388 Cut Level should you choose?

EN 388 Cut Level A	2 Newtons = 203 grams to cut Ideal for: Light material handling, small parts assembly without sharp edges.	EN 388 Cut Level B	5 Newtons = 509 grams to cut Ideal for: Packaging, warehousing, light duty general handling.	EN 388 Cut Level C	10 Newtons = 1019 grams to cut Ideal for: Light duty metal handling, Light duty glass handling, plastic manufacturing, general handling.
EN 388 Cut Level D	15 Newtons = 1529 grams to cut Ideal for: Light duty metal handling, appliance manufacturing, glass handling, electrical work, carpet installation.	EN 388 Cut Level E	22 Newtons = 2243 grams to cut Ideal for: Metal stamping, sheet metal handling, glass handling, automotive assembly.	EN 388 Cut Level F	30 Newtons = 3059 grams to cut Ideal for: Heavy duty metal stamping, metal recycling, food processing, pulp and paper recycling.

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