

CE Marking Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment (PPE) are defined by the Regulation (Personal Protective Equipment Regulation 2016/425) as products intended to be worn or held by a person as protection against one or more hazards that may pose a threat to his health or safety.

Textiles, Leather or any material that are used for personal protective equipment (PPE) must comply with essential requirements before they are allowed to be used for protective gloves, protective clothing for the fire brigade, heat protection clothing, high-visibility warning clothing, weather and cold protective clothing etc.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) must comply with essential safety requirements and must bear the CE mark in accordance with the Personal Protective Equipment Regulation. The applicable requirements vary depending on the risks against which PPE is intended to protect the user, and are divided into three categories:

- Category I (includes only minimal risks)
- Category II (all other risks than stated in categories I and III)
- Category III (includes only the risks that may cause very serious consequences such as death or irreversible health damage)

Six steps of CE certification of Personal Protective Equipment:

- **Product classification:** Determine whether the product falls within the scope of the PPE Regulation and/or other CE regulations
- **Risk Assessment:** An analysis in order to identify the risks and essential health and safety requirements that fall within the scope of the PPE Regulation
- **Conformity procedure:** Assessment of requirements established in step 2 in accordance with Harmonized European standards
- **Technical Dossier:** Compilation or verification of the Technical Documentation.
- **EU Type examination:** Submit Technical Documentation to the Notified Body in order to obtain the EU-type examination certificate
- **EU declaration of conformity/CE marking:** Draw up the EU Declaration of Conformity and provide instructions for affixing the CE marking

At Hohenstein, we conduct tests in a neutral and competent manner in order to determine whether the products satisfy both internal quality standards and the requirements of regulation (EU) 2016/425 so that they can be sold as PPE.

Hohenstein services for a protective function:

- Appointed certification body for fire-resistant clothing for the participating countries (HuPF)
- Accredited and notified body comprising a testing laboratory and certification center for personal protective equipment in accordance with EU regulation 2016/425 (Notified Body No. 0555)
- Certification and monitored product tests of protective clothing: EU type examination certificate for PPE (CE certification label) and monitored product testing according to EU regulation 2016/425, Annex VII (Module C2) of category III products
- Fitness for use tests, acceptance analyses and quality monitoring
- Checking of textile UV protection/warning colour to ensure good day visibility in traffic
- Checking primary products for personal protective equipment
- Checking the construction and function parameters of textile fabrics and Leather
- Checking and assessing the design with regard to compliance with the protective function
- Implementing the flame treatment of protective clothing systems for fire fighters in cooperation with DuPont, Geneva (manikin test)