

Stand out safely

High-visibility apparel

Workers must wear a minimum of Class 1 high-visibility apparel if they work around vehicles or mobile equipment **moving slower than 30 km/h**. If workers are around vehicles **moving faster than 30 km/h**, they must wear Class 2 or 3 high-visibility apparel.

CSA class 1

- Provides lowest recognized coverage and good visibility.



Harnesses

- Harness or stripes or bands on the shoulders and around the waist



Affixed garments

- Harness-style garment permanently fastened to another piece of clothing (e.g., vest, shirt, or jacket)
- Harness position must meet class 1 requirements



Flame-resistant (FR) coveralls

- If there is a risk of flame or extreme heat, the clothing may need to meet specific flame-retardant requirements.

CSA class 2

- Provides moderate body coverage and superior visibility

Background colour will depend on whether the garment is flame resistant (FR)

- Non-FR clothing — fluorescent yellow-green, orange-red, or red
- FR clothing — bright yellow-green or orange

VE trim

- Fluorescent portion — a colour that contrasts with the background colour



CSA class 3

- Provides greatest body coverage and visibility in low-light conditions and at great distances
- Similar to class 2 clothing, with added stripes around the arms and legs



As of September 1, 2021, the only standard accepted for most worksites in B.C. is the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standard Z96-15: High-Visibility Safety Apparel.

Visit community.csagroup.org to view the full standard. OHS guideline G8.24 also provides more information, visit worksafebc.com/searchable-regulation.

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Visibility-enhancing (VE) trim for classes 1, 2, and 3

Requirements:

- Distinctive pattern
- Smooth, flat exterior finish, securely attached to the garment, and at least 50 mm (2 in.) wide
- Visible on the side of the garment
- One vertical stripe on either side of the front of the garment with an X pattern on the back
- Made either from combined performance material (a single strip that is both fluorescent and retro-reflective) or separate performance materials (two strips — one fluorescent and one retro-reflective)
- The retro-reflective portion of the VE trim continues along the length of the trim



Compliant use of visibility-enhancing trim

The CSA standard accepts both types of performance trim: separate and combined.

First responders and traffic control persons have additional requirements for high visibility apparel. For more information, refer to the following sections in the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation:

- Section 8.24, High visibility apparel
- Section 18, Traffic control



Separate performance



Combined performance

Colour

High-visibility apparel **must be a colour that contrasts with the surroundings**. The front and back of the clothing must also have at least 775 cm² (120 sq. in.) of fluorescent trim for daytime use and retroreflective trim for nighttime use.

Considerations

If there is risk of a garment being caught (e.g. in moving equipment or being used in roadside work) tear-away features are required.

Velcro must not be used in potentially explosive environments because of the risk of static electricity.

Maintaining high-visibility apparel

Inspecting high-visibility apparel before and after each use will help ensure that it remains effective.

- Look for small holes, fraying, and fading materials.
- Make sure that reflective materials are still bright and visible.
- Clean clothing regularly and store it as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Replace high-visibility apparel when necessary.

Wearing any personal protective equipment that is poorly maintained or defective can be more dangerous than not wearing it at all.

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