

Safety Hats - Description, Use, and Maintenance

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1. General

1.1 Purpose

This practice provides:

- A description of the GTE System Standard safety hat/cap.
- Recommended uses of the safety hat/cap.
- Ordering information.

1.2 Filing Instructions

File this practice in numerical order in your practices set. This practice supersedes Issue 1, December 1990.

1. General, continued

1.3 Reason for Reissuing

This practice is being reissued to provide:

- Additional information on safety hat deterioration.
- Information on how to field test for safety hat deterioration.

1.4 Supersedures

This practice supersedes the following local practices:

GTE Telephone Operations Practice	Title
075-675-100	Safety Hats - Description, Use, and Maintenance
075-675-100SW	Safety Hats - Description, Use, and Maintenance
075-675-900FL	Hat, Safety - Description and Use
075-675-900MI	Hat, Hard - (Class B) - Description, Care, Use
075-675-900SE	Hat, Safety - Description and Use
AD900.450CA	Head Protection Caps
075-675-100CA	Safety Hats - Description, Use and Maintenance

1.5 Copyright and Responsibility

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1.6 Disclaimer

This practice has been prepared for GTE Telephone Operations employees, customers, and end users' employees who operate and maintain the equipment engineered and installed by GTE. The information in this practice is subject to change and may not be suitable in all situations. GTE Telephone Operations acknowledges that a customer's special requirements or practices may take precedence over those supplied in this practice if a conflict develops during installation or ongoing operation. GTE Telephone Operations hereby disclaims any responsibility or liability for any consequential or inconsequential damages that may result from the use of this practice.

2. Safety Hat/Cap Description

2.1 Types

The following GTE System Standard safety hats/caps are available for order.

- Safety Hats.
- Safety Caps.

NOTE: Safety Hats and Safety Caps are available in orange or white with the GTE logo on the front.

2.2 Safety Hat/ Cap Uses

Safety Hats and Safety Caps protect workers from electrical shock and head injuries which could occur in certain job situations. Safety Hats and Safety Caps **must** meet the specifications for safety hats found in ANSI Z89.1-1986, Protective Headwear for Industrial Workers - Requirements, and have a Class B electrical rating. Class B safety hats are proof-tested at 20,000 volts phase-to-ground.

2.3 Safety Hat/Cap Construction

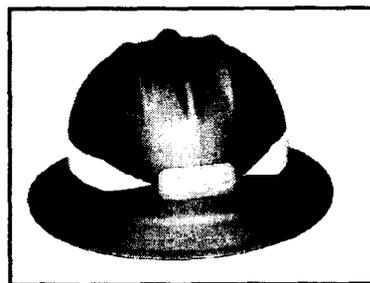
The Safety Hat/Cap is:

- Made from a molded, high-density polyethylene shell.
- Equipped with a replaceable, six-point dihedral, adjustable suspension.
- Available in white or orange.
- Equipped with the GTE logo on the front and a silver reflective stripe around the perimeter.

The following figures show the Safety Hat and Safety Cap.



Safety Cap



Safety Hat

2.4 Safety Hat/Cap Accessories

Accessories available for a Safety Hat/Cap are:

- A winter liner worn with the suspension over the liner.
- A chin strap for use in windy situations or other situations where the hat/cap could fall off the wearer's head.

2.5 When to Wear Safety Hats/Caps

Safety hats or Safety caps **must** be worn during operations which include, but are not limited to, the following situations.

- Performing aerial operations such as:
 - Installation.
 - Splicing.
 - Working on poles, ladders (on strand or poles), platforms, aerial lifts, or truck mounted ladders.
- There is the possibility of incurring a head injury from:
 - Falling objects.
 - Bumping your head.
 - Electrical contact.

2. Safety Hat/Cap Description, continued

2.5 When to Wear Safety Hats/Caps, continued

- Working with or in the vicinity of construction equipment such as:
 - Backhoes.
 - Derricks.
 - Booms.
 - Winches.
 - Take-up reels.
 - Earth boring, rod pushing, or missile machines.
 - Cable trailers.
 - Tractors.
 - Trenchers.
 - Cable plows.
 - Dump trucks.
 - Earth movers or graders.
 - Pole setting equipment.
- Working below any aerial operation.
- Performing aerial operations from the ground.
- Placing and/or removing poles.
- Entering, leaving, and working in manholes.
- Working in trenches, splicing pits, or other excavations which are five feet or greater in depth.
- In or near a building which is under construction or is being demolished.
- In an industrial establishment or on other premises where the wearing of head protection is mandatory.
- Working on storm or disaster restoration projects.
- Trimming trees or clearing brush.
- Directing or flagging traffic.
- Working in an area where Central Office ironwork and equipment is being placed or removed.
- Performing Central Office cabling operations.
- Handling material above shoulder height which represents an overhead hazard.
- Whenever there is exposure to an overhead hazard.
- Working in any situation designated by Company or local supervision as a situation requiring safety hats.

3. Maintenance and Ordering Information

3.1 Storage

Safety hats/caps must be stored where they will not be damaged by other tools. Use the seat safety hat holder if you are storing the safety hat/cap in an automobile.

NOTE: Do not store the safety hat/cap on the rear shelf of an automobile where it could become a hazardous projectile during sudden stops or accidents.

3.2 Cleaning

When washing the safety hat/cap, remove the suspension system from the crown and dip the crown in warm, soapy water. If necessary, scrub the crown with a cloth or soft brush to remove any embedded dirt. Remove the soap by rinsing the crown thoroughly in warm water and drip dry.

NOTE: The suspension system can be washed with soap and water. A germicidal spray (MC - 671043) can be used periodically to clean the suspension system of hair and body oils.

3.3 Inspection

If the safety hat/cap is subjected to a severe blow, it must be carefully inspected for signs of damage. If the safety hat becomes cracked, punctured, cut, gouged, or otherwise damaged, its effectiveness is reduced and it must be replaced.

NOTE: Periodically inspect the plastic clips holding the suspension band in place. A defective clip decreases the shock absorbing capability of the safety hat/cap.

3. Maintenance and Ordering Information, continued

3.4 Safety Hat Deterioration

Although safety hat manufacturers add an ultraviolet inhibitor to the polyethylene materials in the safety hat shells, the hats are still susceptible to damage from:

- Ultraviolet light in sunlight.
- Extremes in temperature.
- Chemicals.

NOTE: To prevent ultraviolet light deterioration, do not:

- **Carry safety hats on the rear window shelf of an automobile.**

OR

- **Store safety hats in direct sunlight.**

Therefore, employees who work in environments with high degrees of exposure to sunlight, heat, cold, or chemicals will have to replace their safety hats more frequently than employees in other environments.

Deterioration of polyethylene material may be apparent when the shell:

- **Becomes:**
 - Stiff.
 - Brittle.
 - Faded.
 - Dull in color.
- Exhibits a chalky appearance.
- Flakes.
- Separates into layers.
- Shows fine cracks.

CAUTION: Replace a safety hat immediately at the first sign of any of these conditions.

3. Maintenance and Ordering Information, continued

3.5 Field Test for Safety Hat Deterioration

The following is a test an employee or supervisor can perform to determine if a polyethylene shell has deteriorated:

Step	Determining if a Polyethylene Shell has Deteriorated
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1	Compress the shell inward from the sides about 1" with both hands.
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2	Release the pressure without dropping the shell. The shell should quickly return to its original shape, exhibiting a degree of elasticity.
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3	Compare the elasticity of the shell being tested with that of a new shell.
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4	Replace the hat being tested if it: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Does not exhibit a similar degree of elasticity to that of a new shell. OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cracks because it is brittle.
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3.6 Reassigning Safety Hats/ Caps

When a safety hat/cap is reassigned to a different employee, the suspension band must be replaced.

3.7 Altering the Safety Hat/ Cap

Do not paint, drill, or otherwise alter the safety hat/cap. This decreases the hat's structural integrity and/or electrical protection.

3. Maintenance and Ordering Information, continued

3.8 Ordering Information Table

Use the following table of information to order safety hats and safety hat accessories.

Item	Material Code	Product Number	Color/Size
Safety Hat, Ratchet Band	574411	303ROR GTE	Orange
Safety Hat, Ratchet Band	574412	303RWT GTE	White
Safety Cap, Ratchet Band	574413	302ROR GTE	Orange
Safety Cap, Ratchet Band	574414	302RWT GTE	White
Safety Cap, Ratchet Band (with slots)	574415	3000RWT GTE	White
Safety Cap, Ratchet Band (with slots)	574416	3000ROR GTE	Orange
Suspension Band (Replacement)	574698	ESDMY	
Safety Hat	575012	3030RT GTE	Orange
Safety Hat	575013	303WT GTE	White
Safety Cap	575014	3020R GTE	Orange

(continued)

3. Maintenance and Ordering Information, continued

3.8
Ordering
Information
Table,
continued

Item	Material Code	Product Number	Color/Size
Safety Cap	575015	302WT GTE	White
Safety Cap (with slots)	575016	3000WT GTE	White
Safety Cap (with slots)	575027	30000R GTE	Orange
Hat Holder	575207	SIPSTRSM	
Winter Liner	575914	UD33LRG	Large
Winter Liner	575915	UD33MED	Medium
Sun Visor (for Safety Hat)	576584	SS28	Green
Chin Strap	578370	ES-42	
Suspension Band (Replacement) (Ratchet)	579438	ESRT-SL	
Germicidal Spray	671043	MAFIX222	24 oz.