

This safety article started from an RPM member inquiry:

“What color of high visibility vests needed to be worn by drivers only getting in and out of their vehicles roadside- but not consisting of road work”.



High-visibility safety apparel (HVSA) is needed if you work when there is low light and poor visibility, especially if you are working around moving vehicles (cars, trucks or other machinery traveling under their own power, such as a forklift). High-visibility items allow you to be seen by the drivers of those vehicles from farther away so that they can respond accordingly, which increases your safety at work.

The human eye responds best to large, contrasting, bright or moving objects. Worker visibility is enhanced by high color contrast between clothing and the work environment against which it is seen. (CCOHS)

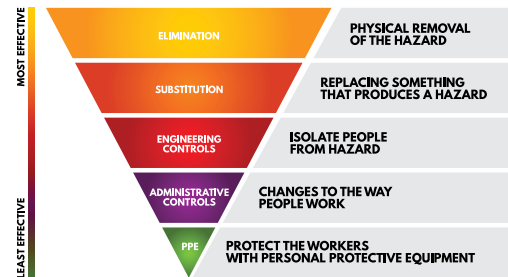
While there is no specific color that needs to be worn by professional truck drivers only exiting and entering their trucks, there are better and best practices associated with such activities, including:

- what types of high visibility safety apparel professional drivers are recommended to wear, based on the risk level of when drivers are working roadside
- when you need high visibility apparel
- adding logos to high visibility apparel
- the different classes of safety apparel, and the risk levels of specific types of work
- details surrounding training regarding high visibility apparel

These better and best practices can be found on the CCOHS website.

However, the absolute best practice is to encourage and implement the expectation for professional drivers to exit and enter the passenger’s side door. This helps to reduce the risk of putting themselves in harm’s way of vehicular traffic.

HIERARCHY OF HAZARD CONTROLS



For more information:

- Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Regulation Part 20: Vehicular and Pedestrian Traffic applies to (a) every workplace where there is a risk to the safety or health of a person due to the movement of vehicular traffic.
- Canada Labour Code Part XII- Protection Equipment and Other Preventative Measures, 12.17 Protection Against Moving Vehicles

Do you need more information? RPM can help!

RPM offers the Fleet Safety Managers course, a five day course (consecutive Tuesdays) that will help safety managers learn how to identify, assess, and mitigate fleet safety management risks, as well as how to recognize connections between organizational units and influence positive safety outcomes. This training will provide the skills to develop and implement policy and procedure and an understanding of the methods of developing adult learning and delivery models.

Please note RPM courses are offered to RPM registered companies only. Your company must be registered with RPM and be in the process of working towards certification or must have achieved the SAFE Work Manitoba Trucking Certificate of Recognition. Not yet registered in the RPM program? Today is a great day to get started!



RISK. PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED.

Phone: 204-632-6600 | Email: info@rpmsafety.ca | Web: www.rpmsafety.ca

25 Bunting Street Winnipeg, MB R2X 2P5