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INTERNATIONAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATION

ANSI/ISEA 138-2019

American National Standard for Performance and Classification for Impact-Resistant Gloves

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American National Standard for Performance and Classification for Impact-Resistant Gloves

Secretariat

International Safety Equipment Association

Approved February 19, 2019

American National Standards Institute, Inc.

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American National Standard

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Published by

International Safety Equipment Association
1901 North Moore Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209

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Printed in the United States of America

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Foreword (This Foreword is not part of American National Standard ANSI/ISEA 138-2019)

The human hand is one of the most important tools in a work environment, regardless of the task being performed. It is also most vulnerable to occupational injury, ranking high among all injury types, with an average total cost per incident of more than $22,000 according to some reports. Standards and guidance have been in place for certain types of hand injuries such as those caused by cuts, punctures and chemical exposure; yet there has been no standardized approach to address dorsal or back-of-hand injuries such as bone breakage and fractures, bruising and finger pinching. The decision-making process becomes more challenging given wide available of glove designs with varying performance claims

To address the gaps in appropriately evaluating performance of a glove's dorsal protection and assist employers in making informed product selections, the International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) has developed this new standard to establish testing, classification and labeling requirements that offer back-of-the-hand impact protection. These are commonly used in the automotive, heavy equipment and construction operation, cargo handling, oil /gas and towing/transportation industries.

Compliant gloves are evaluated for their capability to dissipate impact forces on the knuckles and fingers and are classified accordingly. The resulting classifications can be used by employers as a reliable means of comparing different products on an equal basis when selecting hand protection relative to the tasks being performed.

This standard was prepared by members of ISEA's Hand Protection Group. The following companies were members of the group at the time of the approval of the standard:

Ansell Protective Products
Bob Dale Gloves
Conney Safety Products
D3O
DSM Dyneema
DuPont Safety & Construction
Ergodyne
Global Glove and Safety
HexArmor
Honeywell Safety Products
Ironwear
Kimberly-Clark Professional
Lakeland Industries, Inc.
Magid Glove and Safety Mfg. Co. LLC
Majestic Glove
MCR Safety
National Safety Apparel
OccuNomix International LLC
Protective Industrial Products Inc.
Pyramex Safety
Radians Inc.
Saf-T-Gard International
Superior Glove
Wells Lamont Industrial
World Fibers, Inc.

Approval of this standard was based on the consensus procedures prescribed by the American National Institute. The following organizations were contacted prior to the approval of this standard. Inclusion in this list does not necessarily imply that the organization concurred with the submittal of the proposed standard to ANSI.

Carl W. Heinlein, ARM, CSP, CRIS
Concurrent Technologies
Cudd Energy Services
FCx Performance
Honeywell
KLME Martin Associates
Luck Companies
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Ringers Gloves
Safety Equipment Institute
Stony Brook University Hospital
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Watson Gloves
YPF, SA (Argentina Oil Company)

Suggestions for the improvement of this standard are welcome. They should be sent to the ISEA, 1901 N. Moore Street, Suite 808, Arlington, VA 22209; e-mail standards@safetyequipment.org.

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