

From: Drycleaning & Laundry Institute <ifihotpress@ifi.org>
Subject: Heads Up! for This All Weather Coat
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To: spyott@bigpond.net.au
Reply-To: ifihotpress@ifi.org

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INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE ANALYSIS LABORATORY

Carol Cohen by Sanyo
RN#: 72527
Sanyo Sewing America, Inc.
Importer, Wholesaling,
Manufacturing
6 Corporate Drive
Oneonta, NY 13820
Ph. 1-800-997-2696 or
(607) 432-8043
www.sanyofashionhouse.com

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The garment: An olive green all-weather coat made of 70% cotton and 30% polyurethane. The care label states: "soft dry clean only-iron low" with no International code symbols. The term "soft" cannot be identified as a drycleaning term and has no meaning in terms of professional care.

The problem: During drycleaning in perchlorethylene (perc), the polyurethane coating is chemically disturbed causing the component materials to separate, blister and stick together.

Who's responsible? The manufacturer since the coat was not able to withstand accepted professional drycleaning without severe change of appearance.

What to do: This coat should be returned to the retailer or manufacturer.

Click image for a larger view



The coat looks shrunk and puckered after drycleaning.



The blistering and sticking together is readily seen in this close up view.

Since the damage is related to solvent power, a process using a lower power solvent (such as petroleum, hydrocarbon, or GreenEarth) may have been successful. In some cases careful wet cleaning is possible. However, according to the United States care labeling regulation, the coat is incorrectly labeled. This interpretation may differ in other countries.

Featuring a garment does not imply that a manufacturer is knowingly or continually producing defective goods. While this particular item was deemed

unable to withstand the recommended care process, other comparable garments may or may not hold up to the care instructions.

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