

This is a garment alert about a white Scanlon and Theodore dress that was cleaned by a drycleaner in Sydney. The manufacturer stated it was the drycleaners fault but a DLI report cleared the drycleaner.

Damage:



Description of issue:

EXAMINATION OF ARTICLE: The fabric contains viscose in a woven construction. The dress was examined for seam separation and unraveling.

FINDINGS: High definition digital photo analysis reveals the seams on portions of the garment have separated, unraveled, and frayed. The seam allowance is narrow and inadequately secured. There is no evidence of improper cleaning.

EXPLANATION: The damaged areas on the dress are the result of insufficient seam allowance at the time the garment was constructed. When the dress was sewn there was not enough fabric allowed for the seams.

The normal flexing, abrasion and tension on the fabric during use will cause the shallow seams to partly pull apart. When the article is professionally cleaned, the necessary agitation of the cleaning cycle further aggravates the condition. This type of damage is not attributed to improper cleaning processes.

Because this fabric has a tendency to ravel, the seams should be properly sewn and bound in some manner to avoid such damage from eventually occurring.

CONCLUSION: The damage is due to insufficient seam allowance at the time the dress was originally constructed and is the responsibility of the manufacturer.

This present adverse condition is beyond the control of the cleaner.

The following TAB also assists in dealing with this type of issue:

TABS442 - Seam and Yarn Slippage