

Standards and Documentation

- Lightweight High Visibility Garments

Visibility products are personal protective equipment (PPE) worn by persons to protect against health and safety hazards. Visibility products marketed in the EU must be CE marked and certified. The following is a quick guideline and a checklist on how you can make sure that a product is correctly certified.

Lightweight High Visibility Garments for Sport/Leisure

For reflective vests used in non-professional situations, a separate standard is applicable.

EN 1150. The garments in this standard do not provide the same level of visibility as EN ISO 20471 class 2 and 3. The norm does not divide products into classes. The products are instead chosen based on the height of the user.

Reflective Accessories

Reflective accessories are intended to make the user visible by vehicle headlights at night.

EN 13356. The standard establishes performance levels as well as minimum area requirements for different types of reflective accessories (e.g. hanging reflectors, stickers and Slap-Wraps). The standard does not apply to garments.

Lightweight High Visibility Garments for Professional use

High visibility garments provide protection by making the user visible, e.g. in traffic situations. In a professional setting, the employer must conduct a risk assessment at the work place and equip the worker with a suitable product solution. The EN ISO 20471 is the product standard for high risk situations. The standard divides CE marked garments into three classes.

EN ISO 20471 Class 1. Provides the lowest level of visibility. May provide sufficient protection where the risk level is low. Since the background colour requirement in this class allows for the use of many alternative colours in addition to the fluorescent colours, these garments are also used for other purposes than visibility, e.g. to distinguish between different functions or roles.

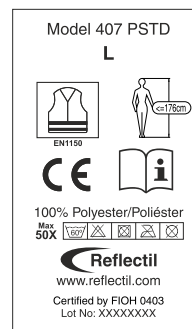
EN ISO 20471 Class 2. Provides considerably better protection than class 1. Most often, this level of visibility provides sufficient protection for most usage areas. Examples are construction sites, car parks, airports, harbours, loading bays and railroads.

EN ISO 20471 Class 3. Provides the highest level of safety and is therefore suitable in high risk situations. Mostly used near dense traffic at high speed.

In addition, high visibility garments may incorporate additional safety features. For these purposes, other standards may also be used. As an example, a high visibility garment can be certified to ISO 14116, the standard for limited flame spread.

How can you ensure that a product is CE marked?

By following the steps below, you can make sure that a product has been certified and correctly documented according to one of the existing product norms for visibility.



1. The product must carry a visible care label with the following information:

- Name of manufacturer
- Article No
- CE mark
- Norm and relevant pictogram
- Recommended washing cycles



2. A user information sheet must accompany the product:

- Name of manufacturer
- Explanations for the pictograms depicted on the care label
- Limitations of use
- All information must be in the local language of use



3. The supplier must be able to present an EC type examination certificate with the name of the manufacturer and the correct product reference.



EN 1150

Pictogram for Visibility Garments

All CE marked garments must be labeled with a pictogram indicating the relevant hazard and PPE standard. The norm is indicated under the graphical symbol in text.

For more information on standards, markings and reflective materials visit www.reflectil.com. Please contact us for any additional information.