CALOSHA CLARIFYING HIGH VISIBILITY APPAREL REQUIREMENTS

HEADS UP!
The California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (Board) is revising CCR Title 8 Section 1598 pertaining to traffic control for public streets and highways and Section 1599 pertaining to flaggers. These standards incorporate by reference traffic control requirements contained in the September 26, 2006, California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for Streets and Highways published by the California Department of Transportation (Manual). The Manual contains requirements that address high visibility apparel (HVA) and references the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) 107-1999 standard on HVA which was revised in 2004.

Sections 1598 and 1599 contain general specifications for high visibility apparel color, but do not reference the comprehensive ANSI/ISEA 107 HVA requirements contained in the Manual. The revisions will ensure workers on public roads and highways are provided with and wear HVA that maximizes their visibility at work and reduces the possibility of being struck by a vehicle.

WHAT'S THIS MEAN FOR MY AGENCY?
CCR TITLE 8 Sections 1598 and 1599 will incorporate by reference the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004, High Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear standard, thus requiring that all such garments be worn in accordance with this standard.

The revisions will clarify to employers the standards that apply to high visibility safety attire including retroreflective warning garments that are worn during hours of darkness, consistent with the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 standard. This will ensure that employees are attired in such a way to maximize their visibility.

If your employees work on public roads and highways, or act as flaggers at construction sites they need to be equipped with and wear HVA safety apparel and headwear meeting the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 requirements.

WHAT IS APPROVED “HVA” APPAREL?
There are three classes of garments specified in the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 standard that are based on the wearer’s activities.

Class 3: These garments provide the highest level of conspicuity for workers. These are for workers with high task loads in a wide range of weather conditions where traffic exceeds 50 mph. The standard “recommends these garments for all roadway construction personnel, vehicle operators, utility workers, survey crews, emergency responders, railway workers and accident site investigators”.

Class 2: These garments are for workers who work near roadways where traffic exceeds 25 mph and need greater visibility in inclement weather. Workers who would typically wear these garments are: railway workers, school crossing guards, parking and toll gate personnel, airport ground crews and law enforcement personnel directing traffic.

Class 1: These garments are worn by workers where traffic does not exceed 25 mph and there is ample separation from the traffic. These workers typically are parking service attendants, warehouse workers in equipment traffic, shopping cart retrievers and those doing sidewalk maintenance.

The three classes of garments are differentiated by the requirements for amounts of retroreflective material.

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that needs to meet specified performance criteria, the width and placement of the material, design and the color of vest used.

**Class 3:** These garments have the greatest visibility of the three classes. These will have more retroreflective material used in its construction than the Class 2 and it must have sleeves with retroreflective material between the shoulders and elbow.

**Class 2:** These garments have superior visibility and are more conspicuous than the Class 1 garments. The minimum width of the retroreflective material used on these is not less than 35mm.

**Class 1:** These garments need to be conspicuous and use retroreflective materials not less than 25mm in width.

There are charts and figures in the standard that give the minimum requirements for retroreflectivity (chromaticity) and luminance (color of vest) combinations that are acceptable. The luminous colors that are used and accepted, as long as they meet the minimum standard, are fluorescent yellow-green, fluorescent orange-red, and fluorescent red.

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