

# Life Span

There is a lot of confusion as to what is considered to be an acceptable shelf and working life for Industrial Safety Helmets.

Unfortunately there can be no hard and fast rules concerning this.

There is no requirement under the European Standard for a test on shelf or working life of industrial safety helmets. Indeed, given the varied storage conditions and treatment the products receive in the field, it would be difficult, if not impossible to devise such a test.

On the question of shelf life it can only be stated that head protection that has been stored in reasonable conditions (i.e. not exposed to extremes of temperature, moisture or light) will not deteriorate. However if a customer were to have a large quantity in stock that they were concerned about the performance of the items then we would be willing to test a number of samples to reassure the customer. If you would like to take advantage of this service please contact our Technical Service Department on 01993 824000 for details.

Life in the field is a far more difficult subject to address. Head protection is, in general, treated with a lack of care, being thrown or dropped to the ground, used as a receptacle for various items, or carried on the rear window shelf of a vehicle. None of these actions are conducive to continued performance.

The vital duty of the wearer is a regular visual inspection, ideally daily before use. Any helmet that is showing deep abrasions or scuffing to the hard shell of the helmet should be replaced. Likewise any cracks or damage to any part of the harness should also result in replacement.

It is however, unlikely that given the treatment that most head protection receives that it would be offering adequate protection after 2 to 3 years general usage.

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**INDUSTRIAL SAFETY HELMETS**