

## **Interpretation Note 12-01 Flame Resistant and High Visibility Work Wear**

This Interpretation Note replaces Safety Notice # 2007.02, Visibility and Flame-Resistance of Safety Apparel.

In accordance with section 19 of the *Newfoundland Offshore Drilling and Production Regulations* and Part XII of the *Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Occupational Health and Safety Regulations*, operators must assess the risk of injury to personnel from moving equipment and loads, flash fires and arc flash and ensure that work wear is selected and used to reduce the relevant risks to levels that are as low as reasonably practicable.

Where there is a risk of flash fire, operators should ensure that work wear is selected and used in accordance with either “CAN/CGSB 155.21-2000 Recommended Practices for the Provision and Use of Workwear for Protection Against Hydrocarbon Flash Fire” or “NFPA 2113: Standard on Selection, Care, Use, and Maintenance of Flame-Resistant Garments for Protection of Industrial Personnel Against Flash Fire, 2007 Edition.” Operators should ensure that all work wear meets the requirements of “CAN/CGSB-155.20-2000 Workwear for Protection against Hydrocarbon Flash Fire” or “NFPA 2112: Standard on Flame-Resistant Garments for Protection of Industrial Personnel against Flash Fire, 2007”.

Where workers may be subject to electrical “Arc Flash”, operators should ensure that either CSA Z462-08 Workplace Electrical Safety Standard or NFPA 70E-09: Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace is used in the selection of protective work wear.

Rain Wear and other outer wear may be assessed against other appropriate standards, e.g. “ASTM F 2733-09 Standard Specification for Flame Resistant Rainwear for Protection Against Flame Hazards” but should be worn over work wear that meets the requirements of the standards noted above. Chemical burns or other hazards may take precedence for some tasks or workers and the onus is on the operator to ensure that relative risks are evaluated. Operators should also ensure that workers are advised as to the proper clothing and fabrics to be worn under work wear in order to mitigate hazards further.

Where there is a hazard from moving equipment or loads work wear should be selected and used in accordance with “CSA Z96.1-08, Guideline on selection use and care of high-visibility safety apparel”

The referenced standards require that garments are labeled in accordance with the applicable standard as meeting all the requirements of the standard. As with any item of Personal Protective Equipment, the onus is on the operator to ensure that work wear provides an appropriate level of protection against identified hazards and meets the requirements of an appropriate standard.