Facilities & Services

Tool Box Talk High-Visibility Apparel

The purpose of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Policy is to protect F&S employees from exposure to workplace hazards and the risk of injury through the use of safety glasses, hard hats, high-visibility apparel, hearing protection, hard-toed shoes and other equipment determined by a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA).

High-visibility apparel is PPE used to distinguish workers from their surrounding environment.

The basic high-visibility garment consists of three components:

- Background material
 - o Colored fluorescent material intended to be highly conspicuous
- Retroreflective material (bands)
 - Material that reflects and returns a relatively high proportion of light in a direction close to the direction from which it came
- Combined-performance material
 - o Retroreflective material that is also a fluorescent material

All employees working between the street and sidewalk or within 15' of the street when there is no sidewalk, as well as those exposed either to vehicular traffic or to work vehicles and construction equipment shall wear high-visibility apparel. **Class 1 is not acceptable for use by F&S employees.** At a minimum, **Class 2** apparel will be worn. **Class 3** high-visibility apparel is required for work at night, near traffic above 50 mph and as determined by a JHA.



The **Class 3 garment** offers the greatest visibility to make the wearer stand out against a variety of backgrounds.

- Allows workers to be easily seen through a full range of body motions at a minimum of ¹/₄ mile (1,320 feet).
- Additional background and reflective material on the apparel increases visibility beyond what is provided by Class 2 apparel.
- Enhances visibility of worker and helps differentiate a person from a temporary traffic control device.
- Typically used in high speed roadways, highly congested areas, complex lane shifts, bad weather, and/or in complex work zones.

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DIVISION OF SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

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The **Class 3 garment** is available in the Tool Room, complete with the F&S logo on the back and the "Column I" on the sleeve. These can be checked out for temporary use, or can be ordered for your zone/shop/area.