



SAFETY HEADGEAR

DESCRIPTION AND USE

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section covers the description, use, and care of safety headgear.

1.02 —This section is reissued to include a new field procedure to test the B and C safety caps and eliminate the requirement for replacement every four years. Revision arrows are included to denote the significant changes.—

1.03 Safety headgear is designed to act both as a shield and a shock absorber to protect against head injuries. The headgear is also designed to provide protection against electric shock in case of accidental contact with electrically energized objects.

1.04 The use of safety headgear in no way reduces the need for good job planning or the requirements for observing the safety precautions outlined in other sections of the Bell Practices.

2. DESCRIPTION

2.01 The B and C safety headgear (Fig. 1) consists of molded, high-impact polyethylene shells equipped with detachable suspensions which are adjustable to different head sizes. Both styles are available in white color only with a pair of parallel reflective strips (one blue and one ochre) running from front to back and a Bell symbol hot stamped in blue and white on each side of the headgear.

2.02 The suspension for the caps (Fig. 2) consists of an adjustable molded plastic band with a sweatband and straps attached. The straps in both caps are in a fixed position to ensure proper clearance between the top of the head and the inside of the cap crown. A nape strap is provided as an integral part of the suspension.

ACCESSORIES

2.03 The B safety cap is manufactured by Mine Safety Appliances Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The C safety cap is manufactured by E.D. Bullard Company, Sausalito, California. A wide range of accessories are available directly from the appropriate manufacturer as described in their literature. Accessories are not generally interchangeable between manufacturers.

NOTICE

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3. USE

3.01 Safety headgear shall be worn by all personnel when they are subjected to conditions which could result in (1) head injuries from falling or moving objects or striking against stationary objects, or (2) electric shock from accidental contact with electrically energized objects. Headgear shall meet the ANSI Z89.2 standard "Safety Requirements For Industrial Protective Helmets for Electric Workers, Class B."

3.02 It is not feasible to cover every situation requiring the use of headgear; however, careful observance of the principles and precautions outlined below will do much to prevent head injuries and electric shock. Following are the more common work operations and conditions under which safety headgear shall be worn:

- (a) Performing all kinds of work, i.e., line, splicing, installation, and repair work, from aerial lifts or truck mounted ladders.
- (b) Performing work aloft such as from poles, ladders, and platforms
- (c) Working with or in the vicinity of construction apparatus and equipment such as derricks, booms, winches, take-up reels, earth boring machines, cable trailers, tractors, trenchers, and cable plows
- (d) When below work being done aloft or when performing overhead work from the ground such as placing cable blocks on strand, raising wire, and pruning trees
- (e) All pole placing and removal work
- (f) Entering, leaving, and working in manholes except when not exposed under the opening and headroom is sufficient
- (g) Working in any area, or enclosure, where headroom is insufficient, such as in crawl spaces, cellars, and steam tunnels
- (h) Working in trenches, splicing pits, or other excavations of 3 feet or over in depth
- (i) When in or near buildings under construction or being demolished

(j) When in an industrial establishment or on other premises where the wearing of head protection is mandatory

(k) Storm restoration work

(l) Performing blasting operations or when in the vicinity of such operations.

4. CARE

4.01 Safety headgear should be stored where it will not be damaged by other tools. Do not store safety headgear on the rear shelf of an automobile.

4.02 Safety headgear may be cleaned by washing with mild soap and warm water. To clean, remove the suspension and dip the crown in warm, soapy water. If necessary, scrub with a cloth or soft brush. A stiff brush may scratch the shell or striping. Rinse in clear, warm water and wipe dry. The suspension may be washed with regular soap and water.

Note: Never use solvents or strong detergents to clean headgear. Avoid contact with insect repellents. These substances can seriously degrade the headgear.

4.03 If safety headgear should be subjected to a severe blow, it should be carefully examined for signs of damage. Any safety hat or cap that becomes cracked, punctured, or otherwise damaged should be replaced.

4.04 Since some types of paint may damage plastic material, safety headgear should not be painted. Identification may be placed on the exterior surface of the safety headgear using the following guidelines:

- Identification labels of vinyl/acrylic adhesive only may be used (nothing metallic).
- Identification must be placed on the global surface of the headgear and not on the brim
- Identification shall not be placed closer to the lower edge of the headgear than the striping.

4.05 No holes or accessories other than identification tape mentioned in paragraph 4.04 or items covered in Part 2 shall be added to the headgear.

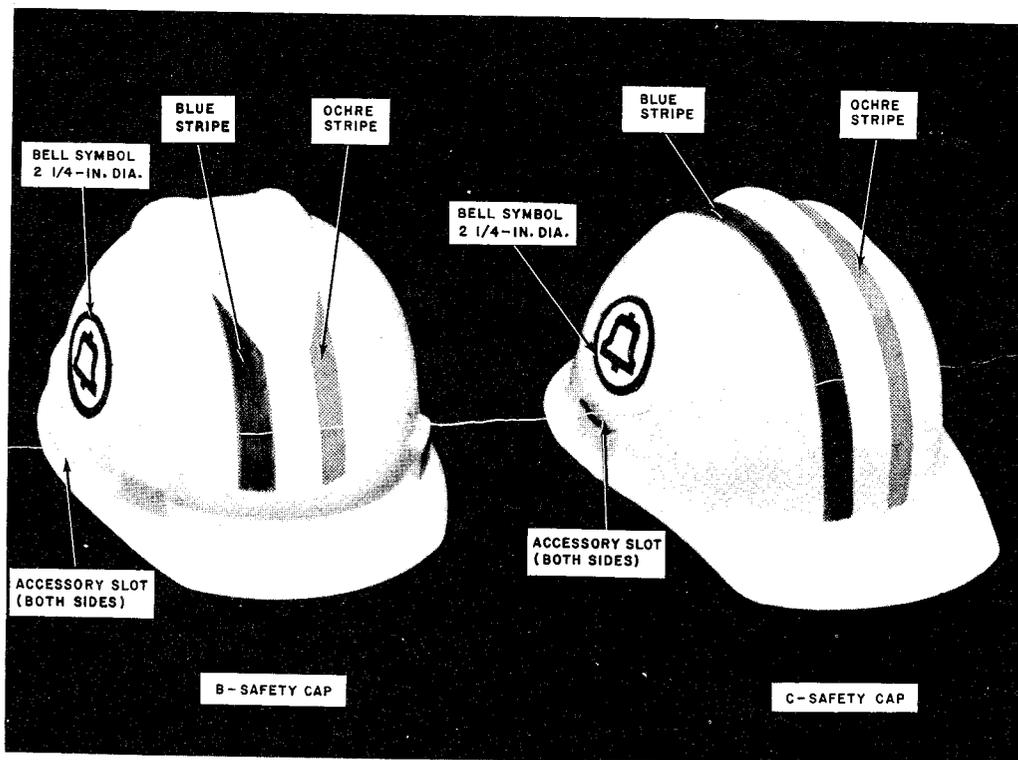


Fig. 1—B and C Safety Caps

4.06 When chin straps or liners are used, the straps shall not be drawn over the brim or peak as this would reduce the electrical protection provided by the headgear.

5. REPLACEMENT

5.01 —A field test procedure (the Flex Test) has been standardized which permits the decision to retain or replace headgear to be made on a local basis. This may result in headgear being retained considerably longer than the previously recommended 4 years in some areas and in others slightly less, depending on the severity of exposure to ultraviolet light.

5.02 The Flex Test will determine if the physical properties of a helmet have degraded to a point where replacement is necessary. The test should be made at least semiannually and when the helmet is at

room temperature.

5.03 The Flex Test is performed in the field as follows:

- (a) Grasp the helmet at the brim and compress inwards from the sides about 1 inch with both hands and release quickly without dropping the helmet.
- (b) The helmet should spring back exhibiting some elasticity.
- (c) Repeat the test on a new helmet.
- (d) If the test helmet does not exhibit the same elasticity as the new helmet, or if cracks appear in the test due to embrittlement, replace the test helmet. ←

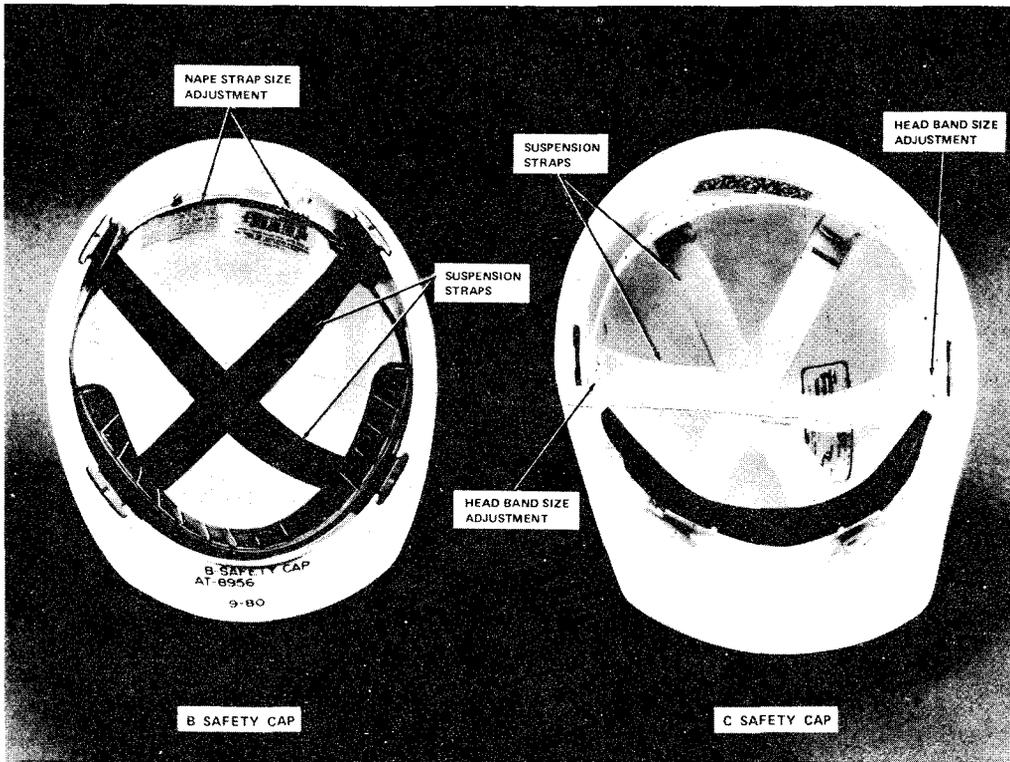


Fig. 2—B and C safety Caps - Suspension

5.04 To determine the age of safety headgear a date may appear as a code stamped in the roof of the headgear or under the forward edge of the visor. Examples of some of the codes used by various manufacturers are shown in Fig. 3 through 5.

5.05 Example A (Fig. 3) shows the year numerically and horizontal; the quarters are represented alphabetically and vertical.

5.06 Example B (Fig. 4) shows a trisectioned circle with each section representing a year. Each trisection, or year, is divided into six sections and six sections representing 12 months. The six outside sections represent January through June and the six inside sections represent July through December.

5.07 Example C (Fig. 5) shows the year embossed in the center of the circle with the months numerically shown clockwise outside the circle.

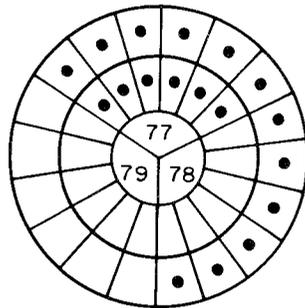
IN THE ROOF OF THE CAP:

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2
A	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
B	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
C	•	•	•	•	•	•				
D	•	•	•	•	•	•				

ALL LETTERING, LINES AND DOTS ARE RAISED
DATE SHOWN IS 2079

Fig. 3—Date Code (Example A)

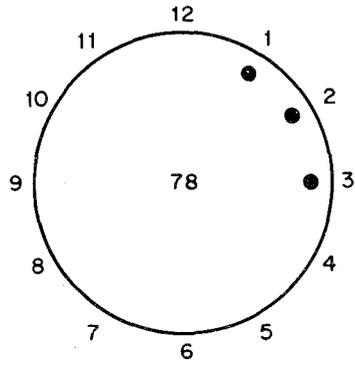
UNDER THE VISOR:



LETTERING, CIRCLES AND DOTS ARE RAISED
DATE SHOWN IS JUNE, 1978

Fig. 4—Date Code (Example B)

UNDER THE VISOR



LETTERING, CIRCLES AND DOTS ARE RAISED
DATE SHOWN IS MARCH, 1978

Fig. 5—Date Code (Example C)