

JNI ARMOR

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Discontinue Notice of

Decorative Press-On Nut Caps on Ballistic Shields

Effective	July 29, 2026	Applies to	All ballistic shield assemblies
Subject	Safe-side cosmetic nut caps	Status	JNI supply discontinued

BALLISTIC SAFETY NOTICE

Do not install press-on plastic nut caps on a shield submitted for ballistic testing or placed into operational service. A cap can detach during impact and become secondary debris on the safe side of the shield.



1. Purpose

JNI Armor has historically provided press-on plastic nut caps, at no charge when requested, for cosmetic coverage of exposed nuts on the safe side (operator side) of certain ballistic shields. These caps are decorative commercial items. They are not ballistic components, are not required for shield function, and are not part of JNI Armor's validated ballistic fastening system.

2. Ballistic Concern

A press-fit cap is retained only by friction. Ballistic impact can generate shock, vibration, flexure, and localized deformation sufficient to dislodge the cap. If detached, the cap may travel toward the operator, witness material, instrumentation, or test personnel.

- A detached cap is an avoidable secondary-projectile/debris hazard on the safe side.
- Detachment changes the condition of the tested assembly and can create an adverse observation, nonconformance, or failed test configuration.
- JNI Armor considers any nut-cap detachment during ballistic impact unacceptable and will treat the cap-equipped configuration as a failure, regardless of whether the shield body prevents projectile penetration.

3. Applicable Test Context

This guidance applies whenever a complete shield is evaluated under a customer specification, agency protocol, test plan, or recognized ballistic standard, including:

- NIJ Standard-0108.01, Ballistic Resistant Protective Materials;
- ASTM E3141/E3141M, Standard Test Method for Ballistic Resistant Shields for Law Enforcement;
- ASTM E3347/E3347M, Standard Specification for Ballistic-Resistant Shields Used by Law Enforcement Officers; and
- other contractual, qualification, certification, verification, or research-and-development ballistic test requirements.

Important: The test laboratory, certification body, purchaser, or governing test plan determines the formal disposition of any observed event. This bulletin establishes JNI Armor's engineering position and configuration-control requirement.

4. JNI Armor Policy — Effective Immediately

Supply	JNI Armor will no longer supply decorative press-on nut caps with shield components or assemblies, including as no-cost requested items.
Testing	Do not install nut caps on any shield intended for ballistic testing. Remove any existing caps before test submission.
Operational use	JNI Armor does not recommend or approve these caps for operational ballistic-shield use.
Configuration	Adding a third-party cap is a customer modification and is not part of the JNI Armor qualified or warranted ballistic configuration.

5. Optional Customer-Purchased Cosmetic Caps

Customers who nevertheless want cosmetic caps may purchase them directly from a commercial supplier. They must verify the nut size, across-flats dimension, available clearance, material, fit, and quantity. JNI Armor does not specify, inspect, supply, endorse, qualify, or warrant third-party caps.

Example commercial item: M8 × 13 mm black plastic protective hex nut covers; Amazon ASIN B0D6ZKPNCK.

[View example product listing](#) (Availability and listing details may change.)

6. Required Customer Action

- For ballistic testing: remove all decorative nut caps before shipment to the laboratory and document the as-tested configuration.
- For shields in service: inspect the safe side and remove any press-on nut caps.
- For aesthetics: leave the properly installed nut and washer exposed, or use another cosmetic treatment only after engineering review and application-specific validation.

Technical support: Contact your JNI Armor Technical Sales Representative before changing any shield fastener, washer, nut, handle, strap, viewport, light, or other safe-side component.