

## **TEXTILE CONDITION TERMS**

**Abrasion** Wearing away of the surface from scraping, rubbing, grinding or friction

**Accretion** Deposit of extraneous material on the surface, such as mud or fly speck

**Crease** Tightly pressed fold often causing threads to weaken and break

**Crocking** Rubbing off of color resulting in loss of dyestuff but not loss of fiber

**Cut/Tear** Clean break in the fabric

**Deterioration** A general term for a weakened state caused by age, use, or environmental conditions

**Discoloration** General change in the color of an area from the prevailing tone

**Embrittlement** Decline in pliability and suppleness to the degree that damage may be imminent

**Fading** Discoloration seen as change of color, often caused by light exposure

Fold Pleat resulting from one part doubled or laid over another

Fraying Raveled or worn spot indicated by the separation of threads, often found on edges

**Hole** Area of missing fibers from both the warp and the weft

**Insect damage** Holes, surface loss (grazing), or deposits (frass, silky fiber) caused by insects

**Loss** General term for an area missing fibers

Mold/Mildew Microbial activity, often seen as stains or surface growth, exacerbated by humidity

**Oxidation** Chemical alteration caused by the presence of corroded iron in or adjacent to fiber

Particulates Dust and other soil particles that accumulate on and within fibers

**Shattered** Description for chemically treated silk that exhibits losses

**Soot** General term for a dark and oily deposit caused by air pollution or fire

**Stain** Soiled or discolored spot

Stiffness Loss of flexibility and suppleness of fibers causing a resistance to bending

**Unidirectional** Failure and loss of warp or weft, leaving behind more of one element than the other

**Weak seam** Looseness in the attachment of two adjoining pieces of fabric

PO Box 5004 • Andover, MA 01810 • 978-474-9200 • admin@museumtextiles.com • museumtextiles.com