

17 HIGH-VISIBILITY CLOTHING

The construction regulation (O. Reg. 213/91) requires that any worker who may be endangered by vehicular traffic on a project must wear a garment that provides a high level of visibility.

There are two distinct features to high-visibility clothing.

Background Material

This is the fabric from which the garment is made. It must be fluorescent orange or bright orange in colour and afford increased daytime visibility to the wearer.

Fluorescent orange provides a higher level of daytime visibility and is recommended.

Retroreflective Stripes or Bands

The stripes or bands must be fluorescent and retroreflective and be arranged on the garment with two vertical stripes down the front and forming an X on the back. The stripes must be yellow and 50 mm wide. Retroreflective stripes are to afford the worker both low-light and night-time visibility.



For night-time work, additional stripes or bands are required on the arms and legs. One way to meet this requirement is to dress workers in fluorescent orange coveralls with retroreflective bands or stripes attached.

Risk Assessment

Before selecting high-visibility garments, assess the risks to be controlled. Workers who require greater visibility, such as roadway construction workers, should wear clothing that is highly conspicuous under the conditions expected.

For further recommendations on high-visibility clothing, consult CSA's standard Z96-02. As a minimum, we recommend that garments comply with CSA Standard Z96-02, *High Visibility Safety Apparel*, in particular a class 2 garment with Level 1, 2 or FR retroreflective stripes.