

Occupational Health & Safety System	
OHS Standards	Number: WP-03
Personal Protective Equipment: Head Protection	

The College will adopt CSA Standard Z94.1 (current edition) "Industrial Protective Headwear"; where the worker is exposed to the hazard of head injury.

**REQUIREMENT:**

- a) The Canadian Standards Association Z94.1-M1977 rated protective headwear into three classes. This standard has been superseded.

Class A - General Use, limited voltage protection  
Class B - High Voltage Protection  
Class C - General Use, metallic, no voltage protection

The above classes are no longer considered acceptable protection.

The Canadian Standards Association Z94.1-92 (current edition) rates protective headwear into three classes:

Class G - General Use, limited voltage protection  
Class E - Electrical, high voltage protection  
Class C - Conducting, general use

The primary distinction in the new standard is that all helmets are required to offer protection not only from impact to the top but also lateral protection. These helmets can be distinguished by the addition of foam liners such as the ones used in bicycle helmets or expanded accordion type liners.

- b) The College shall adopt Class E on the new revised CSA standard as the College standard.
- c) Class E protective headwear is most commonly used on construction sites, renovations and in areas where protection from electrical and impact protection is required.
- i) Class E protective headwear are available in polycarbonate and polyethylene. The choice of material depends on temperature exposure and chemical exposure.

Polyethylene is the most popular helmet material as it offers good general protection and chemical protection.

Polycarbonate is used where high and low temperature exposure occurs, it also provides better protection against impact. It is preferred by the electrical companies. It is also more expensive than polyethylene.

- ii) For your information, Class E protective headwear in both materials may available in hat (Type I) and cap (Type II) style. Cap style is the most common style of protective headwear. However, where the possibility of water or small debris going down the back of the neck exists, the hat is more applicable.
  - iii) Where the possibility of the protective headwear falling off exists during the course of normal duties, a chin strap shall be installed that will firmly keep the protective headwear in place.
- d) Alterations such as drilling holes, painting, and applying adhesives, stickers and decals are not acceptable.

Only stickers approved by the manufacturer for use on protective headwear shall be used.