



Technology

VIDEO: Understanding the Distinction: Penetration vs. Permeation in Protective Apparel Testing

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In this video, DuPont will explore an important distinction that safety professionals should understand—the difference between penetration and permeation in protective apparel. Penetration is a test method that determines whether substances physically pass through a protective barrier. Permeation assesses whether hazardous chemicals can pass through the barrier material over time. For instance, if you have a bag with gasoline inside that doesn't leak due to the barrier, that's penetration. However, with permeation, you might detect the smell or feel the chemical seeping through over time. When dealing with hazardous chemicals in the workplace, it's vital to consult a manufacturer's permeation database. This database ensures that protective apparel, like boots or coveralls, effectively shields your workers from hazardous materials.

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