

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing an R-3 riding suit. This third-generation Roadcrafter utilizes a uniquely fast full-length zipper entry system with rainproof zippers to keep you dry even during the wettest conditions. The R-3 is available in a standard and a light weight version (which is about two pounds lighter).

To ensure years of performance, comfort and satisfaction from your new R-3 please read the information below. Call us at (218) 722-1927 if you have any questions, comments or advice.

### --- IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION ---

**PACEMAKER & CARDIOVERTER DEFIBRILLATOR NOTICE:** There are four removable rare earth magnets (two in the collar, two in the upper chest) that may effect Pacemakers. These magnets may be removed before wearing garment. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SEE: <http://www.aerostich.com/rare-earth-magnets>.

**TEXTILE WARNING:** Unlike leather, your suit's Cordura® and nylon fabric will melt at about 450° F. Contact with superheated exhaust components may damage these fabrics.

**POCKET SAFETY WARNING:** Tools, cameras, etc. carried in your pockets can injure you during a crash. All pockets were designed to provide additional abrasion layers first and hold contents second. For safety, do not carry hard or pointed objects in the pockets.

**LEGAL NOTICE:** These garments are not considered to be personal protective equipment as defined in or within the scope of, the personal protective equipment (EC Directive) regulations 1992 (S.I.1992/3139). No liability will be accepted arising out of these garments' non-compliance with such regulations.

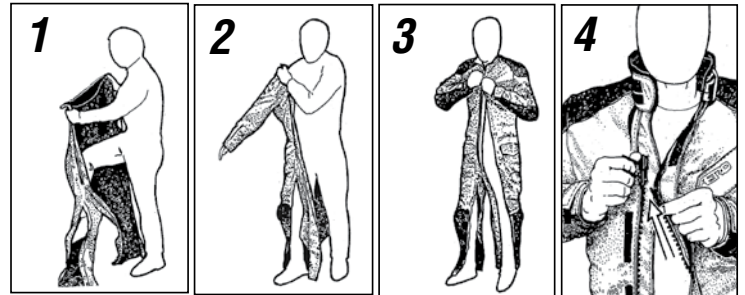
## 2. DRESSING

Your R-3's unconventional zipper arrangement is one of the keys to its convenience as an everyday riding garment; however, some of the moves

involved in using this zipper are counter-intuitive and may require careful attention for the first few times.

### R-3/R-3 LIGHT ONE PIECE SUIT

1. Hold with lapels facing you and lower slightly. Insert right leg.
2. Pull on right arm.
3. Pull on left arm and bring main zipper together.
4. Grasp main zipper slides and engage both; then lower bottom slide.
5. Pull right leg zipper down; close wrist zippers. (not shown)
6. To remove suit reverse steps.



## 3. FITTING

The R-3 / R-3 Light is available in 31 Men's and 30 Women's sizes to insure the most accurate fit possible. You can check your size by simply trying on the suit over street clothes and, if necessary, taking a short ride. It is important to remember that the suit will fit and look best when sitting on a motorcycle, not standing in front of a mirror. It is a one piece coverall design, intended to be loose enough to fit comfortably over street clothes. You should feel some extra roominess in the thighs, seat and lower trunk when standing.

When you have the right fit, you should also be able to raise your arms to a 90° angle (parallel with the ground). If you ride a bike with low handlebars, and usually wear a size 'Regular' in street clothing, you may want the extra torso length of a 'Long'. The difference between Regulars and Longs of the same size

(i.e. 38 R to 38 L) is about 2" between the neck and ankle and about 1.2" in the sleeves. The difference between a short and a regular of the same chest size is similar.

All suits have semi-custom hook & loop fitting tabs at the wrist, waist, and lower calf. You may find it easier to make these adjustments before putting the suit on, or have someone help you make the adjustments while you are wearing your R-3. Like impact armor positioning, the tabs are intended to help you set up and personalize it's fit.

Many optional custom alteration services are available. Please call or visit [aerostich.com/alterations](http://aerostich.com/alterations) for specifics.

## 4. ABRASION INFORMATION

Your Aerostich R-3/R-3 Light is not a crash-proof riding suit or a substitute for competition leathers. However, it will provide significant protection when fit, maintained and used properly.

Our research, testing and experience have shown that in typical crash conditions, at speeds under 30-50 MPH, suits are usually only scuffed. But after higher speed crash events, suits may require repair. We have occasionally repaired suits which crashed at triple-digit speeds, but like an EPS-lined helmet, R-3/R-3 Light suits are designed for only one major impact/abrasion. Please return yours to us for examination if it has been involved in any significant crash or accident situation. Suits will be 'totaled' and cannot be repaired if the cost of repair exceeds half the replacement cost.

The R-3's fabrics differ in performance from leather in several important ways. Because heat is generated by the friction of a long slide, wearing a long-sleeved shirt and pants under your suit is recommended to provide a thermal barrier between the suit and your skin. If the suit's fabrics do become hot enough from frictional heating during a high speed slide, our research has indicated a theoretical possibility of skin burns. In actual use no burns have ever

been reported.

Finally, the nylon fabrics of these suits are more "slippery" than leathers, so in a crash you will slide about 25% further, but roll and tumble far less.

For additional impact and abrasion protection, we recommend installing the available optional Hip Pads, Back Pads and Chest Pads.

The R-3 is constructed of Aerostich's exclusive American-made mil-spec 500D Cordura® GORE-TEX® fabric, a very strong, long-lasting and highly abrasion-resistant material. For increased protection there is a double layer of this 500D fabric at the seat and (depending on model) added 1000D abrasion resistant fabric covering the elbow/shoulder/knee areas.

The R-3 Light is constructed of 200D GORE-TEX® HT Nylon (which is functionally similar to Cordura of the same weight), with (depending on model) a second fabric layer protecting the shoulders, elbows, and knees. TF Impact Pad areas also add layers of hook, loop, 500D Cordura Nylon, Volara 30LB semi-rigid foam, and supernyl Nylon fabric...a total of 8 Layers. The abrasion resistance of an R-3 Light is about two thirds that of the R-3 and Roadcrafter Classic Suits.

## 5. BREAK-IN

After a few hundred miles of riding, your new suit will begin to relax and soften. Most R-3 wearers find that after a month or so of regular use, suits feel

even better. Your R-3/R-3 Light may initially seem “armor-like” compared to some other types of protective clothing, but this feeling diminishes with use.

## 6. WATERPROOF ZIPPERS

**Lubrication/Stiffness:** Occasionally applying a small amount of Teflon Lubricant (#4966) to all zippers (Main, Right Leg, Vent and Pocket Zips) helps sliders move more freely and be easier to use. Frequent re-lubrication is not normally required.

**Jamming:** All zipper sliders can jam if adjacent fabric is drawn between the slider and the zipper's teeth. This may be caused by a 'ridge' of fabric stiff-

ness located directly beneath the zipper's teeth. Sometimes an underlying layer of seam sealing tape may stiffen and force the fabric between the slider and zipper teeth. To prevent this, open the zipper fully and locate the edge of the seam tape beneath the fabric. It should be folded/creased inward, away from the zipper. Making a firm, sharp crease will help the fabric stay permanently in this position and can eliminate repeated jamming.

## 7. STORING/PACKING

Storing the suit: Use a contoured garment hanger. A wire hanger may damage shoulder impact armor.

Packing your suit: A convenient way to temporarily store your suit when not wearing it is to roll the suit up with the arms and legs inside. Consider running a light cable lock thru an arm or leg to prevent theft if you will be leaving your R-3 on your motorcycle. Your suit will also store easily in any saddlebag or fits neatly in one of the Aerostich Courier or Parcel Bags. Rolling your suit

into a tight bundle and stuffing it between your bike's tire and the ground may also serve as temporary storage in some situations. Also see the Adjustable Carry Strap (#488) for a very secure way to pack a rolled up R3.

With TF impact armor the suit's rolled-up size is about 12" x 24". Without TF impact armor the R-3 packs into a roll approximately (depending on suit size) 6" x 24".

## 8. WATERPROOFNESS

Your R3 / R3 Light is one of the most waterproof riding suits available. Inside, all seams are factory-sealed using over 30 yards of Gore-Seam® heat applied tape per garment. The complex design requires more of this seam sealing tape than any other GORE-TEX® garment in the world.

When all the zippers and vents are closed correctly, the R-3 will be waterproof in all rain conditions. If you experience leaking, be sure the collar and all zipper flaps are fully closed before looking for other leaks. A very small amount of water entry at any opening will often wick across a much larger area. **NOTE:** *Exterior suit pockets (including the quick access phone pocket) are highly water resis-*

*tant, but not completely waterproof. Use care when storing electronics or important paperwork in these pockets during wet conditions.*

To help your suit work best after long use and multiple launderings, use a wash-in repellant like Nikwax® or a spray for the exterior of your suit with Scotchgard® or a similar waterproofing preparation. For most high-mileage riders, an entire can of one of these products applied every year or two will prevent water from saturating the outer fabric and help your suit wear drier, lighter, and more breathable during wet conditions.

## 9. HOT WEATHER USE (80°– 95°F)

On an unfaired bike an R-3 will be comfortable over normal street clothing from about 60 to 90°F. In dry climates, and worn with shorts and a T-shirt underneath, add another 5-10°F.

To increase air circulation, slightly lower the main front zipper, open the wrist zippers, open the underarm zippers and open the back vent zipper. Experiment with only opening the underarm zippers part way and adjusting the two sliders on the back vent to obtain cooling without excessive ballooning or air drag.

The back vent zipper should be partially opened to release air pressure if the underarm, wrist, or front zippers are open. The Ultrasuede® collar can be folded down to half-height, staying in position with the snap-down tabs and

magnetic positioners. Underneath, dressing in shorts and a T-shirt, or very light cotton pants and shirts, will help you stay cool.

In extreme heat, consider wetting the clothing beneath your suit so you can benefit from the effects of evaporative cooling. Also consider adding ice to some of the pockets of the suit. Ice's chilling effects will be felt throughout your body as blood circulates from the cold areas. Ice will last between 30 and 90 minutes, depending on ambient temperatures and quantity. Your skin and clothing will not get wet since the melting ice leaks to the outside of the pockets and both drips and evaporates away. A wet bandanna or silk scarf, or wetting the collar of your suit, will also refresh you and help maintain alertness.

## 10. COLD WEATHER USE (45°– 60°F)

Layers provide the most comfort and flexibility in cold conditions, but do not add so much insulation your freedom of movement is restricted. Take care to close all of the vent zippers, main zippers, and wrist zippers. Set the hook & loop ankle, neck and wrist adjustments to provide a draft-free seals. Position the inner

wind flaps directly behind the entry zippers. Your upper chest area may feel cold air more quickly, especially on a 'naked' motorcycle. (Optional chest insulation pads, standard and electric versions, are listed on page 4.)

## 11. TF<sup>3</sup> IMPACT ARMOR SYSTEMS

All R-3's include six standard position-adjustable TF<sup>3</sup> impact armor systems, located at the elbows, shoulders and knees. Additional hook and loop areas are pre-installed for adding optional hip, back and chest pads. Most hook and loop attachment areas allow impact armor to be directionally adjusted up to 2", for a personalized fit.

TF<sup>3</sup>'s remarkable characteristic of stiffening in a high-speed impact yet remaining soft and moldable for comfort make it the perfect armor material for

your R-3. Somewhat more sensitive to temperature than conventional foams, TF<sup>3</sup> performs best between 65° and 85°F. Fortunately, your body will keep the pads within this temperature range even when the ambient temperature is warmer or colder. If you do leave your suit outside in freezing temperatures, TF<sup>3</sup> may become stiff enough to split when flexed sharply; however, it is easy to repair this impact material using any brand of contact cement. TF<sup>3</sup> pads should always be removed before laundering.

## 12. ADHESIVE HOOK & LOOP REPAIR

To make your R-3 as lightweight, cool, and ventilated as possible there is no separate lining. This unique, highly functional design requires the use of adhesive hook & loop to position all impact armor. The adhesives used in this construction are very reliable and should last the life of the garment, but if parts begin to detach, repairs are easy: A) If you send it to us for repair, mark the areas

that need to be checked. B) If you need adhesive hook & loop or seam tape for any reason, call and we will send it to you at no charge. New adhesive can be reactivated with heat or solvents, but the easiest way to repair damage is with a liquid adhesive like 'Seam Grip', or another contact cement.

## 13. LAUNDRY AND CARE

ALWAYS REMOVE ALL FOUR COLLAR MAGNETS BEFORE LAUNDERING. If these magnets are left in the garment, they will attach to the washer drum so strongly your suit will be damaged.

Machine wash recommended. Do not dry clean unless clear distilled hydrocarbon solvent is used for rinsing, and a spray DWR (Durable Water Repellent) is applied to fabric before drying.

To wash, remove **TF3** armor, magnets and contents of all pockets. Close all main zippers, pockets and vent zippers. Wash on a warm permanent press cycle (105° F/40° C) using a small amount of liquid detergent. Run the complete wash/rinse cycle a second time with no soap, to remove all trace of detergents.

Do not use powder detergents or any products that contain fabric softeners, conditioners, stain removers or bleach as these affect fabric performance. Also, do not wash with other heavily soiled clothing. Machine dry on a medium setting for 20 minutes to reactivate the DWR treatment on the outer fabric.

Do not use anti-static spray. If unable to tumble dry, iron the dry garment on gentle setting (warm, no steam) by placing a towel between the garment and the iron in order to help reactivate the DWR treatment. When the factory applied DWR treatment can no longer be reactivated (after long use and many wash/dry cycles), apply a new water-repellent treatment (available as a pump-spray or wash-in product) to the garment's outer fabric. This will help water to "bead" on the suit's surface fibers during rainy conditions. After washing, silicone spray or Zipper Lube (#319 & #4966) will help zippers slide easier.

After thousands of road miles, stains and accumulated dirt may be difficult or impossible to entirely remove, but the following technique may be useful (Note: it may also interfere with the fabric's waterproofness or affect fabric color). First, spray Clorox® prewash on the soiled spots and rub in by hand. Let stand for 10 minutes. Next, scrub the spots with a brush and a little liquid detergent and let stand for another 10 minutes before washing normally. For individual oil stains, waterless hand cleaner may be worked into the spot by hand and rinsed out thoroughly with hot water.

## 14. EXCHANGES AND REPAIRS

Please send all items insured and prepaid. Exchanges and returns for refund must be in new condition. R-3's returned for repairs must be clean. If your suit requires additional cleaning, you will be charged. Separately, we provide all materials such as suit fabrics, reflective material, zippers, etc. at no charge for locally done work. We will contact you with estimated costs before

beginning work, so please include your phone and email information. Send to:

Aerostich  
Attn: Repairs/Exchanges  
8 S. 18th Ave. West  
Duluth, MN 55806

## 15. FEATURES

### 1. REAR VENT ZIPPER/AIR PRESSURE RELEASE/POCKET

There are two sliders on this zipper (one at each end when closed). To open partially, slide each slider to the center of the zipper. This prevents the back vent from billowing. *Note: The rear vent zippers are difficult to operate when you are wearing the suit. Adjust for the temperature you are riding in before putting on the suit.*

### 2. SIDE ENTRY ZIPPERS

Allow entry to your street pants pockets.

### 3. VERTICAL ZIPPERED CHEST POCKET

Suitable for large items. The inner wallet/phone/iPod pocket is positioned to allow easy access to your personal items and to help keep electronics as dry as possible. This pocket is highly water resistant, but is not completely waterproof.

### 4. RIGHT FOREARM ZIPPERED POCKET

Suitable for keys, sunglasses, toll-road change, face-shield cleaning rags, etc.

### 5. UPPER CHEST INSIDE ACCESSORIES

Two vertical areas of loop on both sides of the upper chest allow the mounting of optional accessory zipper pockets, chest impact protector, or chest insulation pad.

### 6. OUTER CHEST POCKET

Open sides allow the pocket to expand without drawing tight across the chest and also functions as an "epaulet" to hold gloves, etc.

### 7. HELMET HOLDER

A mini-carabiner clip under the left front outer 'logo' pocket-flap for holding a helmet. Especially useful when (for example) carrying two saddlebags to a motel room.

### 8. LOWER FRONT POCKETS

These are double pockets. The outer pocket is hook & loop sealed and the top of the pocket folds over with the flap for secure storage. Behind these pockets are side entry 'hand' pockets for use while standing around talking about motorcycles.

### 9. VERTICAL ZIPPERED RIGHT LEG POCKET

Storage for waterproof glove and boot covers, maps, etc. Accessible while astride motorcycle; however, do not use any of the pockets while the motorcycle is in motion.

### 10. WRIST ZIPPERS AND HOOK & LOOP FLAPS

The hook & loop flaps adjust the wrist for a wind-tight seal (with the wrist-zipper closed) to the exact circumference of your wrist. Once adjusted, it is easier and faster to leave the hook & loop flap in place and use the wrist zippers when putting on and removing the suit (and also for ventilation adjustments).

### 11. HOOK & LOOP WAIST TABS

Adjust these for best fit and varying thicknesses of undergarments.

### 12. HOOK & LOOP ANKLE ADJUSTMENT TABS

Adjust for boots and calf sizes. The snap may be used to prevent the zipper from gradually opening due to ankle movement (and also for ventilation adjustments).

### 13. HOOK & LOOP FOR ATTACHMENT OF OPTIONAL MAP POCKET.

Top of left thigh.

### 14. 3M SCOTCHLITE® REFLECTIVE

(3 locations) following car headlights will pick up the ankle tabs first.

### 15. SNAP DOWN COLLAR

Snaps hold collar in a 'down' position for increased comfort in warm dry conditions.

### 16. COLLAR OPEN MAGNETS

Removable rare earth magnets in the collar and upper chest hold the collar in the open position to help increase air circulation in warmer conditions.

### 17. ADJUSTABLE IMPACT PAD POSITIONS

The elbow and knee pads may be located up or down by as much as 2" to position the pads for optimum protection, comfort and fit.

### 18. BOOT RAIN COVER ATTACHMENT LOOP

Pre-installed loop inside suit at shins for securement of optional boot rain covers (#401).

### 19. 'HALL PASS' ELECTRIC GEAR CORD PASS-THROUGH

Allows cords to pass from the inside of the suit, out through the left hand warmer pocket to maintain waterproofness when using heated garments.



SNAP DOWN TABS



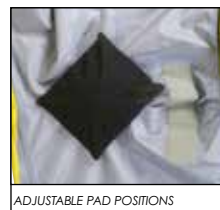
MAGNETIC COLLAR TABS



DUAL ZIPPERED BACK VENT



QUICK ACCESS POCKET



ADJUSTABLE PAD POSITIONS



HIDDEN HELMET HOLDER

## 16. FINALLY

Your R-3/R-3 Light was made and is supported by a team of experts who are proud of the quality built into each garment. You can expect your suit to last 5 to 10

years or 50,000 to 100,000 miles. We hope that you'll enjoy your R-3/R-3 Light and will experience many miles and years of safe, comfortable motorcycling. Good riding!

**LIMITED GUARANTEE:** To the original purchaser, Aero Design & Manufacturing Company, Inc., the manufacturer and seller of Aerostich RiderWear products, guarantees all Aerostich RiderWearHouse products against defects in materials and workmanship for two full years. Since no Aerostich product is indestructible this guarantee does not cover: ordinary wear, soiling and aging; or damage due to contact with superheated components, misuse or accidents. Repairs due to normal wear and tear over time or accidents will be done at a reasonable charge.

**MONEY-BACK SATISFACTION:** If you are dissatisfied with any RiderWearHouse Catalog product in any way, you have 30 days from the date of delivery to return the item in an undamaged and unsoiled condition for a full refund, by prepaid delivery to: Aero Design and Manufacturing Company, Inc., 8 South 18th Avenue West, Duluth, Minnesota, 55806.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES AND TIPS

### Waterproof Zippers in Hot Weather

Waterproof zipper tolerances are much closer than those of non-waterproof zippers. Use care when operating them. Also, the plastic waterproof material on the zipper may become softer and slightly more 'sticky', in very hot weather. These zipper types benefit from occasional lubrication. We recommend DuPont Teflon Multi-Use Lubricant (#4966).

### More Crash & Abrasion Considerations


Riders doing higher speed sport rides, or track days, should choose the standard R-3, Roadcrafter Classic or Darien. If you are almost entirely riding for utility, commuting, short-hop urban

travel and transportation, and relaxed touring at legal speeds, an R-3 Light may meet your needs better.

### Collar Magnet Considerations

For riding in cooler temperatures, or if you often adjust the velcro tab on the Ultrasuede® collar to maintain a tight seal, you may find your R-3 is easier to use when the magnets are removed.

### AEROSTICH ADJUSTABLE CARRY STRAP

The best and easiest way to pack a Roadcrafter for carrying, anywhere. Simple, fast and convenient way manage your Roadcrafter with you when off the bike. Quick release buckles, adjustable 1" nylon straps and convenient carry handle. When not in use, carries in any pocket unnoticed. 

#488 \$20.00



### AEROSTICH TF5 HIP ARMOR

TF5 is about 1/2 the area/size of TF3 Hip Armor, with high comfort, security and easier street pant pocket access. Maintains energy absorbing abilities in both high and low impact situations. These molded pads provide secure hip protection. 3 3/4" x 5 1/4".

Set (pads only) #1105 \$50.00  
TF5 Hip Sleeves #1053 \$30.00



### AEROSTICH CHEST INSULATION PADS

Keep your core warmer, with an easy to install Chest Insulation Pad. Extends the functionality of the RoadcrafterLight into cooler riding conditions. Self-stores in a built-in pocket. Electric or Non-Electric version. Electric version 30 watts, 2.5 amps. Specify SAE, Quicconnect 2, or BMW connection. 16" x 17". Black.

Electric #241 \$97.00  
Non-Electric #242 \$32.00



### AEROSTICH CHEST IMPACT PAD

Added security and protection to your chest area with this dual-layer TF3 Impact Pad that attaches easily to the integrated loop sections of the RoadcrafterLight. Lightweight, breathable, visco-elastic torso security. About 6" x 9". Black.

#238 \$75.00



### AEROSTICH BACK ARMOR

These full length back protectors provide higher levels of protection for kidneys, spine and coccyx areas. They are fully fitted for all Aerostich suits and jackets using integrated hook & loop mounts, or can be worn in another garment with the included, but detachable, belt. Both are made to withstand multiple hard impacts while being very lightweight and comfortable. Specify suit size. The Standard is more for everyday riding applications, it's contour cut for total freedom of movement. The Competition is a slightly stiffer back protector with an impact protection system similar to the Standard pad, but covering a larger area. S, M, L.

(A) Competition #1491 \$125.00  
(B) Standard #129 \$85.00



### AEROSTICH TF6 HIGH TEMPERATURE IMPACT ARMOR

TF6. A firmer, denser visco-elastic impact material that provides exceptional protection, especially during warmer weather riding. TF foams all become slightly softer and slightly less energy-absorbing as the ambient temperature climbs. These TF6 pads are best if you spend a lot of time riding in warm areas. S, M, L.

Set #1112 \$75.00  
\$15.00 each (specify pad needed)



### TF3 REPLACEMENT IMPACT ARMOR

Set of shoulder, elbow and knee TF3 impact pads for the R-3 and R-3 Light Suits. Hardshell Shoulder, Elbow & Knee pads with adapter sleeves to affix to suit via integrated hook and loop.

#298 \$100.00



### AEROSTICH ALWAYS READY BOOT RAINCOVERS

Practical and lightweight, these ripstop nylon raincovers self-store in a pocket that secures via hook and loop to the inside shin area of the RoadcrafterLight Suit. The integrated storage makes them super easy to put on and ensures they are always ready when you need them. 7" x 6.5". M (7-9), L (10-12), XL (13-14).

#401 \$57.00



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