

INFORMATIVE NOTICE - CHOP

ATTENTION: PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THIS INFORMATION NOTICE BEFORE USING OUR FOOTWEAR

Cutproof boots for foot protection when using chain saws are items of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). Our *Chop* boots are **Category III PPE** and have been awarded with Certification by the Notified Body RICOTEST N. 0498, Via Tione 9 – 37010 Pastrengo VR – Italy (HYPERLINK "http://www.ricotest.com" www.ricotest.com) and are subject of the conformity assessment procedure based on internal production control plus supervised product checks at random intervals (module C2) under the supervision by the Notified Body RICOTEST (n°0498).

MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURE: all the materials used, whether natural or synthetic, as well as the manufacturing techniques applied, have been selected to meet the requirements of the above mentioned European Directive in terms of safety, ergonomics, comfort, solidity and non-toxicity.

IDENTIFYING AND SELECTING THE APPROPRIATE MODEL: employers are responsible by law for the suitability of the PPE used for the type of risk present in the workplace and the respective ambient conditions. Before use, make sure that the specifications of the chosen model correspond to the specific requirements for use.

PROTECTION CLASSES AND RISK LEVELS: Our safety footwear is designed and manufactured to ensure suitable protection, of the highest possible level, for the type of risk in question. All our footwear have been type-tested based on the methods of EN ISO 20344:2011; (class I: footwear in leather and other materials, excluding footwear made throughout in rubber or polymers) . Our footwear also complies with the basic requirements of one of the following Standards:

EN ISO 20345:2011 - Specifications for safety footwear for general use - in which safety footwear for professional use is defined as footwear with characteristics developed to protect the wearer against injuries that may derive from accidents in the work environment and applications for which the footwear was designed, equipped with toe-caps designed to protect against impact (200J) and against compression (15kN).

As well as the compulsory basic requirements (SB), envisaged by the Standard, other characteristics may be necessary. Additional requirements for special applications are marked with Symbols (see Table I) and/or Classes (Table II). The classes are the most common combinations of basic and additional requirements.

TABLE I:

Symbol	Requirements/Specifications	Required performance
P	Penetration resistance	≥ 1100 N
E	Energy absorption of seat region	≥20 J
A	Antistatic footwear	between 0.1 and 1000 MΩE
C	Conductive footwear	< 0.1MΩ
WRU	Water penetration and absorption of upper	≥ 60 min.
CI	Cold insulation of sole complex	Test at - 17° C
HI	Heat insulation of sole complex	Test at 150° C
HRO	Resistance to hot contact of the outsole	Test at 300° C
FO	Resistance of sole to fuel oil	≤ 12 %
WR	Water-resistant footwear	≤ 3 cm ²
M	Metatarsal protection	≥ 40 mm (mis.41/42)
AN	Ankle protection	≤ 10 kN
CR	Cut resistance of the upper	≥ 2,5 (index)

SLIPPING RESISTANCE :

SRA	slipping resistance – surface: ceramic – lubricant: detergent solution	Flat heel	min. 0,28 min. 0,32
SRB	slipping resistance – surface: smooth steel – lubricant: glycerol	Flat heel	min. 0,13 min. 0,18
SRC	SRA + SRB		

Maximum grip of the sole is generally achieved after new footwear has been in use for a certain amount of time (similar to the case of new tyres on a car), in order to remove traces of silicone and loose parts, and any other irregularities of a physical and/or chemical nature on the surface.

In addition, slip resistance may change depending on the degree of wear of the sole; compliance with specifications does not in any case guarantee total slip resistance under all types of conditions.

TABLE II:

SB	Basic Safety with safety toe cap “200J”
S1	SB + Closed heel area and E, A, FO
S2	S1 + WRU
S3	S2 + P and soles with tread

MARKING OF OUR PRODUCTS :

FITWELL 4.0	Name of the manufacturer
CE 0498	CE marking on PPE indicates compliance with all the requirements of Regulation + n. of the National Body responsible for the annual inspection of the PPE
40517/1 CHOP	Designation of footwear
EN ISO 20345:2011 EN ISO 17249:2013	Reference harmonised technical standard
SB – P – E – WRU – WR – SRA - FO	Safety performance symbols
42 6 20 (example)	Size, month and year of production

The interpretation of the symbols and categories shown on the marking of our products makes it possible to choose the PPE best suited to the type of risk present, as per the specifications attached:

IMPACT AND/OR CRUSHING OF THE TOETIPS: all the footwear certified with EN ISO EN 20345

IMPACT SHOCK OF THE HEEL AGAINST THE GROUND: footwear with Markings SB-E, S1-S2-S3, OB-E, O1-O2-O3

SLIPPING: all footwear

COLD: footwear with marking CI

HEAT: footwear with marking HI

WATER: footwear with marking WRU or WR (hydro repellent upper) or WR (boots water resistant)

HOT CONTACT OF THE OUTSOLE: marking HRO

STATIC ELECTRICITY CHARGES: footwear marked A, S1-S2-S3

ANKLE BONE IMPACT: AN

PERFORATION RESISTANCE OF SOLE: footwear with marking SB-P, S1-P, S3. Perforation resistance was tested in the laboratory using a conical truncated nail with a diameter of 4,5 mm and a force of 1100 N (about 112kg). Greater forces or nails with a smaller diameter increase the risk of perforation. In such circumstances it is better to consider alternative prevention measures.

Two types of antiperforation inserts are currently available: metallic and non-metallic. Both meet the minimum requirements for the puncture resistance of the standard marked on the shoe, but each has different advantages or disadvantages, including the following:

Metal insert: the risk is less influenced by the shape of the piercing object (eg diameter, geometry, sharpening) but, due to the construction limits of the shoe, it does not cover the entire lower area of the shoe itself.

Non-metallic insert: it can be lighter, more flexible and provide a greater coverage area, compared to the metal insert, but the puncture resistance can vary more depending on the shape of the piercing object (eg diameter, geometry, sharpening).

The choice must be based on the assessment of the risk linked to real working conditions.

For more information on the type of anti-puncture insert in your footwear contact the manufacturer or supplier mentioned in these instructions.

HYDROCARBONS: (FO, S1, S2, S3) Other risks according to the specific additional symbol marked.

Our footwear is not suitable for protecting against risks not indicated in this Information Notice.

RECOMMENDED USES: lumberjacks, forest rangers, farmers ecc..

PRELIMINARY CHECKS AND USE: safety footwear meets the relevant safety specifications only if worn properly and in perfect condition. Before use visually inspect to ensure perfect condition and try the footwear on. If it is not in sound condition and shows visible signs of damage such as broken stitching, excessive wear on the sole, breaks or soiling, replace it.

USE AND MAINTENANCE: for a correct use of your footwear:

- select the correct model according to the specific requirements of the work place and the respective ambient/atmospheric conditions;
- choose the right size, preferably by trying the footwear on;
- when not in use, keep the footwear in a dry, clean, ventilated place;
- check that the footwear is in good condition before each use;
- clean your footwear regularly with brushes, shop-cloths, rags etc.; cleaning intervals depend on the conditions in the work place;
- periodically treat the upper with suitable polish – grease, wax or silicone based, etc.;
- do not use aggressive products such as petrol, acids and solvents, which may adversely affect the quality, safety and durability of the PPE;
- do not dry your footwear next to or in direct contact with heaters, radiators and other sources of heat;
- changes or modifications in environmental conditions (for example extreme temperatures or humidity) can reduce the performance of the footwear in a significant way.

STORAGE: to prevent the risk of deterioration, safety footwear must be carry and stored in its original pack, in a dry place, not too hot. New footwear, if taken from the original, undamaged pack, can generally be considered to be suitable for use. In recommended storage conditions, the footwear retains its suitability for use for a long time, so it is impracticable to indicate a “use by” (= expiration) date. If stored in normal conditions (light, temperature and relative humidity), obsolescence, starting from the date of manufacture of a shoe, is generally estimated in:

10 years for shoes with leather, rubber and thermoplastic materials (such as SEBS, etc.) and EVA

5 years for shoes that include PVC

3 years for shoes that include PU and TPU

REMOVABLE INSOLE: If the safety footwear is equipped with a removable insole, the certified ergonomic and protective functions refer to the footwear complete with its insole. Always use the footwear with its insole in place! Replace the insole only with an equivalent model from the original supplier. Safety footwear without removable insoles must be used without insole, because the introduction of an insole could adversely affect the protective functions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SAFETY SHOES WITH RESISTANCE TO CUT SAW FROM CHAIN

Complying with the requirements of the EN ISO 17249:2013



LEVEL 3

WARNINGS : For safety footwear with protection against sawing by hand chain saw, there are 3 performance levels according to the speed of the saw used

LEVEL 1: resistance with saw speed of 20 meters per second

LEVEL 2: resistance with saw speed of 24 meters per second

LEVEL 3: resistance with saw speed of 28 meters per second

No personal protective equipment can guarantee 100% protection against portable saw-cuts. The resistance to cutting from a portable chain saw is tested under laboratory conditions on the front parts of the shoe (area of the tongue and the tip); however, it is possible for cutting injuries to occur in the areas mentioned. However, experience has shown that it is possible to design equipment that offers a degree of protection. Several functional principles that can be used to provide protection include:

- sliding of the chain to the contact, in such a way that it can not cut the material;
- accumulation of fibers which, once they enter the chain's gears, cause them to stop;
- slowing down the chain by means of fibers with high shear strength capable of absorbing the kinetic energy, thus reducing the speed of the chain.

More than one principle is often applied. It is recommended to choose the shoe according to the speed of the chain saw.

The choice of PPE must be such as to guarantee the overlap of the protective areas of footwear and trousers.

Inspection of the footwear by the user

A.1 – General notions: the following list and the relative drawings can help the user to inspect the state of the footwear.

A.2 – Parameters for the inspection of the state of the footwear: cutproof boots for foot protection when using chain saw must be checked / inspected at regular intervals, or at least before each use, and must be changed when any of the following signs of wear is identified. Some of these parameters may vary depending on the type of footwear and materials used;

- beginning of pronounced and deep abrasions / cuts in the middle part of the upper (Fig. a);
- strong abrasion of the upper, especially in the toe-caps area (Fig. b);
- cut or damaged seams caused by the contact for example with the chain saw (Fig. c);
- the sole has splits/cuts longer than 10 mm and deeper than 3 mm (Fig.d);
- detachment of the upper from the sole greater than 10 mm-15mm in length and 5 mm in width (depth);
- height of the reliefs in the flex area of less than 1,5 mm (Fig. e);
- original insole (in case there is one): it must not show pronounced deformations or breakage;
- it is advisable to manually check the inside of the shoe from time to time to check for any destruction of the lining or the presence of sharp edges of the toe-caps that can cause injuries (Fig.f);
- the locking system must work well (hinges, laces, velcros);
- the period of obsolescence must not be exceeded

