



Buxton Fire-Rescue

Standard Operating Guideline
Subject: Traffic Safety Vests (1)
Section/Number: General Use (1)
Date Approved: January 9, 2013



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Page 1 of 1

PURPOSE:

To reduce the risk, to all fire-rescue employees, of injury or death by motor vehicle/equipment, while working in or near active roadways, by wearing an approved safety vest.

DEFINITION:

Approved Safety Vest: a standard issue part of an employee's personal protective gear, purchased by the department, which meets requirements of ANSI 207- Public Safety Class II reflective safety vest.

Approved Head Protection: a firefighter/fire police helmet or hardhat with retro-reflective tape on front, sides, and rear of helmet or hardhat.

PROCEDURE:

When operating on or around an active roadway the following steps will be taken to ensure increased safety measures for all operating personnel:

- A) Employees responsible for traffic control will wear an approved safety vest either over their street clothing or personal protective gear. Approved head protection must also be worn.
 - a. If the employee (e.g. Fire Police) has issued coat/pants that meet ANSI standards a vest is not applicable.
- B) While operating in or near a roadway all employees shall wear an approved safety vest.
 - a. Structural turnout gear does not provide enough reflectivity to provide adequate visibility while working in or around a roadway. Employees shall wear an approved safety vest over their outermost layer of personal protective equipment.
- C) Firefighters actively fighting fire or wearing an air pack in preparation to fight a fire (e.g. safety line at motor vehicle accident) are not required to wear an approved safety vest.
- D) Personnel involved with level II staging, water supply operations, or other operations around moving apparatus, shall wear their assigned vests as part of their outer most clothing.

STANDARDS REFERENCE:

Federal Law 23 CFR 634 – ANSI/ISEA 207 (2006 edition)
State of Maine Compliance Directive Number 19-06 (Effective July 2006)