



# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## New NFPA 1901 Standard Brings Clarity to Fire Fighter Hi-Vis Requirements

### NFPA 1901 REQUIRES ANSI/ISEA 207-2006 COMPLIANCE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2009

Recently, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) published *NFPA 1901: Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, 2009 Edition*, an updated standard effective on January 1st, 2009. In defining requirements for new fire fighting apparatus, this 2009 version of NFPA 1901 includes authoritative new guidance regarding hi-visibility garments for fire fighters.

#### CLARITY ON HI VIS FOR FIRE FIGHTERS

The Miscellaneous Equipment section of NFPA 1901 requires “one traffic vest for each seating position, each vest to comply with ANSI/ISEA 207-2006 Standard for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests, and have a five point breakaway feature...”

Therefore, the January 1<sup>st</sup> effective date for NFPA 1901 Standard will bring clarity by plainly requiring an ANSI/ISEA 207-2006 certified garment with 5-point breakaway for every fire truck seat. This position brings badly needed clarity to a previously muddled situation regarding fire fighters and high visibility garments. In addition, by basing their high visibility guidance on ANSI 207-2006, the NFPA has further enhanced the authority of the ANSI/ISEA high visibility standard set.

#### CLARITY ON FHA RULE 23CFR-634

The well known Federal Highway Administration rule 23CFR-634 mandates ANSI 107 Class 2 garments for anyone working on a federally funded highway. It DOES NOT include an allowance for ANSI 207 garments for fire fighters or other emergency responders. Because of subsequent confusion about the rule in the public safety community, the FHA recently issued an interim rule EXEMPTING fire fighters from 23CFR, including the requirement to wear an ANSI-certified garment of any kind.

#### TWO NFPA 1901-COMPLIANT OPTIONS FROM ERGODYNE

Ergodyne has two great options to get fire fighters compliant with NFPA 1901-2009:

- **GloWear® #8245PSV** – Features contrasting two-tone design; Level 2-certified 3M™ Scotchlite™ tape; 5-pt. breakaway; sizes up to 6X/7XL; ANSI 207-2006 compliant
- **GloWear® #8244PSV** – Offers expandable sides perfect for use over turnout gear; Level 2-certified 3M™ Scotchlite™ tape; 5-pt. breakaway; sizes M/L, XL/2XL and 3XL+; ANSI 207-2006 compliant

Need a sample? Have questions? Please contact your Ergodyne Customer Support Specialist. We will do everything we can to help educate distributors and end users about these potentially confusing rule changes.