

**American National Standard
Occupational and Educational
Personal Eye and Face
Protection Devices**

Secretariat
International Safety Equipment Association

Approved May 28, 2015
American National Standards Institute, Inc.

American National Standard

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Foreword (This Foreword is not a part of ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2015)

This document is the latest edition of a standard for eye and face protection that dates back to 1922. Originally part of a government standard that also included respiratory and head protection, the standard first appeared under the Z87.1 designation in 1968, and has been revised five times since then in response to advances in technology, as well as the changing workplace environment.

ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2015 represents another milestone in this standard's evolution, building on the many years of work that have gone into prior revisions. The document continues to focus on product performance and harmonization with global standards in an effort to allow new and innovative designs responsive to workplace hazards, end-user needs and regulatory obligations.

Since the 2010 revision was a dramatic shift away from product configuration requirements and toward a hazard-based structure, much of the revised language in ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2015 reflects the effort to fine-tune this approach. Streamlined language for resolution testing provides clarity to test methods to ensure they can be accurately executed, and updated test patterns to complement the language. These patterns can be downloaded from ISEA's website at www.safetysite.org.

Other key updates address the emergence of new technologies that are challenging outdated design restrictions, or which past editions did not contemplate. This includes the acknowledgement of protectors known as "magnifiers" and "readers" that have lenses, or portions of lenses, that incorporate magnification properties. The 2015 revision also eliminates minimum thickness requirements for non-prescription protectors that pass the requirements for impact rated protectors, and eliminates the need to conduct drop-ball testing for a protector that is first tested to and meets the impact-rated requirements. Requirements for angular dependence of luminous transmittance for welding filters have been added to address visual effect that welders can find both alarming and distracting. Such requirements are consistent with criteria in similar global standards.

As the standard continues to focus on specific hazard protection, additional emphasis has been placed on enabling users to select protectors appropriate for the working environment, and presenting end-users with information to assist in the selection process. Examples of acceptable and unacceptable markings for protectors that meet the requirements of the standard are included. In addition, information related to conducting an assessment for potential eye and face hazards and protector use and selection considerations has been expanded.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard are welcome. They should be sent to the International Safety Equipment Association, 1901 N. Moore Street, Suite 808, Arlington, VA 22209, isea@safetysite.org.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Accredited Standards Committee on Safety Standards for Eye Protection, Z87. Committee approval of the standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, the Z87 Committee had the following members:

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American Society of Safety Engineers
American Welding Society

Individual Member
Individual Member
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International Staple, Nail and Tool Association

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The Laboratory Safety Institute

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Table of Contents

TOPIC	PAGE
Foreword	
1 Preface	1
2 Scope, Purpose, Application, and Interpretations	1
2.1 Scope.....	1
2.2 Purpose.....	1
2.3 Application.....	1
2.4 Interpretations	2
3 Definitions	2
4 Normative References.....	6
5 General Requirements.....	6
5.1 Optical Requirements	6
5.2 Physical Requirements.....	7
5.3 Markings	8
5.4 Other Requirements	8
5.5 Replaceable Lenses.....	10
5.6 Aftermarket Components and Accessories	10
6 Impact Protector Requirements.....	11
6.1 General.....	11
6.2 Impact Requirements	11
7 Optical Radiation Protector Requirements	12
7.1 Protectors with Clear Lenses	12
7.2 Protectors providing Filtration of Optical Radiation	13
7.3 Automatic Darkening Welding Filter Devices.....	13
8 Droplet and Splash, Dust, and Fine Dust Protector Requirements	17
8.1 Droplet and Splash Hazard	17
8.2 Dust Hazard	17
8.3 Fine Dust Hazard	17
9 Test Methods.....	17
9.1 Optical Quality Test.....	18
9.2 Transmittance Test.....	18
9.3 Haze Test	18
9.4 Refractive Power, Astigmatism and Resolving Power Tests.....	18
9.5 Prismatic Power Test	19
9.6 Drop Ball Test.....	19
9.7 Ignition Test.....	20
9.8 Corrosion Resistance Test.....	20
9.9 Light Tightness Test	20

9.10	Lateral Protection Test.....	21
9.11	High Mass Impact Test.....	21
9.12	High Velocity Impact Test.....	22
9.13	Penetration Test	23
9.14	Prescription Lenses Test	24
9.15	Switching Index Test	24
9.16	Angular Dependence of Luminous Transmittance Test for Automatic Welding Filter Devices.....	25
9.17	Droplet and Splash Test.....	25
9.18	Dust Test.....	27
9.19	Fine Dust Particle Test.....	27
10	Instructions, Use and Maintenance	28
10.1	General	28
10.2	Instructions.....	28
10.3	Inspections	28
10.4	Maintenance and Care	29
10.5	Training.....	29
Annexes		
Annex A	Samples for Testing (normative).....	30
Annex B	Reference Headforms (normative)	31
Annex C	Spectral Factor Tables (normative)	33
Annex D	Lateral (Side) Coverage Illustration (Medium Headform) (informative).....	37
Annex E	Test Apparatus (informative)	38
Annex F	Calibration of Test Telescope (informative)	42
Annex G	Illustrations to Aid in Refractive Power, Astigmatism and Resolving Power Testing (informative)	43
Annex H	Sources for Test Apparatus (informative)	44
Annex I	Resource Publications (informative)	45
Annex J	Eye and Face Selection Guide (informative).....	46
Annex K	Hazard Assessment and Protector Selection (informative)	50
Annex L	Examples of Protector Markings (informative).....	56
Tables		
Table 1	Tolerance on Refractive Power, Astigmatism and Resolving Power.....	6
Table 2	Tolerance on Prism and Prism Imbalance	7
Table 3	Marking Requirements	9
Table 4	Minimum Thickness Requirements for Prescription Lenses.....	10
Table 5	High Velocity Impact Testing	11
Table 6	Transmittance Requirements for Welding Filter Lenses.....	15
Table 7	Transmittance Requirements for Ultraviolet Filter Lenses	15
Table 8	Transmittance Requirements for Infrared Filter Lenses.....	16
Table 9	Transmittance Requirements for Visible Light Filter Lenses	16
Table 10	Transmittance Requirements for Special Purpose Filter Lenses	16
Table 11	Switching Index Requirements for Automatic Darkening Welding Filter Lenses	17
Table 12	Angular Dependence of Luminous Transmittance.....	17

American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Personal Eye and Face Protection Devices

1. Preface

This standard for personal eye and face protectors is, as far as possible, designed to be performance oriented.

Every effort should be made to eliminate eye and face hazards in occupational and educational settings. Protectors do not provide unlimited protection. In the occupational and educational environment, protectors are not substitutes for machine guards and other engineering controls. Protectors alone should not be relied on to provide complete protection against hazards, but should be used in conjunction with machine guards, engineering controls, and sound safety practices.

In 1992, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration began regulating occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens and, as a result, employers are required to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) including eye and face protection for employees exposed to these hazards. At the time of the publication of this standard, no standards existed for eye and face protection intended to provide protection from bloodborne pathogens. Nevertheless many employers have elected to provide their employees with PPE conforming to the requirements of ANSI/ISEA Z87.1. These products may or may not provide adequate protection against bloodborne pathogens. Extreme caution must be exercised in the selection and use of personal protective equipment in applications for which no performance requirements or standardized testing exist.

2. Scope, Purpose, Application, and Interpretations

2.1 Scope

This standard sets forth criteria related to the general requirements, testing, permanent marking, selection, care, and use of protectors to minimize the occurrence and severity or prevention of injuries from such hazards as impact, non-

ionizing radiation and liquid splash exposures in occupational and educational environments including, but not limited to, machinery operations, material welding and cutting, chemical handling, and assembly operations. Certain hazardous exposures are not covered in this standard. These include, but are not limited to: bloodborne pathogens, X-rays, high-energy particulate radiation, microwaves, radio-frequency radiation, lasers, masers, and sports and recreation.

2.2 Purpose

This standard provides minimum requirements for protectors including selection, use, and maintenance of these protectors as devices to minimize or prevent eye and face injuries.

2.3 Application

2.3.1 The requirements of this standard apply to protectors when first placed in service.

2.3.2 Protectors bearing the permanent marking Z87 shall meet all applicable requirements of this standard in its entirety. All components of eye and face protectors shall comply with the requirements of this standard. Accessories installed by the manufacturer shall not cause the protector to fail the requirements of this standard. Manufacturers of components, aftermarket components, accessories and complete protectors shall ensure that all required tests have been performed to demonstrate conformance.

2.3.3 Compliance with this standard cannot always be assured when components are replaced or accessories are added. End users should exercise extreme care in the selection and installation of components to ensure compliance with this standard.

2.3.4 Non-compliant components shall not be used with ANSI/ISEA Z87-compliant components.

2.3.5 The protector manufacturer shall provide test results to the purchaser upon request.

2.4 Interpretations

Requests for interpretations of this standard shall be in writing and addressed to the secretariat (isea@safetysafetyequipment.org) of this accredited standard committee.

3. Definitions

For purposes of this standard, the following definitions shall apply:

accessory. An item that is added to a complete device that may or may not affect the performance of that complete device.

aftermarket component. A component that may or may not be manufactured by the complete device manufacturer and is not supplied with the original complete device.

astigmatism. A condition in a lens of a protector in which there is a difference in refractive power in one meridian from that in another meridian.

automatic darkening welding filter lens. A filter lens that automatically switches from a light state to a dark state in response to a change of light intensity.

blue light transmittance T_B . Transmittance of optical radiation weighted by its ability to cause photochemical damage to the retina is defined as:

$$T_B = \frac{\int_{400}^{700} T(\lambda) B(\lambda) d\lambda}{\int_{400}^{700} B(\lambda) d\lambda}$$

where $B(\lambda)$ is the BlueLight Hazard Function defined in Table C4 of Annex C.

chin protector. That portion of a device that offers protection to a wearer's lower face, chin and neck.

complete device. A product with all its components in their configuration of intended use.

component. A functional part of a complete device that is addressed by the performance re-

quirements of this standard (e.g. lens, frame, crown).

cover lens. An expendable lens used to protect another lens from surface damage and that is not intended to contribute to user protection. It is not a safety plate.

crown. A component that offers protection to a wearer's forehead.

dark state. The lowest operating luminous transmittance of an automatic darkening filter lens.

diopter (D). A unit of measurement (plus or minus) used to express the power of a lens. It is expressed as the reciprocal of the focusing distance given in meters. The diopter is also used to express the curvature of surfacing tools and the refracting power of curved surfaces.

effective far-ultraviolet average transmittance

\bar{T} (EFUV). Transmittance of optical radiation with wavelengths from 200 to 315 nanometers weighted by its ability to damage the cornea. When $T(\lambda)$ is defined as the spectral transmittance of the filter at wavelength, \bar{T} (EFUV) is defined as:

$$\bar{T}(EFUV) = \frac{\int_{200}^{315} T(\lambda) W(\lambda) d\lambda}{\int_{200}^{315} W(\lambda) d\lambda}$$

where $W(\lambda)$ is the Spectral Weighting Factor given in Table C1 of Annex C.

faceshield. A protector intended to shield the wearer's face, or portions thereof from certain hazards, as indicated by the faceshield's markings.

filter lens. A lens that attenuates specific wavelengths of ultraviolet, visible, and/or infrared radiation.

fracture. A lens, frame, or lens housing or carrier cracks through its entire thickness to the inner surface into two or more separate pieces.