



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

National Institute of Justice

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20530

NIJ Body Armor Standard Advisory Notice #01-2005

EFFECTIVE DATE: AUGUST 24, 2005

SUBJECT: Poly-*p*-phenylene benzobisoxazole (PBO or Zylon[®])

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) hereby advises that it has identified poly-*p*-phenylene benzobisoxazole (commonly known as PBO or Zylon[®]) as a material that appears to create a risk of death or serious injury as a result of degraded ballistic performance when used in body armor. This is an NIJ Body Armor Standard Advisory Notice within the meaning of the NIJ 2005 Interim Requirements for Bullet-Resistant Body Armor (effective September 26, 2005).

For Further Information, Contact:

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Supplementary Information:

Information about NIJ's 2005 Interim Requirements for Bullet-Resistant Body Armor can be found at <http://www.justnet.org>. NIJ's research and testing reports in response to the Attorney General's Body Armor Safety Initiative can be found at: <https://vests.ojp.gov>.

NIJ encourages public safety officers to continue to wear their Zylon[®]-containing armor until it is replaced. Wearing armor that may have degraded ballistic performance is better than not wearing any armor.