

APPROVED IN NCUTCD GENERAL SESSION ON JANUARY 20, 2006

**National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION**

Approved by NCUTCD Council January 20, 2006

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Regulatory/Warning Sign TC

TASK FORCE: RWSTC School TF

DATE OF ACTION: 1-18-06 RWSTC

REQUEST NUMBER

TOPIC: Safety Apparel, Section 7E.04

ORIGIN OF REQUEST: AAA

DISCUSSION: At the Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee's meeting in January 2005, Jeff Bagdade, AAA Michigan and a member of the Council and the Signals Technical Committee, raised an issue regarding the requirements in Chapter 7E of the MUTCD 2003 for apparel worn by student patrols.

Section 7E.04 states that "Student patrols shall wear high-visibility retroreflective safety apparel labeled as ANSI 107-1999 standard performance for Class 1 as described in Section 6E.02." Other material relating to student patrols is found in Sections 7E.07 through .09. However, neither Section 6E.02 nor any other section describes the ANSI 107-1999 (which has been replaced by ANSI 107-2004) for Class 1 risk exposure. The ANSI standard requires a background surface area of 217 sq inches and 155 sq inches of reflective material or 310 sq inches of a combined material – an amount of material typical of a vest. This requirement precludes the use of the traditional "Sam Browne" belt (belt with sash) by the safety patrol. AAA estimates that the maximum belt area is about 120 sq inches.

On October 8, 2004, the AAA requested an interpretation of the requirement. AAA noted that the safety patrol does not enter the roadway and do not direct traffic and believes that the patrols should not be subject to the same requirements as those who do. It suggests that there is value in retaining the traditional "Sam Browne" belt. FHWA's April 4, 2005 response among other things suggests that AAA develop a prototype belt that would have "similar characteristics to the ANSI Class 1 standard" and submit it for FHWA review. AAA demonstrated the "Sam Browne" belts at the June 2005 meeting.

Problem statement:

Determine if Section 7E.04 is too prohibitive.

Response:

The RWSTC worked with the TF to revise 7E.04 to be more specific about the circumstances under which [duties] student patrols are required to wear Class 1 [garments] apparel.

Proposal

It is recommended that the Standard statement in 7E.04 be changed to read:

Standard:

Adult crossing guards shall wear safety apparel in conformance with the American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel (see Section 1A.11) for Performance Class 2 as described in Section 6E.02.

Student patrols that enter the roadway to perform their duties shall wear safety apparel in conformance with the American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel (see Section 1A.11) for Performance Class 1.

It is recommended that item 13 in the Standard in Section 1A.11 be changed to read:

13. "American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel," (ANSI/ISEA 107-~~1999~~2004), ~~1999~~2004 Edition, ISEA - The Safety Equipment Association.

VOTE: For = Unanimous
 Opposed =
 Abstentions =