



Clark Howe (MD)

NEWS

Nov 2023

The latest updates from one of the UK's leading independent, family-run suppliers



New footwear standards

With the introduction of the new safety footwear standard EN ISO 20345: 2022 there are fundamental changes to how safety footwear is tested along with new markings to help you identify what the style features. So let's just cover the two key points...

Anti-Slip Test Changes

The old SRA, SRB and SRC anti-slip tests will be scrapped. In place all safety footwear will be tested on a ceramic tile with detergent as standard- it will be compulsory to pass this test and therefore there will be no markings on the footwear for this basic test (Note that the new test is more difficult to pass as the flat shoe test has been dropped in favour of an angled sole and therefore a smaller contact area).

If the manufacturer opts to put their footwear through the more stringent anti-slip test, the style will also be subject to a glycerine on ceramic tile test (note that the metal/glycerine test is no longer). If it passes the style will be awarded the "SR" marking. I look at this as the equivalent to the old highest anti-slip "SRC" marking, although the new standard is tougher to achieve.

Midsole Markings

Midsole markings will also change. The "P" marking is maintained for metal midsoles so you will continue to see S1P, S3, S5 & S7 markings depending upon the specification.

There are two tests for non metallic midsoles and for the first time markings will indicate which test the style has passed. The first using a 4.5mm diameter nail and will show the marking "PL" or "L".

The tougher test consists of a 3.5mm nail at the same force- these will show the markings "PS" or "S".

Therefore, you will find footwear marked S1PL, S1PS, S3L, S3S, S5L, S5S, S7L, S7S.

Mmm I hear you say, that sounds more complicated to get your head around than before- I am inclined to agree although what I can confirm is that these new tests will help to improve safety for your workforce by utilising more realistic testing methods, with more concise markings (once you know what to look for).

It's going to be a while yet before we start to see those new markings appear on footwear, although there is the odd style knocking about that has them.



Code: SBO1090
Cofra Day ECO Friendly Boot



We're thrilled to announce that our Macmillan Cake Morning on the 29th September was a resounding success, raising over £700. The event was well-attended, and during this we heard moving stories from individuals affected by cancer, many that have received, or know people close to them that have received invaluable support from the Macmillan team.

If you intended to join us but couldn't, it's not too late to contribute. Simply scan the QR code with your phones camera to donate.



A BIG thank you to the companies below that donated tombola prizes & to all those that donated.

- Pizzanini
- Chippy Sues
- The Studio Whittlesey
- The Railway Pub Whittlesey
- Fishtastic

Thank you

Embroidery - your help required

Unlike many of our competitors, Howsafe does not impose a minimum order quantity for embroidered items - we have no plans to change this policy. However, we find ourselves in a situation where an influx of small orders has caused our lead times to increase.

Every order, irrespective of its size, requires a unique set of preparatory steps. These include creating a new design (unless it's a repeat order), loading the design onto our systems, changing the thread colours on our machines and unpacking/hooping up the garments. All these activities contribute to periods of downtime when we are not actively embroidering garments.

To optimise our operations and reduce lead times, we kindly request that, moving forward, you consider placing orders in multiples of 6 or at least in sets of 3. Our embroidery machines have a 6-head dual function, which allows us to run two different designs simultaneously. **In essence, larger orders are processed more efficiently due to reduced instances of gearing up the machines for the next order.**

By consolidating your orders into larger quantities, you will not only help us streamline our process but also benefit from quicker turnaround times for your orders. Rest assured, we have no intention of introducing a minimum order quantity- so if you really need to order just one garment, it's no problem, we would just ask that whenever you can please try to consolidate your orders. **Thank you!**



Acegrip has changed slightly in specification due to the manufacturer now only offering it in the retail pack format.

The spec to EN388: 2016 is now:

- Abrasion level 2
- Cut level 1
- Tear level 4
- Puncture level 1

If you need the manufacturers spec sheet please let us know.

Sleeve upgrade



Our cut resistant sleeves have undergone an upgrade and will soon start to be delivered as the Typhan cut level F (highest cut level available) option.

Same price just better performance.

For further information please search for Typhan on our website.

Supporting Pass Wide and slow event

In September, we had the privilege of being approached to lend our support to the national "Pass Wide and Slow Movement" event. The initiative was ably orchestrated by Clare Measom, and the ride took its course from Peakirk before reaching its conclusion in Glinton. The event successfully raised over £100 in aid of Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall, a worthy cause indeed.

Howsafe was more than pleased to donate a number of hi-vis vests. Their aim was to enhance safety and to help amplify awareness for those riding on our roads, which took place on the 10th of September.

