

EN USER INFORMATION

Safety footwear for professional use :
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WARNING: BEFORE USING THESE SHOES, READ THIS INFORMATION NOTE

The footwear for professional use must be considered as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). It is subject to the requirements of the 89/686 / EEC Directive (as amended) - which provides for the mandatory CE marking for trading. Our safety shoes are category II Personal Protective Equipment subject to CE - Type Approval procedure, which has been carried out by RICOTEST N. 0498 VIA TIONE, nr. 9 – 37010 Pastrengo (VR) ITALY (www.ricotest.com).

MATERIALS AND PROCESSING: all the materials used, whether they are made from natural or synthetic materials, as well as the production techniques, have been chosen to meet the requirements expressed by the European Technical Standards mentioned above in terms of safety, ergonomics, comfort, strength.

IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION OF THE SUITABLE MODEL: the employer is legally responsible for using the adequate PPE items according to the type of risk at the workplace and the environmental conditions. Before use it is necessary to match the characteristics of the chosen model to the specific needs of use.

PROTECTION CLASSES AND RISK LEVELS:

Our safety shoes are designed and manufactured to ensure adequate protection for the specific type of risk, reducing it to the lowest possible level. All our shoes have been approved according to the methods specified in the EN ISO 20344: 2011 standard. Our shoes also comply with the basic requirements of the following standards:

EN ISO 20345:2011– Specification for safety footwear for general use –in which safety footwear for professional use is defined as footwear with features which protect the wearer from lesions that may result from accidents at the workplace for which the shoes have been designed, equipped with tips designed to provide reasonable protection against shock (200J) and against compression (15kN).

EN ISO 20347:2012– Specifications for occupational footwear – in which we define footwear for professional use as footwear with features which protect the wearer from injuries that may result from accidents at the workplace for which the shoes have been designed.

In addition to the basic requirements (SB to EN ISO 20345, EN ISO 20347 for OB) demanded by the law, additional features may be required for both safety footwear and occupational footwear. Additional requirements for particular applications are represented by symbols (see Table I) and / or categories (Table II). Categories are the most common combinations according to basic and supplementary requirements.

Symbol	Requirements/Characteristics	Performance required
P	Resistance to perforation of the sole	≥1100 N
E	Energy absorption in the heel area	≥ 20 J
A	Antistatic footwear	tra 0.1 e 1000 MΩ
C	Conductive footwear	< 0.1MΩ
Ved: EN50321	Electrically insulated footwear	Class 0 or 00
WRU	Resistance to penetration and water absorption of the upper	≥ 60 min.
CI	Insulation from the cold of the sole complex	Tested at - 17° C
HI	Heat insulation of the sole complex	Tested at 150° C
HRO	Resistance to contact heat of the outsole	Tested at 300° C
FO	Resistance of the sole to fuel oils	≤ 12 %
WR	Water resistant footwear	≤3 cm2
IM	Metatarsal protection (only for EN ISO 20345)	≥40 mm (mis. 41/42)
AN	Ankle protection	≤ 10 kN
CR	Resistance of the upper to cutting (only for EN ISO 20345)	≥2,5 (index)

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SLIP Resistance

SR A	Slip resistance on standard ceramic surfaces with water + detergent lubricant	Heel min. 0,28	Floor min. 0,32
SR B	Slip resistance on steel surfaces with glycerin lubricant	Heel min. 0,13	Floor min. 0,18
SR C	SRA + SRB		

The maximum grip of the sole is generally reached after a period of the new footwear has undergone a certain "running-in" (comparable to the tires of the car) in order to remove residual silicone agents and detach any other surface irregularities of a physical and / or chemical nature

TABLE 2	S8	Steel toecap "200J" BASIC REQUIREMENTS for SAFETY Footwear with toecap 200 J
	S1	includes S8 + CLOSED heel area and also E, A, FO
	S2	includes S1 + WRU
	S3	includes S2 + P and the cleated outsole
	S4	
	S5	
	OB	Basic requirements
	O1	Includes OB + heel area and also E, A
	O2	Includes O1 + WRU
	O3	Includes O2 + P and the outsole with pads
	O4	
	O5	

MARKINGS:

Find the following markings imprinted on the below:



Brand manufacturer and size of the footwear B – country of the manufacturer

I - 13 (example)- semester and year of manufacture
ARTICLE 16 (example) – footwear model
EN ISO 20345 or EN ISO 20347 – reference standard
CE – "CE marking", directive 89/686



1 or 2 = protection level

The interpretation of symbols and categories from the marking of our products allows you to choose the DPI for the present type of hazard according to the specification attached:

- TOE CRUSH AND/OR SHOCK: all the footwear certified EN ISO EN 20345
- IMPACT OF THE HEEL AGAINST THE GROUND: footwear with markings S8-E, S1-S2-S3, EN ISO 20347-E, O1-O2-O3
- SLIP: all the footwear
- CLOD: footwear with the marking HI
- WATER: footwear with the marking WRU (water-repellent upper) or WR (water-resistant footwear)
- HEAT AT THE CONTACT WITH THE OUTSOLE: marking HRO
- STATIC ELECTRICITY: footwear with the marking A, S1-S2-S3, O1-O2-O3
- IMPACT ON THE ANKLE: AN
- HYDROCARBONS (FO, S1, S2, S3)
- SOLE PERFORATION: footwear with the marking SB-P S1-P S3, O8-P O3, O1-P NB: the perforation resistance of the synthetic composite lamina tends to decrease according with the diameter of the piercing object; on the other hand this type of lamina offers ergonomic advantages (flexibility, insulation, absorption of moisture and shock) and a more protective surface. The choice should be based on risk assessment in relation to the actual working conditions.
- Other risks based on the specifically marked symbols.

Our shoes are not suitable for protection against risks which are not included in this Securities Note and in particular in those covered by the Personal Protective Equipment Category III as defined.

POTENTIAL USES: (according to the type of risk and protection offered by the footwear). ES: General industry, engineering industry, construction, agriculture, warehouses, public bodies.

PRELIMINARY CHECKS AND USE: safety footwear meets the safety characteristics only if it is absolutely fit and in perfect condition. Before the first use, make a visual check to make sure the footwear is in perfect condition and carry out a practical fit test. In case the shoe is not complete and shows visible damage such as being unstitched, presenting excessive wear of the sole, breakage or smudging, resort to the replacement procedure.

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USE AND MAINTENANCE:

For the proper use of the shoe it is recommended to:

- Select the suitable model according to the specific needs of the workplace and its environmental/ weather conditions
- Choose the right size, preferably according to the practice test fit
- Store the shoes when not in use, in a dry, clean and ventilated room
- Make sure the shoes are in good condition before each use
- Ensure regular cleaning using brushes, paper tissues, towels etc; the frequency of the operation is determined in relation to the conditions of the workplace
- Perform periodic treatment of the upper with suitable polish - grease, wax, silicone, etc - based
- Do not use aggressive products such as gasoline, acids, solvents, which can compromise the quality, safety and durability of the DPI
- Do not dry shoes in proximity to or in direct contact with stoves, radiators and other heat sources.

Footwear storage and length of service: to avoid any risk of deterioration, the safety shoes must be transported and stored in their original packaging, in a dry place away from excessive heat. New shoes, removed from the packaging, if undamaged, can generally be considered suitable for use. Under recommended conditions of storage, the footwear maintain their suitability for use for a long time and therefore an 'expiry date' is not possible to establish. In addition, there are many factors that can affect the lifetime of the footwear during use. In general, footwear with polyurethane bottom are conceived for a maximum duration of storage of 3 years, under controlled environmental conditions. Other types of footwear are conceived for a maximum of 10 years' storage.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ANTISTATIC FOOTWEAR:

Antistatic footwear should be used when it is necessary to eliminate static charges to minimize accumulation - thus avoiding the risk of fire, for example, flammable substances and vapors - and in cases of hazard of electric shock from electrical appliances or other electricity sources which have not been completely removed. It should be noted, however, that antistatic footwear cannot provide adequate protection against electric shock as it only provides electrical resistance between the foot and the ground. If the risk of electric shock has not been completely eliminated, it is necessary to resort to additional measures. These measures, as well as the additional tests listed below, should be part of the periodic monitoring through a programme of accident prevention at the workplace. Experience has shown that for the purpose of antistatic discharge, a product should have, in normal conditions, a minimum electrical resistance of 1000 MΩ at any time during the lifetime of the product. However, in certain conditions, users should be aware that the protection provided by the shoes could be ineffective and other methods must be used to protect the wearer at any time. The electric resistance of this type of footwear can be modified significantly by bending, contamination or moisture. This type of footwear will not perform its function if worn and used in damp environments. Consequently, you must ensure that the product is able to perform its function of eliminating static charges and provide some protection during its lifetime. It is recommended that the user should perform a test of electrical resistance on the spot and also other tests of use at frequent and regular intervals. If worn for long periods, footwear class I can absorb moisture; in these cases, as well as in damp conditions, it can become conductive. If the shoes are used in conditions in which the material of the soles is contaminated, wearers should always check the electrical properties of the footwear before entering a hazardous area. During the use of antistatic shoes, the resistance of the soil must be such as not to prevent the protection provided by the footwear. When in use, there is no need to add any seal between the insole of the shoe and the foot of the wearer. If a slab is introduced between the insole and the foot, the electrical features of the shoe / insole combination should be checked.

REMOVABLE INSOLE:

If the safety shoe has a removable insole, the attested ergonomic and protection functions require inserting the insole completely. Always use the footwear with the insole inside! Replace the insole only with an equivalent model from the same original manufacturer. Safety shoes without removable insole are to be used without the slab, because the introduction of an insole might otherwise modify the protection functions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SAFETY FOOTWEAR WITH RESISTANCE TO CHAIN SAW CUTTING comply with the requirements of EN ISO 17249: 2013

WARNING: For safety boots with protection against chainsaw cuts, there are 3 levels depending on the speed of the saw used:

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LEVEL 1	resistance to a speed of 20 meters per second
LEVEL 2	resistance to a speed of 24 meters per second
LEVEL 3	resistance to a speed of 28 meters per second



No personal protective equipment can provide 100% protection against cuts from portable chain saw. However, experience has shown that it is possible to design equipment that offer a degree of protection. Several functional ingredients that can be employed to provide protection include:

- Sliding of the chain at the contact, in such a way that it can not cut the material;
- Note: In the case of rubber boots, this kind of protection can decrease in time.
- Accumulation of fibers which, once entered into the gears of the chain will make the saw stop;
- Slowing down of the saw due to the fibers which increase the resistance to cutting by their absorption degree
- The kinetic energy reduces the speed of the chain. Often more than one principle can be applied.

The choice of IPRs must be such as to ensure the overlapping of the protection area of the shoes and the trousers.

RESISTANCE TO SOLE PERFORATION:

If the shoe provides perforation resistance, this has been measured in the laboratory using a 4.5 mm diameter trunk nail with the an applied force of 1,100 N. Applying higher force and/or nails of a smaller diameter increases the risk of perforation. In such circumstances, alternative preventive measures should be provided.

FOOTWEAR INSPECTION BY THE USER:

C.1 - Generalities

The following list and the associated images can help the user to monitor the condition of the footwear:

C.2 - Criteria for checking the condition of the footwear

VVF's shoes need to be checked / inspected at regular intervals and must be changed when any of the following signs of wear and tear is identified.

Some of these criteria may vary in relation to the type of footwear and materials used:

NOTE: Replacement of footwear in this context also means replacing damaged parts, eg. insoles, zippers, tabs, laces ...

- Signs of pronounced and deep grinding / cutting in the middle zone of the upper insole (Fig. C.1 a);
- Strong abrasion of the upper, particularly in the toe area (Fig. C.1 b);
- The upper presents crumpling, scorching, melting, swelling, or unstitching in the upper (Fig. C.1 c);
- The sole has splits / cuts longer than 10 mm and deeper than 3 mm (Fig. C.1 d);
- The distance between the upper and the sole is larger than 10 mm-15 mm in length and 5 mm in width (depth);
- The height of the pad in the flexion area is smaller than 1,5 mm (Fig. C.1 e);
- Original insole (if any) must not exhibit pronounced deformation or crushing;
- The inside of the shoe should be manually checked from time to time, to verify any possible damage of the lining or the presence of sharp edges of the tips which can cause wounds (Fig. C.1 f);
- The sealing system must function well (zippers, laces, Velcro);
- The period of obsolescence should not be exceeded, the period of time the shoe lasts for depends on the level of use and the checks indicated above (note that the period of obsolescence for shoes that contain polyurethane is 3 years).

