

UTILIZING IMPACT STANDARDS

The American National Standards Institute and European Union have developed different standards for testing and rating PPE against certain hazards. The United States uses the ANSI/ISEA standard while Europe uses the EN standard. Recent updates to ANSI and EN388 testing methods significantly improve the way gloves are tested and rated, regulating the claims made by impact resistant gloves in the marketplace and enabling you to make educated decisions about the protection you provide to your workers.



THE CE EN388 : 2016 STANDARD

According to EN388, attributes such as abrasion resistance, cut resistance, tear resistance, puncture resistance and impact protection are tested and rated. The performance ratings for each test are represented by four numbers and two letters under the EN388 symbol. The EN388 Standard is intended to be used in conjunction with EN420:2003 + A1:2009 which is designed to ensure that the gloves themselves do not cause harm to the wearer and are comfortable.

4544FP



IMPACT

This test is new to the EN 388:2016 standard and is optional. It should only be included for gloves that claim specific impact resistant properties. The new impact test is based on the EN13594:2015 Standard for Protective gloves for motorcycle riders.

Only the knuckle area is tested and will receive a Pass or Fail.

ANSI/ISEA 138 - 2019

Introduced in 2019, establishes "minimum performance, classification, and labeling requirements for hand protection products designed to protect the knuckles and fingers from impact forces, while performing occupational tasks." There are three performance levels which will offer numerical representation for the impact protection the glove provides. The rating of the glove will reflect the lowest performance level recorded across multiple tests. Level one will be the lowest rating for impact protection, and level three will be the highest. Testing calls for specific preparation and conditioning of the glove, with the highest mean transmitted force (lowest rating) between the tests recorded.

Meaning if the knuckle rating is two, but the fingers rating is one, the glove is assigned a one rating.

ANSI / ISEA 138



Peak Transmitted Force
≤ 9 kN

ANSI / ISEA 138



Peak Transmitted Force
≤ 6.5 kN

ANSI / ISEA 138



Peak Transmitted Force
≤ 4 kN

✗ Impact Location

| 25MM from tip

--- 50MM from tip

