

Information You Can Use to Prevent Accidents & Injuries

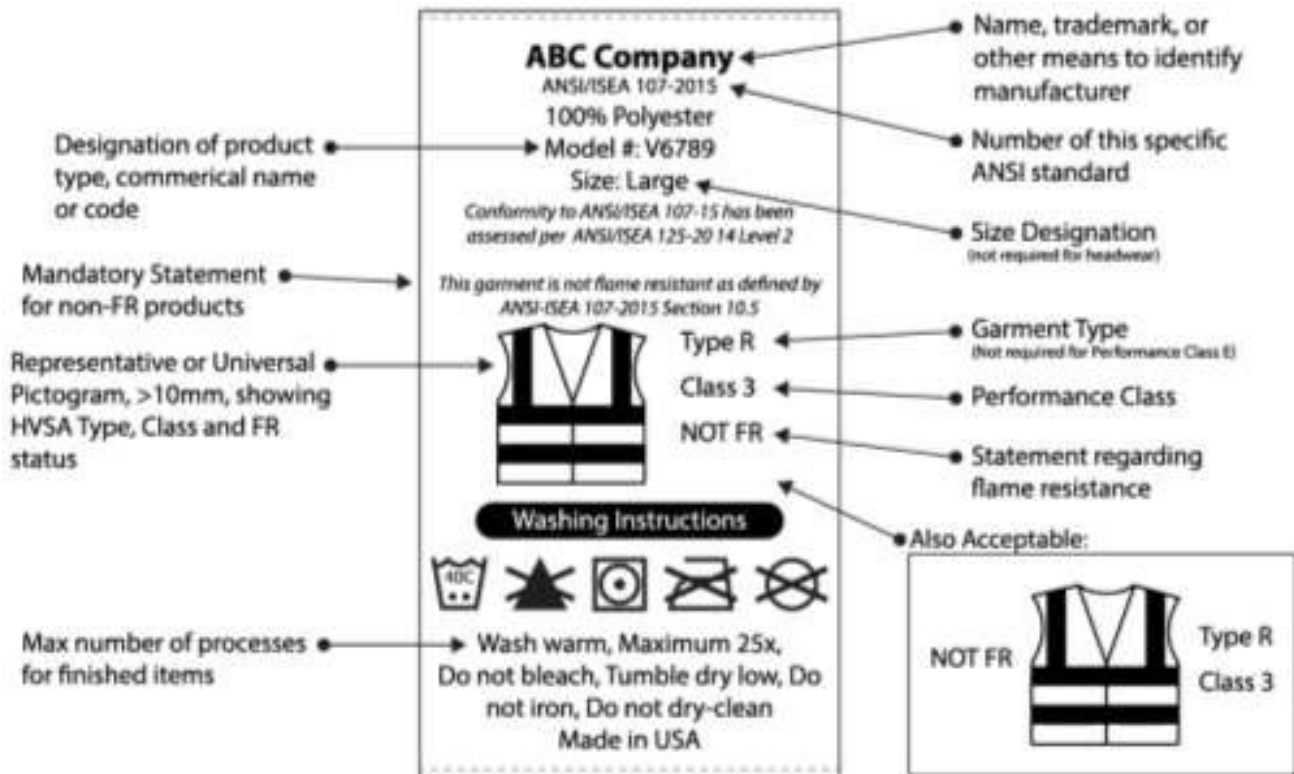


The need to be seen is critical for worker safety. Low visibility is a serious hazard for all workers who perform work tasks near moving traffic.

According to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Worker Visibility Final Rule; "All workers within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway who are exposed either to traffic (vehicles using the highway for purposes of travel) or to construction equipment within the work area shall wear high-visibility safety apparel."

High-Visibility Safety Apparel (HVSA) is defined as any garment meeting the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 107-2015 Class 2 or 3 standard. The previous HVSA minimum standard was ANSI 107-2004. Check with your local safety officer for the updated version of this standard, however; all HVSA should be updated to the newest standard.

In order to verify your HVSA meets the standard, check the label. The label must clearly show the Type and Performance Class, as well as other information about the garment. See below for sample label.



The updated 2015 edition combined ANSI/ISEA 107 with ANSI/ISEA 207 (high-visibility vests) for simplification; users can now easily select garments for a

particular application. Garment Types based on work environment have been added: **Type O (Off-road), Type R (Roadway), and Type P (Public Safety)**. Type O corresponds with Performance Class 1 and Types R and P can be either Performance Class 2 or Performance Class 3. To accommodate for smaller-size workers, the minimum area of material for a Type R (roadway and temporary traffic control zones) Class 2 or 3 was reduced for the smallest size offered.

As a general rule of thumb, below are some images of HVSA that are considered acceptable and unacceptable. This image does not reflect the latest approved garments, it is simply a reference. It is a good practice to keep your HVSA clean and free from excessive dirt. HVSA may be laundered, however, be sure to refer to your label for the number of times a HVSA can be washed before replacing. This is your safety, don't give it away. Be seen, be safe!

Acceptable



New high-visibility safety apparel is characterized by having vivid color contrast and high reflectivity.

Marginal



Characteristics: Good reflectivity although the vest has some soiling and light fading.

Unacceptable



Characteristics: little or no reflectivity, and soiled and faded material.

Acceptable



Apparel that is used but is in like-new condition is characterized as having excellent color contrast, excellent reflectivity, and is not faded or soiled.

Marginal *



Characteristics: Good reflectivity but has some soiling and light fading of material. *Note: This picture was taken with a flash and simulates nighttime conditions.

Unacceptable



Characteristics: Poor color contrast, low or no reflectivity, significant fading or soiling, and deteriorated reflective strips.

Pictures provided by Michigan Department of Transportation and Washington Department of Transportation

Users of this tailgate talk are advised to determine the suitability of the information as it applies to local situations and work practices and its conformance with applicable laws and regulations.

