

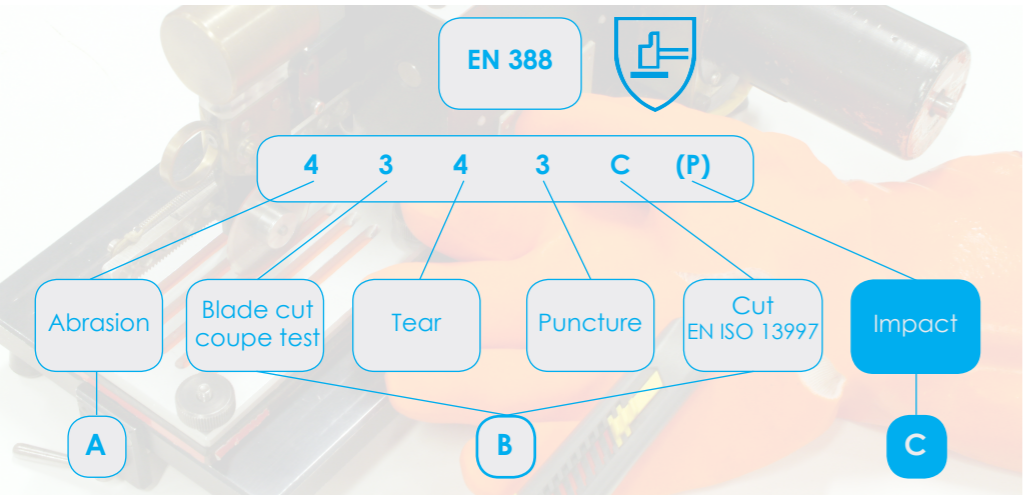


Novelties of the EN388 : 2016 Standard

Personal Protective Equipment
PROTECTIVE GLOVES COMMISSION

The 2016 version of the EN388 European Standard is now applicable. What does it change and what are the consequences in terms of glove's certification and making gloves available on the market ?

1. The information given with the pictogram is amended



A. ABRASION RESISTANCE

Changes

The test is performed using a more reliable abrasive paper.

Consequences

The test method and expression of results remain unchanged.

But this paper is slightly more abrasive than the previous one that was used. Some gloves could achieve a lower performance level, although their quality remains as good as before.

B. CUT RESISTANCE

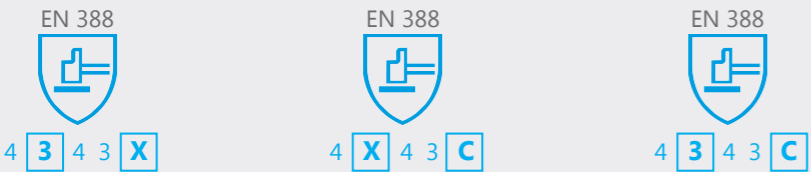
Changes

A new test has to be performed if the usual test (Coupe-test) is found not to be reliable. This applies to high cut resistant gloves which dull the blade during the cut test, thus providing wrong results.

Case 1

In the regular case, for all gloves that do not dull the Coupe-test blade, and for which less than 60 cycles are needed to cut the sample, the manufacturer may either perform the Coupe-test, the EN ISO 13997 test or both tests.

Examples for case 1



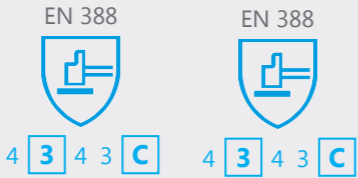
Case 2

In case of blade dulling, the Coupe-test is not reliable. In such case, the EN ISO 13997 test method must be performed as the reference test method and the performance letter is indicated. The manufacturer decides whether he wants to provide the Coupe-test performance level on a voluntary basis.

If the manufacturer marks the Coupe-Test level, the user notice shall indicate the following:

- The Coup-test results are only indicative
- The EN ISO 13997 test results provide the reference performance level

Possible markings as examples for Case 2



Note: the impact test is not claimed in these examples.

Consequences

The information given on cut resistance of the gloves is different, although the gloves remain the same in quality.



C. IMPACT RESISTANCE

Changes

This new test enables to claim protection against impacts.

The test shall be performed according to the EN 13594 standard (standard on protective gloves for motorcycle riders)

The glove must reduce the effect of impact on the hand. Thus the requirement is that a 2.5kg mass with a 5 Joules energy falling on the glove shall transmit a force that does not exceed 7kN.

Consequences

Provided the test is performed and the requirement is achieved, the letter P may be affixed in last position to the series of performance levels.

The information leaflet from the manufacturer must also indicate:

- The parts of the gloves that are effectively concerned by this protection
- A warning that this protection does not apply to the fingers

If the test is not claimed or if the performance level is not passed, no letter P may appear with the pictogram.

2. Reminding the tests and performance levels

Performance level (value : more or equal to)					
Test	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Niveau 5
Abrasion resistance (number of cycles)	100	500	2 000	8 000	-
Cut resistance Cup test (index)	1,2	2,5	5,0	10,0	20,0
Tear resistance (Newton)	10	25	50	75	-
Puncture resistance (Newton)	20	60	100	150	-

Performance levels	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D	Level E	Level F
Cut resistance EN ISO 13997 (Newton)	2	5	10	15	22	30

Performance	- (no letter)		P		
Impact resistance	Fail or not claimed		Pass		

0 : lower than level 1
X : test not performed or not applicable

3. How shall we apply the revised EN 388:2016 ?

As soon as this revised standard is published by the EU OJ (Official Journal of the European Union), it shall be used to certify any new product.

For existing products, it is not necessary to rush to have them certified again. It is though reminded that the new 2016/425 Regulation requires any certification with the following considerations:

- PPE manufactured and placed on the European market before April 21, 2019 according to the Directive, may continue be sold on the market after this date. Their CE certificate will remain valid until April 21, 2023, or until their CE certificate expire, if an expiry date is given on the CE certificate.
 - PPE manufactured after April 21, 2019 shall comply with the Regulation. Compliance may be based on the CE certificate according to the Directive but it will need renewal, also as per the newest EN 388 standard, at the latest by April 21, 2023 if it does not have an expiry date, or otherwise at the latest once the former certificate has expired.
- Moreover, it is recommended to update the certification if the CE-certificate is older than 5 years, in order to prevent difficulties with state organizations such as the customs services.

4. If you need more information :

The EN 388 : 2016 is available to be bought through the Standardization Body of your country eg. AFNOR for France : www.boutique.afnor.org/



Syndicat national des acteurs du marché
de la prévention et de la protection

21 rue Leblanc - 75015 PARIS
Tél. : 01 79 97 75 10 - Fax : 01 79 97 75 15
info@synamap.fr - www.synamap.fr