Eliminating Buttonsew Failures

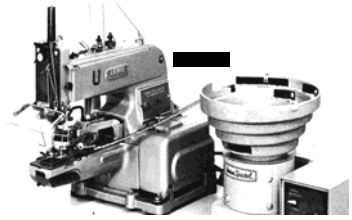
Introduction

One of the most common reasons for consumer complaints and returns in apparel is because of buttons unraveling and falling off. A tail of thread is usually seen on the top of the button and, when this thread is pulled, the stitch unravels and the button falls off.

Problem- Consumer dissatisfaction and returns of sewn products due to buttons unraveling and coming loose.

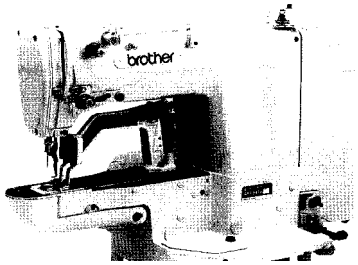
Buttonsew Failure

Commonly Used - 101 Single Thread, Chainstitch Buttonsewer



Many manufacturers commonly use a **101 single-thread, chainstitch buttonsewer**. The stitch attaches the button to the fabric by repeatedly looping a single thread through the button and the fabric. If the machine is properly maintained and a quality thread is used to minimize skipped stitches during the sewing cycle, the stitch is secure and the buttonsew will not unravel. However, this method of attaching buttons always has the potential of unraveling if there is a sewing problem.

Best Choice for Quality- 304 Buttonsewer



Many retailers have found that the best way of eliminating this problem is to specify a **304 Lockstitch buttonsewer** attachment instead of the single-thread buttonsewer. This stitch attaches the button to the fabric by interlocking the needle thread with a bobbin thread. This method secures the button and insures that the stitch will not unravel.

Implementation

- You should specify on all product packages and BOM's to use a Lockstitch Buttonsew on products where buttonsew failure has been a problem.
- Sourcing should confirm with vendors that they have lockstitch buttonsewers in their factories and they will be used on your production.
- Quality Assurance auditors should report all button unraveling problems, which is a clear indication that a lockstitch buttonsewer was not used to sew the buttons.