



Designation: F3050 – 17

Standard Guide for Conformity Assessment of Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F3050; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide describes options for conformity assessment (CA) requirements relating to personal protective clothing and equipment (hereafter referred to as “PPE”). This guidance can optionally be used to define conformity assessment requirements in a PPE specification standard or in a companion ASTM conformity assessment Standard Practice document² associated with the PPE specification standard. It is understood that the former approach is not consistent with ISO Directive, Part 2, Section 6.7.

1.2 This guide is not intended to require additional conformity assessment requirements to any PPE specification standard or to the integral components of the PPE.

1.3 This guide defines conformity assessment principles and requirement options consistent with U.S. HHS NIOSH National Framework for Personal Protective Equipment – Conformity Assessment Infrastructure as a means to manage the risks to wearers to defined hazards from nonconforming PPE.

1.4 This guide identifies potential hazard and risk assessment outcomes for which a conformity assessment scheme (commonly referred to as a “program”) can be developed to manage assessed risks.

1.5 It is not the intent of this guide to prescribe any particular model of conformity assessment requirements for PPE or its integral components.

1.6 The requirements and activities in a given conformity assessment scheme should be determined by a conformity assessment scheme owner or can be defined by the PPE specification standard writers, and should be based, at a minimum, on the criteria contained in Section 6 of this guide.

1.7 This guide is not intended to supersede any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F23 on Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F23.50 on Certification and PPE Interoperability.

Current edition approved March 1, 2017. Published March 2017. Originally approved in 2017. DOI: 10.1520/F3050-17.

² Practice F2962 establishes the conformity assessment requirements for Specification F2669. This is an example for having conformity assessment requirements in a PPE practice document related to a PPE specification standard.

1.8 This guide offers an organized collection of information or a series of options and does not recommend a specific course of action. This document cannot replace education or experience and should be used in conjunction with professional judgment. Not all aspects of this guide may be applicable in all PPE circumstances. This ASTM guide is not intended to represent or replace the standard of care by which the adequacy of a given professional service must be judged, nor should this document be applied without consideration of a project’s many unique aspects. The word “standard” in the title of this document means only that the document has been approved through the ASTM consensus process.

1.9 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³

D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles

F1494 Terminology Relating to Protective Clothing

F2669 Performance Specification for Protective Clothing Worn by Operators Applying Pesticides

F2962 Practice for Conformity Assessment of Protective Clothing Worn by Operators Applying Pesticides

2.2 Federal Regulations:⁴

CFR Title 21, Part 7, Subpart C Recall Procedures

2.3 ISO Standards:⁵

ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems – Requirements

ISO/IEC 17000:2004 Conformity Assessment – Vocabulary and General Principles

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard’s Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

⁴ Available from U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Washington, DC 20401-0001, <http://www.access.gpo.gov>.

⁵ Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), ISO Central Secretariat, BIBC II, Chemin de Blandonnet 8, CP 401, 1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland, <http://www.iso.org>.