

# Stay **VISIBLE.** **STAY SAFE.**

## High-Visibility Safety Apparel and CSA Standards

### What is High-Visibility Safety Apparel (HVSA)?

High-visibility safety apparel (HVSA) is clothing (e.g., vests, bibs, or coveralls) that workers can wear to improve how well other people "see" them (their visibility). Most often, high-visibility clothing is worn to alert drivers and other vehicle operators of a worker's presence, especially in low light and dark conditions. High-visibility headwear can also be worn to increase the visibility of the wearer in situations where part or all of the wearer's body could be obscured (e.g., leaves/trees, traffic barriers, construction materials, etc.).

#### CSA Standard Z96-15

The CSA Standard Z96-15, High-Visibility Safety Apparel sets out levels of retroreflective performance (i.e., the effectiveness of material in returning light to its source), the colours and luminosity of background materials, and how much of the body that should be covered by the high-visibility components.



### CLASS 1

BODY COVERAGE: ● ○ ○ ○ ○

VISIBILITY: ● ● ● ● ●

#### Examples of jobs include:

- Workers directing vehicle operators to parking or service locations.
- Workers retrieving shopping carts in parking areas.
- Workers in warehouse operations.
- "Right-of-Way" or sidewalk maintenance workers.
- Workers in shipping or receiving operations.



### CLASS 2

BODY COVERAGE: ● ● ● ● ○

VISIBILITY: ● ● ● ● ○

#### Examples of jobs include:

- Roadway construction, utility, forestry or railway workers.
- Manufacturing, plant, or mill workers; Survey crews.
- School crossing guards.
- Parking and toll gate workers.
- Airport baggage handlers and ground crews; Railway workers.
- Emergency response personnel.
- Members of law enforcement.
- Accident site investigators.



### CLASS 3

BODY COVERAGE: ● ● ● ● ●

VISIBILITY: ● ○ ○ ○ ○

#### Examples of jobs include:

- Roadway construction workers.
- Utility workers.
- Survey crews.
- Mine workers.
- Emergency responders.
- Road assistance or courtesy patrols.
- Flagging crews.
- Towing operators.

#### Level 1

Slightly lower performance level of the striping, but still requires the background material to meet CSA/ANSI Standards. Retroreflective level is at 70% of the Level 2 requirement.

#### Level 2

Highest level of retroreflection and requires the background fabric to meet CSA/ANSI standards as well as the striping/bands to meet the highest coefficient level (the brightest level).

#### Level FR

Allows for flame-resistant garments with striping/bands where the total retroreflective level is at 20% of the Level 2 requirement (FR treated fabrics lose luster after treatment).