

EN 471 – High visibility clothing for professional use

High visibility work clothing is regulated by several European and national regulations. The standard currently in force is the EN ISO 20471: 2013 standard in force since 28 June 2013, often associated with the EN 343 standard which provides protection against precipitation such as rain, snow, fog and humidity. The EN471 standard establishes the minimum requirements for high visibility clothing, able to visually signal the presence of the operators in any daylight condition or in the light of the vehicles' headlights in the dark. The choice of the appropriate high-visibility clothing depends on the risk that the worker is running.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE CLOTHING

The latest update of EN 471 of 2013 introduced new requirements for the certification of high visibility workwear

REFLECTING AND FLUORESCENT AREAS

Several minimum areas of retroreflective, fluorescent and / or combined material to be respected have been introduced. The larger the covered surface the more the certification class increases. In total there are 3 classes, class 3 is the one with the highest fluorescent / retroreflective material surface and therefore corresponds to the highest level of protection.

This means that in the future it will no longer be possible to produce small size AV vests, since the fluorescent surface will be too small. The braces are excluded from the scope of the new standard.



PROTECTION CLASSES

Class 3: maximum level

These requirements are required for people who work or are near highways, suburban road, urban streets and airports.

- **Minimum requirements:**
minimum fluorescent background material: 0,80 m²
minimum retroreflective material: 0,20 m²
4 meters of 5cm wide reflective tape.
- The clothing items must cover the chest and have bands of reflective material on the sleeves and / or legs of the trousers (the trousers can therefore be Class 3 certified only if combined with a jacket). As a single clothing they can reach Class 2 maximum.
- **Capable clothing:**
long jackets, vests with sleeves, overalls, jacket / trousers.



Class 3: medium level

These requirements are required for any person working in the vicinity or on extra-urban, urban, local roads, even for couriers.

- **Minimum requirements:**
minimum fluorescent background material: 0,50 m²
minimum fluorescent background material: 0,13 m²
2,60 meters of 5cm wide reflective tape.
- **Capable clothing:**
waistcoat, tunics open on the hips, bibs, pants.



Classe 1: livello minimo

These requirements are required for any person who works on private streets

- **Minimum requirements:**
minimum fluorescent background material: 0,14 m²
minimum fluorescent background material: 0,10 m²
2 meters of 5cm wide reflective tape.
- **Capable clothing:**
high visibility trousers and vests

