ARTBA 2004 Roadway Work Zone Safety Conference

Changes in High Visibility PPE

OSHA’s Directorate of Construction, Camille Villanova
villanova.camille@dol.gov

Roadway Worker Safety and Health Controls and Devices

Engineering Controls

Administrative Controls

Personal Protective Devices

Engineering Controls

Prevent worker exposures by managing the work environment
Administrative Controls

Personal Protective Devices

High Visibility/Retroreflective Vests and Clothing, Hard Hats, Training, Rotation, Scheduling
How Can We Be Safe When Placing TCDs?

Simple precautions make placement of TCDs (Traffic Control Devices) safer.

Workers should

- Wear a Class III vest to be easily seen
- Place, relocate, or remove TCDs when traffic flow is light
- When possible, work from platform on vehicle
- Use seat, seatbelt, fall restraint, or guardrail and a handhold when guardrail must be removed
- Stay in constant communication with driver
- Use shadow vehicle to warn drivers
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OSHA’s

Laws
Standards
Regulations
Policies
Interpretations
OSH Act SEC. 5.  Duties

29 USC 654

(a) Each employer

(1) shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees;
Standards and Regulations

Title 29
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
Part 1926
Safety and Health Regulations for Construction
Standards and Regulations

Some Applicable 1926 Standards:
1926.20 (b)(2) - programs
1926.21 (b)(2) – training
1926.95 (a) & (c) – PPE selection
1926.200 (g) - signs
1926.201 (a) - flaggers
1926.202 - barricades
1926.651 (d) – traffic and trenches
Subpart Q

September 2002 OSHA updated their standards to incorporate the 1988 MUTCD revision 3 or 2000 MUTCD
Subpart Q Revisions

Recognizes high visibility garments for flaggers
Subpart E Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment

1926.95 (a)
... protective clothing ... shall be provided, used, and maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition ... wherever it is necessary by reason of hazards of processes or environment ... encountered in a manner capable of causing injury or impairment in the function of any part of the body through absorption, inhalation or physical contact.
1926.95 (c)

All personal protective equipment shall be of safe design and construction for the work to be performed.
Policies and Interpretations

OSHA National Instructions

OSHA Regional Instructions

Letters of Interpretation
Polices and Interpretations

Standards
Interpretations

Standard
Number

www.osha.gov
May 11, 2004

Mr. Bradley M. Sant, Esq.
Vice President, Safety & Education
American Road & Transportation Builders Association
1010 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20001

Re: Whether use of high-visibility warning garments by construction workers in highway work zones is required.

Dear Mr. Sant:

This is in response to your e-mails dated March 11, 2004, to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)’s Directorate of Construction. You asked for clarification on OSHA’s policy regarding the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)’s 2003 Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) with regard to high-visibility apparel. We have paraphrased your questions as follows:

**Question (1):** In effect, the FHWA’s Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) has become a national benchmark for traffic control devices on all roads. In September 2002, OSHA amended its construction standards for signs, signals, and barricades in Subpart G of 29 CFR Part 1926 to incorporate use of the MUTCD -- either the 1988 Edition, Revision 3 (from 1993), or the "Millennium Edition" (published in December 2000). However, FHWA has now amended the MUTCD several times subsequent to issuance of the 1988 Edition, Revision 3 (from 1993), or the "Millennium Edition." Will OSHA promulgate further amendments and/or revisions to Subpart G to follow the FHWA amendments to the MUTCD, such as those regarding high-visibility apparel?

Re: Whether use of high-visibility warning garments by construction workers in highway work zones is required.
Other than the use of flaggers, Subpart G does not address the circumstances in which it is necessary to provide warning garments to protect against the hazard posed by traffic.

... It is well recognized in the construction industry that construction workers ... need to be protected from traffic. ...

In such cases, Section 5(a)(1) requires the use of such garments. ...
OSH Act 5 (a)(1)
Recognized industry practice: MUTCD and ANSI/ISEA 107

1926. 95 (a) & (c)
Criteria for personal protective equipment
Protective equipment ... shall be provided, used, and maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition wherever it is necessary ... by reason of hazards ... capable of causing injury or impairment in the function of any part of the body through absorption, inhalation or physical contact... All PPE shall be of a safe design...
What Other Precautions Do We Need?

Employers must provide proper PPE.

Workers must wear personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Proper class of safety vest at all times in the work zone
- High-visibility clothing and headgear
- Bright-colored hard hats are more visible

From the training CD. ARTBA. Laborer’s. NAPA. IOUE
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