MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: 2019 Safety Apparel Directive

REFERENCES: ANSI/ISEA 107/2015 Standard – American National Safety Institute/International Safety Equipment Association.

MUTCD 2009 – Sections 6D.03B and 6E.02

A. GENERAL:

This Directive establishes new minimum requirements for high-visibility wear for employees working on MDOT SHA highways and rights-of-way.

B. PURPOSE:

To improve minimum safety standards for high-visibility garments.

C. PROCEDURE:

Each MDOT SHA responsibility center shall procure ANSI/ISEA Class III or higher apparel for State employees. Consultant firms are responsible for procurement of safety garments for consultant employees.

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APPROVED:

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Maryland State Highway Administration
High Visibility Apparel Policy

Recommended by:

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Date: 3-8-17

Approved by:

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Date: 3-10-17

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Research demonstrates that high visibility garments have a significant impact on the safety of employees who work on highways and rights-of-way.

1.2 In addition, high visibility garments may help to prevent injuries and accidents and to make highway workers more visible to the motoring public, which ultimately improves traffic safety.

2. STATEMENT OF POLICY

2.1 The High Visibility Safety Apparel Policy provides a standardized apparel program.

2.2 The program seeks to improve the visibility of all persons who work on Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) highways and rights-of-way.

2.3 All apparel shall contain the appropriate label identifying the class.

2.4 Compliance with this policy becomes effective beginning January 1, 2019. All affected employees shall receive high visibility apparel awareness training prior to the effective date of this policy.

3. APPLICABILITY

3.1. This policy applies to all SHA employees and all other persons who work on Maryland state highways and rights-of-way. All workers shall wear a minimum of Class 3 ANSI/ISEA 107/2015 apparel.

3.2. For State Highway Administration (SHA) employees, this apparel shall have a fluorescent yellow-green background material color and be the outermost garment worn.

3.3. Retro-reflective material color for State Highway Administration employees shall be silver or white and shall be visible at minimum distance of 1,000 feet. The retro reflective safety apparel shall be designed to clearly recognize and differentiate the wearer from the surrounding work environment. The retro-reflective material maybe contrasted by fluorescent orange background material not to exceed one and one half inches on either side of the retro-reflective material.

3.4. Non-State Highway Administration employees shall wear approved Class 3 ANSI/ISEA 107/2015 apparel that is either fluorescent orange-red or fluorescent yellow-green background material color and be the outermost garment worn.

3.5. Retro reflective material color for non-State Highway Administration employees shall either be orange, yellow, white, silver, yellow-green, or fluorescent version of these colors, and shall be visible at a minimum distance of 1,000 feet. The retro reflective safety apparel shall be designed to clearly recognize and differentiate the wearer from the surrounding work environment.

4. REFERENCES

4.1 ANSI/ISEA 107/2015 standard – American National Safety Institute/International Safety Equipment Association

4.2 MUTCD 2009 – Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices – Sections 6D.03B and 6E.02

4.3 Visibility Research – The VCTR 1989 report concludes that fluorescent colors, when compared with non-fluorescent colors, enhance the daytime conspicuity of worker clothing.

5. DEFINITIONS

5.1 Apparel – The outermost high-visibility garment worn by employees who work on Maryland SHA highways and rights-of-way.

5.2 Highways – all Maryland roads owned by the Maryland Department of Transportation and maintained by the State Highway Administration.

5.3 High Visibility – The ability for workers to be distinguishable as human forms to be seen, day and night, at distances that allow equipment operators and motorists to see, recognize, and respond.