

HARDHAT EXEMPTION PROGRAM

In our continuing efforts to encourage a progressive safety program, we are instituting a Hardhat Exemption Program. If you feel that hard hats are for sissies, or if you think wearing a hard hat cramps your style, then this program is for you. All you have to do is prove that your head meets American National Standards Institute requirements (ANSI Z89.1 and Z89.2 classes A, B, C and D).

The tests include the following:

You will undergo a 24-hour water immersion test to prove a maximum permitted absorption of 0.5% by weight. Air will be provided for the 24 hours at a nominal charge.

Next, an impact test will be conducted. With your head resting on a steel plate, an 8-lb. steel ball will be dropped on it several times from a height of 5 feet. If your head is not damaged, you pass.

Next, your head will be subjected to the application of a variety of acids, solvents, oils, and industrial gasses. It must pass with no damage or deficiencies.

A propane torch will determine if your head is fire resistant. If slow burning, you may only achieve a Class A or B rating. If there are any holes in your head, you will be denied a Class A rating.

On the final test, you must sustain 2200 volts AC, 60 Hz, for three minutes with leakage currents not exceeding 9 milli-amperes. Breakdown threshold has been established at 30,000 volts.

All tests will be conducted at a variety of temperatures ranging from -20 degrees to 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

Those who fail any element of the test must continue to wear their hardhats as required.

Contact the safety department to schedule testing during regular business hours.

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