



Traffic Control Person Equipment

A properly equipped Traffic Control Person (TCP) is dressed to project an image of authority and professionalism, and the safety equipment provides direct and indirect protection to the employee. Standards for equipment are specified in the current edition of the Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual 2010.

There are three levels of protection:

1. **Mandatory Equipment:**

- Hard hat, CSA Type 1, Class "E or G", for head protection. For night-time work reflective bands of ASTM Type III (high intensity) must be on the hard hat.
- Safety vest, with reflective stripes back and front and must meet the requirements of a Class 2 Vest as detailed in CSA Z96-02 with fluorescent background material and level 2 retro-reflective striping of a colour contrasting the background material. The vest must be worn over all clothing to help motorists see you (must always be the outermost garment).
- Safety cuffs or armbands must be constructed of materials meeting the same requirements as safety vests to help motorists see you as soon as possible. The arm band must consist of two, 50 mm (2 inch) retro-reflective stripes separated by high visible fabric with a width of 25mm (1 inch). Also there would be no less than 25mm (1 inch) of high visible fabric on each end. Therefore the total length of the arm band would be 175 to 200mm (7 to 8 inches). (No less). This is the minimum that is required. Wrist bands are NOT acceptable.
- Safety boots, CSA grade "1" (green triangle); for foot protection.
- Long pants; protect skin of legs; project professional image.
- Shirt; protect skin; project professional image.(minimum 6 inch sleeve)
- Paddle, Stop/Slow (sometimes Slow alone); minimum 1.7 m handle; visual aid in traffic control reflectorized with ASTM Type III or brighter for night work
- Class 2 Safety vest apparel
 - Full coverage of upper torso (front, back, sides, and over the shoulders).
 - The centre portion of the front torso band, between the two vertical bands, is optional

2. Conditional Equipment:

- Sunglasses, CSA approved; aid where light may interfere with Vision.
- Eye protection, CSA approved; protection from projectile danger (rocks etc.)
- Reflective striped hard hat, CSA Type 1, Class "E or G", head protection; used for night conditions (hard hat is always used, reflective striping permanent or is added for night work).
- Flashlight with red cone; Visual aid in traffic control; night conditions.
- Two-way radio; voice communications; when 'visual communication is poor.

Some sites may have extra conditions. Where extra dangers exist, conditional Equipment must be used.

3. Optional Equipment:

This is suggested for extra protection and comfort, it is strongly suggested that the Traffic Control Person prepare by getting equipped to meet the varying conditions at work.

- Cold weather parka or coveralls; to protect against chilling.
- Hard hat liner; to protect against chilling.
- Gloves; to protect against chilling and to protect skin of the hands.
- Long sleeved shirt; to protect against the harmful rays of the sun.
- Sun screen; to protect exposed skin from the harmful rays of the sun.
- Sunglasses, CSA approved; protect eyes from harmful sunlight.
- Rain wear; protect against chilling and wetness, must be highly visible (safety vest must be worn on top of rain wear when working as a TCP).
- Layered clothing; for comfort under changing conditions.
- Bug repellent; protection from biting insects.

Exposure to Sunlight

In recent years there has been increased awareness of the effects of too much exposure to sunlight; as may happen to construction workers who work long hours out of doors.

It is a contributing factor to skin cancer and cataracts (cataracts are a condition where a thin milky film grows over the eyes). The serious effects of exposure are often not noticeable until years later.

Although there are usually many factors contributing to any single condition, the Department of Health considers it wise to offer the following caution:

"Exposure to ultraviolet rays from the sun is a health risk. To protect yourself, take the following precautions:"

- Wear a long sleeved shirt that you cannot easily see through.
- Wear long pants that you cannot easily see through.
- Wear a sun screen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or greater on all exposed skin; reapply according to manufactures directions.
- Wear sun glasses which protect from UVA and UV1) rays.