Buxton Fire-Rescue
Standard Operating Guideline
Subject: Traffic Safety (1)
Section/Number: Safety Vest General Use (1)
Date Approved: January 9, 2013

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)

Groveville   Bar Mills   Chicopee