

## High Visibility Clothing Requirements Update Traffic Engineering Division

Beginning **July 1, 2012**, the standard for high visibility safety apparel will change in Virginia from the wearing of an ANSI/ISEA Performance Class 2 apparel to an ANSI/ISEA Performance Class 3 garment. The biggest difference between a Performance Class 2 and a Class 3 garment is that the Class 2 garment is a vest without sleeves, while the Class 3 has partial sleeves with retroreflective striping. This allows a person to be seen from any direction while standing or moving.



### ANSI/ISEA Performance Class 3 Garment

The high-visibility Performance Class 3 garment is required to be worn by all workers exposed to traffic and by all flaggers day or night, including within lane closures or behind concrete barrier service, regardless when the project was let. The following is from the 2011 Virginia Work Area Protection manual, Section 6D.03, Worker Safety Considerations:

05 Beginning July 1, 2012, all workers, including emergency responders, media, towing and recovery personnel and others within the right-of-way who are either exposed to traffic or to work vehicles and construction equipment within the TTC zone shall wear high-visibility safety apparel that meets Performance Class 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107–2010 publication entitled “American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear”, or equivalent revisions, and labeled as meeting the ANSI 107-2010 standard performance for Class 3 risk exposure, except as provided in Paragraph 7.

ANSI/ISEA garments labeled as meeting 107-2004 Performance Class 3 may continue to be worn until their useful life is over.

Emergency and incident responders and law enforcement personnel may wear high-visibility safety apparel that meets ANSI/ISEA 207-2006 publication “American National Standard for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests” which is at a minimum a Class 2 Performance garment.

Also becoming effective on **July 1, 2012**, is the wearing of High Visibility Type E trousers for workers installing, making adjustments to, or removing temporary traffic control (TTC) during nighttime conditions. Flaggers are also required to wear High Visibility Type E trousers at night. Nighttime conditions are defined in Section 6D.03 and Section 6E.02 in the 2011 VA WAPM as “from 30 minutes before sunset to 30 minutes after sunrise.” The wearing of Type E trousers along with Performance Class 3 apparel is also required during other low light conditions as defined in Section 6D.03, Worker Safety Considerations:

06 Beginning July 1, 2012, all workers installing, maintaining and removing TTC devices in nighttime work zones and during emergency situations when traffic control must be installed during low light conditions such as inclement weather (fog, rain, sleet, snow, etc.) shall wear Class E trousers in addition to the standard Performance Class 3 risk requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107–2010 publication. Nighttime work zones are operations which occur from 30 minutes before sunset until 30 minutes after sunrise.



**ANSI/ISEA Performance Type E Trousers**

Beginning **July 1, 2012**, **VDOT employees** will also be wearing hardhats with four strips of retroreflective material placed around the hat to further increase the visibility of the employee to motorist and equipment operators during nighttime and low light conditions. Although not a requirement at this time for non-VDOT personnel, a minimum of 10 square inches of retroreflective material is recommended for all others working at night.



**VDOT Hardhats with Placement of 16 Square Inches of Retroreflective Material**

For additional information on High Visibility Safety Apparel requirements, see the 2011 Virginia Work Area Protection manual.