



May 09

CAN/CSA Z96-09 High Visibility Safety Apparel Standard Summary

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) issued the second edition of CSA Z96, H.V.S.A. The focus of this standard is on the performance of retroreflective and background materials incorporated into occupational garments. It is intended to provide the wearer with increased conspicuity under any light conditions and under illumination by vehicle headlights. This 2nd edition clarifies a number of technical details regarding the design of garments, testing procedures, and the special allowances for FR apparel.

Summary of specific enhancements and changes from the 1st edition

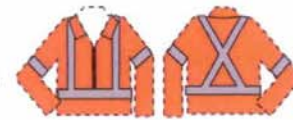
- Integration with CSA-Z96.1 Selection, Care and Use of HiVis Safety Apparel
- Updated colour specifications of the HiVis background material
- Addition of apparel design considerations for emergency first responders
- Special provision for Class 1 FR apparel: allowance of 19 mm Level 2 retroreflective bands/stripes
- Upper torso coverage requirements for Class 2 and 3: minimum side coverage of 50% from bottom edge to shoulder point
- Guidance on placement of Class 3 retroreflective bands/stripes on arms and legs
- Modification of requirements for Class 2 bib-style overalls; retroreflective material over the shoulder is optional
- Annex A: 1) Enhanced User Guidelines based on CSA-Z96.1;
2) New advice on high visibility headwear
- Annex B: Addition of many colour diagrams of compliant HiVis Safety Apparel
- Annex C: New examples of manufacturer's compliance declaration forms

Garment Classes and Illustrations

Class 1 Apparel consists of a basic harness or stripes/bands over the shoulder(s) and encircling the waist. The center portion of the front torso band between the two vertical bands is optional.



Class 2 Apparel has full coverage of the upper torso (front, back, sides, and over the shoulders). Stripes/bands shall be composed of retroreflective or combined performance materials.



Class 3 Apparel meets the same requirements as Class 2 with the addition of bands encircling both arms and both legs. These bands shall be composed of combined performance stripes/bands or a combination of retroreflective and background material.



Occupational Health and Environmental Safety Division
3M Visibility and Insulation Solutions
3M Canada
P.O. Box 5757
London, Ontario N6A 4T1
1-800-3M HELPS
3M.com/ca/besafeseen

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