

Choose the right safety footwear

Most workplaces have varying requirements for the provision of safety footwear, which is why we offer a comprehensive range within which you should be able to identify appropriate footwear to meet the needs of your workforce whatever the hazards identified in your risk assessment. Whilst protection is paramount it is recognised that with long wear periods, often in hostile conditions, wearer acceptance, design, brand and comfort are additional considerations. We therefore offer varying styles from executive shoes to heavy duty rigger boots, and leading brands such as Dr Martens, Caterpillar, U-Power & Dunlop alongside our increasingly popular and cost effective Tuf Revolution and Tuf ranges.

Slip Resistance

Slips, trips and falls are an ever present hazard within most workplaces and safety footwear can play it's part in preventing injury, by featuring slip resistant soles. For many years the test of choice for slip resistance has been SATRA's TM144 standard which evaluates the performance of the sole unit on a water wet quarry tile. Well established styles of footwear are likely to have been tested to TM144 and will be identified as such by the TM144 icon. However with regard to new styles or footwear undergoing periodic re-testing the recently established EN ISO 13287 with it's progressive SRA, SRB and SRC ratings has become more widely used. Details of the EN ISO 13287 testing requirements are shown in the table below:

Maintenance

As with all footwear it is essential that, to achieve optimum performance of the properties built in to the safety footwear at time of manufacture, safety footwear is cleaned and maintained regularly.

Shoe Size Guide - This chart is for guidance only as some shoe sizes may vary according to region or design.

UK													
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
35	36	37	38	39	41	42	43	44	46	47	48	49	50
Continental													

Health And Safety Legislation

EN ISO 20345:2011 is the current standard to which new and recently certified footwear has to conform (Whilst stock rotates some safety footwear may have been tested to the previous standard). The standard to which the footwear conforms will be identified on the product information label within the footwear.

The standard requires the inclusion of a 200 joule toe cap for impact protection. In addition to the over arching requirements of the standards there are a number of progressive ratings which assist selection of footwear appropriate for varying workplace hazards, these are:

- SB – safety basic footwear meeting all the minimum requirements of the standard
- S1 – additionally featuring antistatic properties and fully enclosed and energy absorbing heel unit
- S2 – additionally featuring the use of water resistant leather
- S3 – additionally featuring cleated outsole and pierce resistant midsole
- S4 – rubber or polymeric waterproof footwear with 200 joule toe cap, antistatic properties and energy absorbing heel unit
- S5 – Additionally featuring cleated outsole and pierce resistant midsole

Additional protective features can be built into the footwear and are identified by the following suffixes:

- P – protection from upward penetration provided by a composite or steel midsole (not used in conjunction with S3 or S5)
- M – metatarsal impact protection
- C – conductive properties helping to prevent the build-up of static (but no protection against electric shock)
- A – antistatic properties to prevent the build-up of static and give limited protection against electric shock from nominal mains voltage
- HI – insulation against heat
- CI – insulation against cold
- E – energy absorption in heel unit
- WRU – water resistant uppers
- WR – waterproof membrane
- NM – Non Metallic
- HRO – resistance to hot contact up to 300°C

Safety Icons Key:

