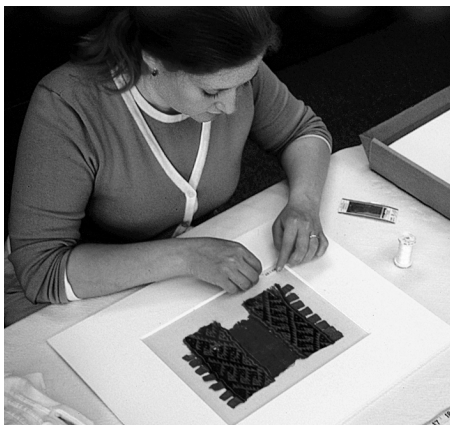


THE ARTCARE™ ADVANTAGE: PROFILES IN CONSERVATION



THE CLIENT PROFILE

The Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is one of the largest university textile collections in the United States. The collection, which includes over 11,000 textiles and costumes, is a rich resource for faculty, students and visitors researching art history, anthropology, fashion and textile design. One of the most valuable groups of textiles in the HLATC is the Pre-Columbian Peruvian collection with fabric fragments dating back to 400 B.C. A recent survey of storage conditions revealed the need to replace inferior mounts and provide new mounts for recently accessioned pieces.



A conservation specialist at HLATC

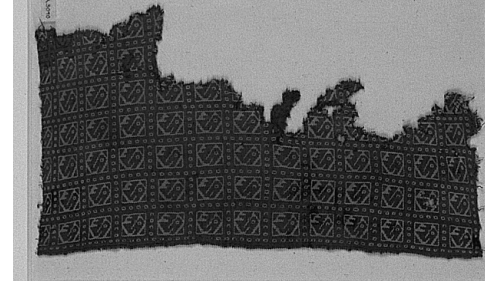
 NielsenBainbridge

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Artcare™ Product

Preserves Textiles at Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection



A Pre-Columbian Peruvian textile fragment

THE CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

Experts at the HLATC had two primary conservation concerns. The physical fragility of these pieces, which are used for research and display, demanded secure, yet accessible housing. In addition, the fabrics are chemically unstable because of combinations of protein and cellulose fibers, pigments and dyes and soiling and staining. Conservators were concerned about chemical reactions within each ancient artifact that would accelerate deterioration.

THE PROCESS AND SOLUTION

Specialists at the HLATC selected Alphasag® Artcare™ to construct custom storage boxes for 48 textiles. Boxes were constructed of an 8-ply Alphasag® Artcare™ base with 4-ply Alphasag® Artcare™ window mats stacked to create a “well” for each artifact. A cotton cloth was placed within the well on which to secure textiles and a 4-ply Alphasag® Artcare™ cover was hinged to the top of the box.

THE SUCCESS OF ARTCARE™

The Artcare™ technology will counteract the potential negative chemical interactions within the artifacts, thereby enhancing their preservation and inhibiting their deterioration. The storage boxes constructed of Alphasag® Artcare™ provide physical support that will prevent flexing as these priceless samples are researched and handled. In addition, the Artcare™ boxes will double as display mats when these artifacts are loaned out for research and exhibition.

The Artcare™ Archival System

The art of protecting your art.

1-800-9ARTCARE
www.artcare.com

MATERIALS USED

8-ply Alphasag® Artcare™ to create a strong preservation support for each fabric artifact.

4-ply Alphasag® Artcare™ window mats stacked to create a well for each artifact.

4-ply Alphasag® Artcare™ cover hinged to the top of each housing.

Cotton cloth to secure textiles within each housing.

CSTEXC102