



Weather**MAX**<sup>®</sup>  
What Fabric Can Do™

**Performs**  
Where Others Fail

**Fabrication Manual**  
April 2014



## Fabrication Manual

WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> Outdoor Performance Fabric was developed from the need for a fabric that would retain its color and strength in severe outdoor exposure, yet still provide a beautiful, rich appearance that today's textile fabricator requires. This fabrication manual has been designed as a reference, focusing on the techniques found by WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> users to be the most practiced and efficient for fabrication.

### WeatherMAX 80

<b>Fabric:</b>	Woven SaturaMUI <sup>®</sup>
<b>Fiber:</b>	100% Solution-dyed SaturaMUI <sup>®</sup>
<b>Finish:</b>	HydroMUI <sup>™</sup> - C-6 formula Environmentally-friendly Water & dirt resistant
<b>Weight:</b>	8.0 oz/yd <sup>2</sup>
<b>Width:</b>	60" Fused Edges

### Cutting WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup>

It is recommended that WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> be cut using a hot knife, ultrasonic cutting equipment, or laser cutting to minimize fraying. If unable to use these technologies, then binding or serging the seams is effective. Felled seams or French seams can hide the edge and eliminate fraying.

### Recommended Seams

There are many seam types used for strength, simplicity, looks, fell, or to solve the fraying problems of cut fabrics. Fabricators have found the following seams work well with WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup>:

- Felled seam
- Lap seam
- French seam

## **Needle, Thread, & Tension Recommendations**

### **GENERAL**

Industrial threads that work well with acrylic fabrics will also usually work with WeatherMAX®. Although WeatherMAX® is incredibly strong and durable, it sews more like an apparel fabric than a heavy industrial fabric.

### **TO REDUCE PUCKERING – Try any or all of these techniques**

- Smaller needles and thread have a significant effect on reducing puckering. A 69 sewing thread (PTFE) with a 125/20 needle has been found to work very well in reducing puckering in the seam.
- Reduced tension on both bobbin and thread. Take tension down to the point where the loops are too loose, then slowly increase tension just to the point where the seams are not too loose.
- If available, use a finer tooth feed dog.
- Stretch the fabric slightly (1%) and pin it down. Apply seam tape, match the stretch of the top piece of fabric with the pinned bottom piece, apply to tape, remove pins, and sew.

### **TO REDUCE SEAM LEAKAGE**

- Smaller needles and thread will result in smaller holes and limit leaking.
- Seam tape.
- Try a ball point needle. While generally used for knits, we have seen success with this on WeatherMAX®. The ball point spreads the yarns rather than cutting them and the yarns will relax back to their original position after sewing.
  - #19 for size 138 thread
  - #16 for size 92 thread

**When using WeatherMAX® for the first time, we recommend a small test run to optimize the settings on your machine.**

## Welding Guidelines\*

- **Miller Wedge Welder (3M Tape)**

1" Hot Wedge	WeatherMAX 80	WeatherMAX FR
Temperature	400° C; 752° F	400° C; 752° F
Speed	2 M	2 M
Pressure	0.2	0.2

- **Miller Hot Air Welder (3M Tape)**

	WeatherMAX 80	WeatherMAX FR
Temperature	600° C	700° C
Speed	10	10
Pressure	N/A	N/A

- **Miller Impulse Welder (3M Tape)**

	WeatherMAX 80	WeatherMAX FR
Temperature	High	High
Speed	15 sec Hold, 30 sec Clear	15 sec H, 30 sec C
Pressure	N/A	N/A

- **Sinclair Triad Automatic Wedge Welder**

1" Hot Wedge	WeatherMAX 80	WeatherMAX FR
Temperature	430° C	425° C
Speed	40%	30%
Note		With FR Tape

- **RF Welding** – WeatherMAX 80 cannot be welded using RF machines. WeatherMAX FR manufactured in 2013 or later can be welded using Sinclair Uniseam Thermalbond FR34200 tape. More testing data to follow on various machines.

Hall Dielectric Bar Sealer	
Preseal Timer	02.01
Seal Timer	05.00
Cool Timer	02.11
Setting	Normal Operation
Temperature	325°

\* All numbers are meant to be a baseline from which to start. Settings may vary based on electrical current available, age of machine, length of time since service, and other variables.

## Graphic Application

Graphics can be applied to WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> using various techniques and allows for personalization of your awning, boat cover or other outdoor fabric needs with specialty graphics and lettering. All of the following methods have proven successful for applying graphics:

- Hand Painted/Stenciled (Solvent based paints recommended)
- Dye Sublimation
- Digital Printing (Solvent inks recommended)
- Screen Printing
- Heat Applied Vinyl

Stencil/Masking: Fabtac is a proven, effective masking for use on WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup>.  
<http://www.fabtac.com/>.

## Care & Cleaning

WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> is bleach cleanable, with no unpleasant running, marking, or color transfer. Due to our HydroMUI finish, it is inherently more resistant to dirt and mildew, and requires much less maintenance than comparable woven fabrics. WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> may be spot washed by using a soapy solution of a mild detergent and lukewarm water. Rinse thoroughly with clean water to remove soap and allow to air dry.

Mildew cannot grow on the fabric itself. However, if not cleaned regularly, mildew can grow from the accumulation of dirt on the surface of the fabric. For mildew stains, prepare a solution of one (1) cup of bleach plus one half (1/2) cup of mild detergent per gallon of water. Spray on the entire area and allow soaking. Rinse with clean water and allow to air dry.

If sewing machine oil is transferred to the fabric while working with it, we recommend Pull Out 2<sup>™</sup>, manufactured by American Niagara Company. It has proven to be the best method for removing oil spots from WeatherMAX<sup>®</sup> without leaving stains or spots behind. For best results, Pull Out 2<sup>™</sup> requires two applications. To find out more, contact ANC: [www.american-niagara.com](http://www.american-niagara.com) or (770) 441-5900.

Safety Components does not warranty or guarantee success by following these techniques, but we do state to users of the manual that the featured techniques have been found to be the most efficient and fastest way to produce high quality products.

## Single Us Out

Safety Components is located on 22 acres in Greenville, South Carolina. Safety Components 800,000 square foot facility contains all manufacturing, testing and warehousing functions. With more than 375 trained associates and equipped with the latest in fabric formation technology and equipment, Safety Components produces a diverse array of technical fabrics. Applications range from air bags, fuel cells, oil booms, soft armor, filter media, firefighter turnout gear, ballistic luggage, to aircraft escape slides. All fabrics are produced, tested and inspected to the industry's highest standards. Safety Components maintains ISO 9001:2000, TS 16949 and ISO 14001 certifications. Our fabric testing laboratories are ISO 1725 approved, ASTM (North America), DIN (Europe), JIS (Asia), and NFPA certified. Safety Components is the only company in our industry with global certification capability. Throughout its 85 year history, Safety Components has developed a reputation for product quality, product innovation, product diversity and on-time delivery.

## Specifications

Made with solution-dyed SaturaMax®.



Finished with exclusive HydroMax technology for water, dirt and mildew resistance.

WeatherMAX® is also available as WeatherMAX FR for flame retardant applications to meet CSFM T19, CPAI-84, NFPA701, FMVSS 302 and ASTM-E84 Class A.

WeatherMAX Performance Properties			
Properties	WeatherMAX 80	WeatherMAX LT	WeatherMAX FR
<b>Weight</b> (oz/yd <sup>2</sup> ) (g/m <sup>2</sup> )	8.0 271	6.5 220	9.75 330
<b>Width-fused edge</b> (in) (cm)	60 152	60 152	60 152
<b>Put Up</b> (yards) (meters)	75 69	100 91	65 59
<b>Tensile Strength</b> ASTM D5034 (warp x fill/lbs)	490 x 392	430 x 270	460 x 360
<b>Mullen Burst</b> ASTM D3786 (psi)	420	292	393
<b>Tongue Tear</b> ASTM D2261 (warp x fill/lbs)	20 x 18	15 x 10	13 x 15
<b>Taber Abrasion</b> ASTM D3884 (cycles)	600	600	600
<b>Hydrostatic Pressure</b> AATCC 127 (cm)	56	42	90+
<b>Spray Rating</b> AATCC 22	100	100	100
<b>Air Permeability</b> ASTM D737 (cfm)	1.3	1.5	0.2
<b>UPF</b> Ultraviolet Protection Factor	50+	50+	50+
<b>UVA &amp; UVB</b> Ultraviolet Blockage	Over 99%	Over 99%	Over 99%
<b>Colorfastness</b> AATCC 169 option 1 (1500 hours – scale 1 to 5)	4 - 5	4 - 5	4 - 5

## Care Instructions

WeatherMAX fabrics may be spot washed by using a soapy solution of a mild detergent and lukewarm water. Rinse thoroughly with clean water to remove soap and allow to air dry. For mildew stains, prepare a solution of (1) cup bleach plus (1/2) cup of mild detergent per gallon of water. Spray on the entire area and allow soaking. Rinse with clean water and allow to air dry.

## WeatherMAX Warranty

The limited warranty covers only the fabric being unserviceable because of loss of strength and/or color from normal conditions of exposure. That includes sunlight, mildew and atmospheric chemicals. Labor and installation supplied by the fabricator and/or installer are not covered. The consumer is responsible for normal care, cleaning and maintenance of the fabric.

- The warranty runs for 5 years from the date of original purchase for WeatherMAX 80 fabrics.  
*Excludes Scarlet and True Red fabrics which feature a 3-year limited warranty.*
- The warranty runs for 5 years from the date of original purchase for WeatherMAX FR fabrics.  
*Excludes True Red fabrics which feature a 3-year limited warranty.*
- The warranty runs for 3 years from the date of original purchase for WeatherMAX LT fabrics.
- Safety Components will supply new fabric, free of charge, to replace the unserviceable fabric.
- Call your dealer who will contact Safety Components to request fabric replacement.
- A valid copy of the original invoice, showing date of purchase, is required for fabric replacement.
- This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.



Patent Pending. WeatherMAX, HydroMax and ColorTite are trademarks or registered trademarks of Safety Components, Inc. SaturaMax is a registered trademark of Unifi, Inc.



SAFETY COMPONENTS

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