



PROTECTIVE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

# ADDRESSING FAQs REGARDING HARD HATS FOR CONSTRUCTION SAFETY

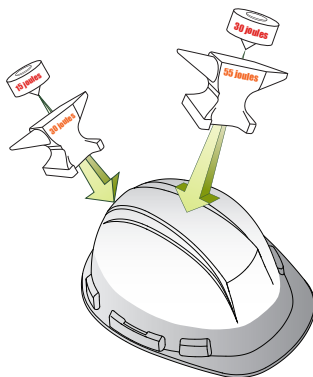
## 1. What is the difference between CSA Type 1 and Type 2 Hard Hats?

**ANSWER:** Type 1 hard hats are designed to reduce force from an impact only to the top of the head. Type 2 hard hats are designed to reduce force from an impact to the top or sides of the head. The side impact protection is achieved from an integrated foam impact liner.

TYPE 1:



TYPE 2:



## 2. What is the difference between Class C, Class G and Class E hard hats?

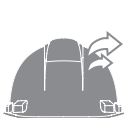
**ANSWER:** Class C (Conductive) hard hats are **not intended to protect wearers from contact with electrical conductors**, where Class G and Class E hard hats are. Class G (General) hard hats are designed to reduce the danger of contact with low voltage conductors up to 2,200 volts. Class E (Electrical) are tested up to 20,000 volts and are designed to protect the worker from high voltage conductors.



**CLASS E**  
ELECTRICAL



**CLASS G**  
GENERAL



**CLASS C**  
CONDUCTIVE

## 3. What constitutes a hard hat to be approved to be worn forward or backward?

**ANSWER:** If a hard hat is marked with a "reverse donning arrow," it means that the hard hat has been tested and passed CSA Z94.1 testing in the forward and reverse positions.



REVERSE  
DONNING  
ARROW

## 4. What are things to look for while conducting a daily hard hat inspection before donning to enter a job site?

**ANSWER:** The following evidence could indicate a reduction in overall protection:

- Cracks, dents, gouges, holes or tears in shell
- Faded or brittleness of the shell
- Frayed or cut suspension straps
- Cracks or tears in the suspension system
- Damaged wheel or slip ratchet mechanism

## 5. How often should a hard hat be replaced?

**ANSWER:** Most manufacturers recommend replacing the hard hat shell every 5 years and the suspension every 12 months. These are the recommended time frames based on the in-service date of the hard hat. Depending on the environment, application and use, the shell or suspension may need to be replaced sooner if an inspection deems it necessary. If a hard hat has been impacted or penetrated, it should be removed from service immediately.



6. What permanent labels or markings are required to be inside of a hard hat?

ANSWER:

- ❶ Manufacturer's Trade Name & Model Designation
- ❷ Date of Manufacture
- ❸ Testing Legend
- ❹ Type and Class Designation
- ❺ Approximate Sizing Range
- ❻ Certification Body's Identification Number (if certified)



7. What CSA optional hard hat features must be marked inside of the hard hat?

ANSWER:



8. Are self-adhesive stickers okay to apply to hard hats?

**ANSWER:** Some self-adhesive stickers may be used if they are not metallic and the adhesives used are not damaging to the shell's composition. Stickers should be placed at least a half inch from the helmet's edge. Stickers should not be used to cover up any defect in the hard hat shell and it is important to carefully inspect the interior and exterior of the hard hats shell for defects if stickers are applied.

9. What significance does the CSA marking inside the hard hat represent?

**ANSWER:** The certification mark found on the brim is the registered mark of an organization, accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), to certify product such as PPE to standards written by the CSA Group. This mark on a product means that it has been independently certified by the organization. It ensures that the quality certification program is followed and that there are ongoing quality tests being performed and audits made at the factory to validate the quality system.



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