HESCO®
CARE & USE
BODY ARMOR GUIDE

STOP EVERYTHING.
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Quality Standards
Hesco operates a quality management system certified to ISO 9001:2008. Approved Certificate Numbers: C2016 01513; BA9000: 2012; AQAP 2110

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As an innovator and world leader in defense, protection and security systems, Hesco engineers products that inspire confidence for multiple uses in military, law enforcement, security and environmental applications.

Everything we do, from cutting edge technology to the highest quality production standards, is focused toward ensuring that law enforcement and military personnel return home safely.

Third-party NIJ-certified laboratories are solely responsible for conducting product performance testing on our body armor. All of our ballistic inserts have been verified and are warranted to meet the applicable ballistic resistance requirements specified.

Ultra thin Hesco BI P210 Level IIIA+ Stand Alone

USING YOUR HESCO BODY ARMOR

• Inspect Carefully on Delivery

Upon delivery and before using your ballistic body armor, please inspect items carefully to ensure your order is correct. Contact your dealer/distributor immediately if there is any discrepancy with your original order.

• Wear Your Body Armor Properly

Your body armor is a vital part of your safety equipment. It must be worn properly in order for it to perform as designed. Before and after donning your armor, make sure the ballistic plates are in the proper position within the vest or carrier and that the vest or carrier fits properly. Wear only the correct size and use only those vests, carriers or jackets where the manufacturer has provided for ballistic insert usage. Inserting a ballistic insert into undersized or oversized carrier pockets may lead to misalignment of the insert exposing the user's vital organs to potential threats.

• Avoid Exposure to Moisture and Chemicals

Ballistic material should never be exposed to any petroleum, chemical or chlorine products. Exposure to these agents will result in a loss of ballistic resistance and void any warranty.

STORING YOUR BODY ARMOR

Improper storage of your body armor may contribute to premature wear, as well as reduce the protective capabilities of the ballistic material itself. When you are not wearing your body armor, it should be stored under normal environmental conditions. Storage at room temperature in your locker or closet is recommended. It should not be stored for extended periods in potentially extreme hot/cold, low airflow environments such as a car trunk or other non-ventilated areas.

Care should be taken to store your body armor flat, either on a shelf or other flat surface. When that is not practical, suspended in its carrier or vest on a hanger that can handle its weight is acceptable.

Improper storage or exposure to adverse conditions can reduce the protection properties and expose the user to increased risks.

Improper care or storage of your body armor will reduce its effectiveness and void the warranty.

GENERAL CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Follow these procedures when cleaning Hesco ballistic inserts* *(read all steps before proceeding)*:

- Remove insert from vest or carrier.
- Gently wipe insert using a sponge or cloth dampened with a mixture of cool water and mild laundry detergent or antimicrobial soap.
- Remove all excess soap with a damp sponge or cloth and cool, clean water.
- Lay insert flat and, using a clean absorbent towel, gently pat all surfaces dry.
- Let insert dry naturally, ensuring it is completely dry before re-inserting into vest or carrier.
- Make sure insert is placed into the vest or carrier in the correct orientation as indicated by "strike face" and/or "wearer side" markings.
- **DO NOT** immerse in liquid
- **DO NOT** hang or line dry.
- **DO NOT** blow dry or dry in oven.
- **DO NOT** dry clean or commercially launder.
- **DO NOT** expose insert to bleach (liquid or vapor), solvents or chemicals of any type.
- **DO NOT** attempt to modify or alter the plate in any way.
- **DO NOT** intentionally damage the plate in any way by means of drilling, breaking, hitting with force or misuse.

Ballistic material should never be exposed to any petroleum, chemical or chlorine products. Exposure to these agents will result in a loss of ballistic resistance and void any warranty.

* *Unless otherwise stated on your plate.*

IF BODY ARMOR IS SHOT OR DAMAGED

Replace body armor immediately If it is shot or otherwise damaged in any way!

If your body armor has been struck by a bullet, damaged by a TASER® device or come in contact with an Electro-Muscular Disruption (EMD) device ***in a duty-related assault, Hesco will replace it free of charge*** provided official documentation on departmental stationery detailing the incident is provided to Hesco within 30 days of incident occurrence.

REASONS FOR POSSIBLE BODY ARMOR REPLACEMENT

Please consider the following prior to replacing your Hesco ballistic inserts:

- **Has your insert been excessively used or worn?**

  If your ballistic insert shows signs of wear, has been cleaned a number of times, or otherwise excessively used…regardless of its age…it will no longer be subject to any warranties and should be replaced.

- **Has your insert been damaged in any way?**

  If your insert has been dropped…even if there is no apparent external damage…there may be internal cracks in the ceramic material that can compromise the plate's ability to defeat ballistic threats. Replace your ballistic insert immediately if it has been struck by a bullet, projectile or otherwise hit or dropped, stabbed or is chipped, cracked, delaminated or separated, or shows any other physical change. Any of the foregoing may cause the ballistic insert to be ineffective, exposing the user to increased risk of serious injury or death.

- **Does the plate still fit properly?**

  If your body size has changed significantly since your purchase, you should consider replacing it with a size that fits properly allowing maximum protection and wearability.

- **Have the threats you now face changed over time?**

  For maximum protection, you should consider upgrading your body armor if there are noticeably higher-powered weapons being confiscated in your area since you purchased your ballistic insert.

- **Has your service weapon or ammunition changed?**

  The armor you wear should be capable of defeating the ammunition you carry.

- **Has your agency/organization upgraded its body armor standards to meet new threats?**

  In 2008, the National Institute of Justice updated their body armor standards to NIJ 0101.06. Only the NIJ Standard-0101.06 includes durability testing against temperature extremes and drop impact. Procurement of armor to earlier standards is not recommended and can result in reduced long term performance compared to NIJ Standard-0101.06 plates of the same threat level.

  NIJ Standard-0108 covering tactical shields and other non-body based armor products is also not recommended as that standard fails to account for secondary energy transfer into the body after impact in the form of back face deformation. Excessive back face deformation can cause severe injury or death if not properly accounted for in the body armor design.

HESCO EXPRESS LIMITED WARRANTIES

Express Limited Warranties for Non-Military Ballistic Inserts; Disclaimer of Other Warranties and Limitation of Remedies; Ballistic Performance Specifications; Product Usage Warnings; and Product Care Instructions

- **Hesco Express Limited Warranties (5-Year)**

Hesco Armor, Inc. ("Hesco") warrants that its non-military NIJ-type ballistic inserts have been third-party tested at an NIJ-certified ballistics laboratory and independently verified to meet or exceed the minimum ballistic resistance performance requirements specified for that product and the NIJ threat level as designated on each ballistic insert's affixed label. For those NIJ-type ballistic insert models which have been additionally submitted to the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center ("NLECTC") for optional voluntary compliance testing certification, and which appear on NLECTC's official Compliant Products List ("CPL"), Hesco further warrants that such models comply with all other aspects of NIJ Standard–0101.06 for the applicable NIJ threat level. For those non-military ballistic insert models designed for pistol and non-NIJ rifle threats, Hesco warrants that such inserts have been third-party tested at an NIJ-certified ballistics laboratory and independently verified to meet or exceed the minimum ballistic resistance performance requirements as specified on the various model-specific Technical Sheets as published by Hesco, and as in effect at the time of the insert's manufacture.

For a period of sixty (60) months after the Date of Issue as indicated on the affixed product label, Hesco warrants that its ballistic inserts shall be free from defects in material and workmanship as exclusively determined in accordance with NIJ Standard–0101.06 ballistic performance levels and/or Hesco testing protocols defined in the "Ballistic Performance Specifications" section on page 10. Where the Date of Issue cannot be clearly established and/or documented, Hesco warranty period shall be held to commence on the Date of Manufacture.

Hesco ballistic inserts must be used and maintained in strict accordance with Hesco "General Care and Maintenance" instructions on page 6, and "Product Usage Warnings" on pages 11-13. Compliance with such is a condition precedent to any claim pursuant to these Express Limited Warranties. BALLISTIC INSERTS SHALL IN NO EVENT BE WORN OR USED AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR SIXTY (60) MONTH USEFUL LIFE PERIOD. Other events and conditions may also shorten their useful life period, and result in serious injury or death. The foregoing Express Limited Warranties shall in all events be void as to any ballistic insert that has been subjected to misuse, abuse, accident, neglect, alteration, breakage, interruption, damage, improper storage or handling, or any repair or service not performed by or otherwise authorized in writing by Hesco.

- **Disclaimer of Any Other Express Warranties and Implied Warranties**

The above Express Limited Warranties are the sole and exclusive warranties made by Hesco with respect to its ballistic inserts. They shall not be enlarged by any representations, descriptions, course of dealing, trade usage, technical advice, service, samples, models, or otherwise, nor shall they be altered or expanded by any acts, statements, or agreements of any distributor, dealer, employee, or agent of Hesco other than in writing by a duly authorized officer of Hesco. HESCO MAKES NO OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESS, IMPLIED, OR STATUTORY; INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR MERCHANTABILITY, AND/OR THE WARRANTY AGAINST INFRINGEMENT.

If Hesco in its sole and absolute discretion determines that a ballistic insert does not conform to the foregoing Express Limited Warranties, Hesco shall at its election replace, repair, or issue a pro-rated purchase price credit for such product. All returns shall be made to Hesco factory and must include: (1) proof of Date of Issue/Purchase, and (2) documentation specifying the claimed defect and all relevant supporting information. A Return Merchandise Authorization ("RMA") must be obtained from Hesco prior to returning any product.

IN NO EVENT SHALL HESCO BE LIABLE FOR ANY PUNITIVE, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, ANTICIPATED OR LOST PROFITS, INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, LOSS OF TIME, OR OTHER INDIRECT LOSSES OR EXPENSES THAT ARISE FROM ANY CAUSE RELATING TO ITS PRODUCT, REGARDLESS OF THE FORM OF THE ACTION, WHETHER IN TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE), CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHERWISE, AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE COMPANY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN THESE EXPRESS LIMITED WARRANTIES TO THE CONTRARY. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE TOTAL LIABILITY OF HESCO (TOGETHER WITH THE LIABILITY OF ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS) EXCEED THE PURCHASE PRICE ACTUALLY PAID FOR THE PRODUCT GIVING RISE TO SUCH PURPORTED LIABILITY.

The laws of some states do not permit certain limitations on warranties or remedies. In the event such laws apply, the foregoing limitations are amended insofar, and only insofar, as required by such laws.

BALLISTIC PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS

Hesco certification that each ballistic insert meets or exceeds its applicable minimum ballistic resistance performance requirements is valid only for new and unused product as of the time of sale. It is not applicable to any used ballistic insert. In order to confirm and/or measure the ballistic performance of used product, Hesco may, at its discretion, conduct the following testing with respect to returned used ballistic insert(s):

1. Hesco uses a destructive V50 testing procedure to evaluate used ballistic insert performance. For NIJ-type inserts, this V50 testing is conducted in accordance with NIJ Standard–0101.06 ballistic resistance testing velocities found in that Standard's Table 4 for the NIJ threat level designated on the product label. A V50 result that is less than the highest NIJ-reference velocity for the specified NIJ threat level +20 fps may be considered by Hesco to be an unsatisfactory initial test result.

2. In the unlikely event of an unsatisfactory initial test result, Hesco will conduct a review of all test data and perform the same test procedure on up to four (4) additional used ballistic inserts that (i) are of similar age and wear characteristics as the first used insert that was tested, and (ii) were manufactured from the same or equivalent lot of ballistic material as the first used insert that was tested. If any test results of these additional four samples are also unsatisfactory, then Hesco will replace, repair, or issue a pro-rated purchase price credit for returned ballistic insert(s) manufactured using the same or equivalent lot of ballistic material, and in accordance with the Express Limited Warranties and remedies as described above. Notwithstanding any contrary provision or representation, compliance with these Ballistic Performance Specifications for any used ballistic insert shall be determined exclusively by Hesco based on the written test report of its independent, NIJ-certified ballistics laboratory. Any ballistic performance or other tests performed by a buyer, user, government agency, laboratory, or any other party not expressly authorized by Hesco shall not be valid in any manner whatsoever for purposes of warranty claims. These Ballistic Performance Specifications are limited to only those threats specifically identified in NIJ Standard–0101.06 for the threat level designated on the ballistic insert label, and do not include any special or other threats unless such threats are also designated on the insert's affixed label.

PRODUCT USAGE WARNINGS

WARNING: Exposure to gunfire is inherently hazardous. The ballistic insert will not provide protection from all threats potentially faced. The insert is intended as a last resort measure to reduce risk after all other actions and methods to preserve personal safety have failed.

WARNING: Do not remove or obscure the ballistic insert's affixed product label. It provides the model number, serial number, warranty period, threat types, and other important information specific to the insert including the issue date when it was first placed into service. The absence of the product label could cause increased risk of serious injury or death.

WARNING: Choose only the appropriate model, type and size of ballistic insert. It is important to understand the type of threats faced, and to determine in advance if the insert is designed and tested against these types of threats and is the correct size for use.

WARNING: The ballistic insert is designed to lessen the risk of injury or death from those threats indicated on the affixed product label and as described in NIJ Standard–0101.06 or other specification as described on the product Technical Sheet. User should read and fully understand that Standard's various threat levels, and the limitations on the protection afforded by each.

WARNING: Even for those threats included within the ballistic insert's specified NIJ threat level, the insert is only ballistic resistant, NOT "bullet proof". Although Hesco ballistic insert designs are tested to a combination of NIJ and Hesco ballistic resistance protocols; this does not assure the insert can defeat all types of threats in all types of conditions and environments.

WARNING: The ballistic insert provides only limited protection. In the event an insert stops a threat, the wearer may still sustain some degree of injury such as severe bruising, broken bones, bleeding, internal injury, or even death. In addition, at some angles projectiles can ricochet or deflect off of the ballistic insert causing serious injury or death to the wearer or bystanders.

WARNING: The ballistic insert is designed for both frontal and oblique impacts, but the greater the angle at which a projectile impacts the insert's strike face, the greater the possibility that the projectile may penetrate or slide off the insert resulting in serious injury or death.

WARNING: The possibility that a projectile may penetrate the ballistic insert increases with multiple impacts and their closer proximity on the insert face. While not a common occurrence, this may result in serious injury or death.

WARNING: Should the ballistic insert be struck by a projectile close to the insert's edge, the insert's ability to dissipate the projectile's energy may be adversely impacted.

WARNING: The ballistic insert does not provide protection against bursting munition threats such as IED's, mines, hand grenades or mortar fire unless stated on the product Technical Sheet.

PRODUCT USAGE WARNINGS *Continued*

WARNING: Unless otherwise stated on the label, the ballistic insert is not designed for stab resistance and therefore does not protect against impacts from sharp-edged or pointed objects.

WARNING: Always make certain the ballistic insert is positioned so that its "strike face" side is oriented toward the threat. Inserting the ballistic insert improperly will render it ineffective and expose the user to increased risk of serious injury or death.

WARNING: The ballistic insert...along with any associated body armor vest, carrier or jacket...must fit properly. Wear only the correct size and use only those vests, carriers or jackets where the manufacturer has provided for ballistic insert usage. Inserting a ballistic insert into undersized or oversized carrier pockets may lead to misalignment of the insert exposing the user's vital organs to the threat.

WARNING: The ballistic insert provides no protection to areas of the body the insert does not cover. Strenuous movements or physical altercations may cause ballistic inserts to shift on the user's body, thus affecting coverage.

WARNING: Certain ballistic insert models are designed to be worn "Stand Alone" without soft body armor, while other models are designed to be worn "In Conjunction" with other body armor. Users must read and understand the ballistic insert's product label and Hesco technical data sheet to determine whether the insert is designed in a Stand Alone or In Conjunction configuration. Failure to wear other body armor when the ballistic insert is designed to be worn In Conjunction may result in excessive trauma, and possibly serious injury or death.

WARNING: Do not intentionally get shot with any bullet or other projectile while wearing the ballistic insert. INTENTIONAL CONTACT WITH A BULLET OR OTHER PROJECTILE ALWAYS CARRIES THE RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

WARNING: Remove and carefully inspect the ballistic insert before each usage. Should the insert be broken, interrupted, cracked or damaged in any way, the insert should immediately be sent to Hesco or its authorized dealer for an inspection. Inserts that are broken, interrupted, cracked or damaged may negatively impact the ballistic performance and may need repair or replacement.

WARNING: Do not use your ballistic insert if it (1) has been struck by a bullet, projectile, or otherwise, hit or dropped, stabbed, or (2) is chipped, cracked, delaminated or separated, or (3) shows any other physical change. Any of the foregoing may either cause the ballistic insert to be ineffective or indicate that it has become ineffective, exposing the user to increased risk of serious injury or death.

WARNING: The ballistic performance of armor is known to change with time and wear, especially when exposed to extreme conditions and environments. The ballistic insert should not be stored in places where it is exposed to high temperatures and/or high humidity for long periods of time. Exposure to such extreme conditions and environments may adversely impact the insert's ballistic performance.

WARNING: If the ballistic insert is heavily worn, regardless of its age, it shall be deemed to be abused and no longer subject to any warranties.

WARNING: Do not store the ballistic insert in a vehicle, including the trunk, or expose it to excess heat or cold. Improper storage or exposure to adverse conditions can reduce the protection properties and expose the user to increased risks.

WARNING: Do not soak, submerge, wash, spray, or dry-clean the ballistic insert. Do not expose the ballistic insert to detergent, bleach, or cleaning solvents. Do not iron the ballistic insert. Doing any of the foregoing may cause the ballistic insert to be ineffective, exposing the user to increased risk of serious injury or death. (See General Care and Maintenance on page 6.)

FAILURE TO CLOSELY FOLLOW ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS WILL VOID ALL WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY BALLISTIC PERFORMANCE WARRANTY, AND COULD LEAD TO SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

Return Merchandise Authorization requests and all other warranty related correspondence should be directed to your Hesco sales representative or:

Warranty Claims
Hesco Armor, Inc.
2210 Port Industrial Road, Suite B
Aberdeen, WA 98520

We appreciate your comments...

We value the fact that you rely on our body armor for personal protection and welcome your comments so we may continue to improve our products in quality, fit and wearabiity. Please take a moment to scan the QR Code below to participate in a brief survey.

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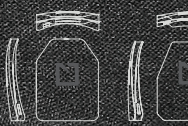

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For more information, contact **support@hesco.com**

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For additional product information please contact your Authorized Hesco Distributor:

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