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**Council of Construction Associations**

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WorkSafeBC More Flexible in TCP Hard Hat Colours

WorkSafeBC has made a change in the requirements for Traffic Control Person (TCP) hard hats in response to industry concerns, lead by COCA.

The original standard had required all TCPs, in Low and Medium traffic control situations to wear an orange hard hat. This was an impractical standard and it did not recognize that other colours are at least equally visible.

WorkSafeBC has now issued a new guideline which provides greater flexibility in the choice of colours.

The new Guideline permits fluorescent yellow-green, fluorescent orange-red and fluorescent red as well as other equally visible colours. Retroreflective tape must also be added to the hard hat. Please see the Guideline excerpt, below for more detail.

The new Guideline reads, in part:

**G18.9 Safety headgear for traffic control persons**

Issued February 27, 2001; Editorial Revision January 1, 2007; Preliminary Revision September 28, 2007

**Regulatory excerpt** Section 18.9 of the *OHS Regulation ("Regulation")* states:

Each traffic control person must be provided with, and must use, all of the following: (d) safety headgear of a high visibility colour with a strip of retroreflective tape across the top from front to back and on the

sides;

## Background

Section 18.9 was added to the *Regulation* in 2006. The requirement to provide and use a high visibility colour for safety headgear for traffic control persons under Part 18 allows for a choice of a high visibility colour. Acceptable colours for safety headgear under Part 18 are provided in this guideline.

## Description

The *CSA Standard Z96-02, High-Visibility Safety Apparel*, and *WCB Standard: PPE 2 High Visibility Garment - Personal Protective Equipment Standard 2*, provide acceptable high visibility colours for safety garments as fluorescent yellow-green, fluorescent orange-red and fluorescent red. These colours are acceptable for safety headgear provided to, and used by, traffic control persons under Part 18 of the *Regulation*. High visibility colours of equivalent luminance quality, as well as the orange colour specified in the *Traffic Control Manual for Work on Roadways* issued by the Ministry of Transportation, are also acceptable colours for traffic control persons' safety headgear.

The retroflective tape strip on the safety headgear is to meet the specifications for VE Trim as set out in *WCB Standard: PPE 2 High Visibility Garment - Personal Protective Equipment Standard 2*.

The full Guideline can be downloaded at:

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/Publications/OHSRegulation/GuidelinePart18.asp#SectionNumber:G18.9>