

No. R. 1078

19 November 2010

**NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS ACT
(Act 5 of 2008)**

**PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF A NEW COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION
FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT – SAFETY FOOTWEAR
(VC 9002)**

It is hereby made known under section 13(4) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, (Act 5 of 2008), that the Minister of Trade and Industry, on the recommendation of the NRCS Board, intends to introduce a new compulsory specification for *Personal Protective Equipment – Safety Footwear* as set out in the attached Schedule.

Any person, who wishes to comment on the intention of the Minister to thus introduce the Compulsory Specification concerned, may submit their comments, in writing, to the Chief Executive Officer, National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications, Private Bag X25, Brooklyn, 0075, on or before the date two (2) months after the publication of this notice.



**Dr Rob Davies, MP
Minister of Trade and Industry**

SCHEDULE

VC 9002

PROPOSED COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT – SAFETY FOOTWEAR

1. SCOPE

This compulsory specification covers the safety requirements for safety footwear

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 For the purposes of this compulsory specification, the definitions in SANS 20345: *“Personal protective equipment – Safety Footwear”* shall apply.

2.2 In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

2.2.1 **applicant:** a manufacturer or importer applying for approval of safety footwear. The manufacturer or importer shall be an existing legal entity within the Republic of South Africa.

2.2.2 **approval:** confirmation by the NRCS that a particular safety footwear type satisfies the requirements of this Compulsory Specification.

2.2.3 **NRCS:** the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications as established by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008)

2.2.4 **safety footwear type:** a category of safety footwear that does not differ in essential aspects such as:

- (a) the trade name or mark, or
- (b) the shape, materials, dimensions, manufacturing processes or methods of assembly. A safety footwear type may include a range of sizes, provided that the dimensions of each size in the range is at least equal to that in the sample which, when subjected to the tests, satisfied the requirements of this compulsory specification.

3. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Safety footwear shall comply with the following clauses of SANS 20345:

- (a) Clause 5: "Basic requirements for safety footwear"
- (b) Clause 7: "Marking"
- (c) Clause 8: "Information to be supplied"

3.2 Safety footwear for special applications shall be appropriately marked and comply with the appropriate additional requirements in clause 6, "Additional requirements of safety footwear", of SANS 20345.

3.3 The following requirements of SANS 20345 do not apply to this compulsory specification:

- (a) Annex A: Slip resistance requirement
- (b) Clause 8.1(b): Information on a notified body involved in type examination.

3.4 The applicant shall ensure that every type of safety footwear has been approved by the NRCS before import, sale or supply, in accordance with the requirements of Annex AA of this compulsory specification.

3.5 The applicant shall inform the NRCS of any change in the design or components affecting any mandatory requirement of this compulsory specification. In the event of such change/s the NRCS may, at its discretion, demand the submission of fresh evidence of conformity or a new application for approval.

3.6 The NRCS approval number shall appear prominently on all safety footwear or its smallest unit of packaging in the following format:

"NRCS Approval XXXXX."

4. CONFORMITY TO REFERENCED STANDARDS

4.1 For the purposes of this compulsory specification, a new edition of a referenced standard shall become effective six months from the date of publication as a South African National Standard.

4.2 When a new edition of a referenced standard is published, products originally approved in accordance with the previous edition of that standard may have their approval extended for up to two years from the effective date of the new standard, subject to the requirements of Annex AA, unless declared otherwise by the Minister.

ANNEX AA - APPROVAL OF SAFETY FOOTWEAR

AA.1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

The applicant shall apply to the NRCS for approval of every safety footwear type. The application shall be accompanied by the following:

AA.1.1 Information to the satisfaction of the NRCS, including sufficient detail to permit the identification of and to distinguish all component parts and materials of a particular safety footwear type. This may include, but is not limited to, dimensioned drawings of parts or assemblies, technical specifications and data sheets;

AA.1.2 Details of the manufacturing plant/s where the safety footwear is produced;

AA.1.3 Evidence of conformity, including test reports issued less than 36 months before the date of submission to the NRCS, by a conformity assessment body recognized in terms of the NRCS's Conformity Assessment Policy, to prove compliance with all the relevant requirements of this compulsory specification;

AA.1.4 One sample of each safety footwear type, including all accessories supplied with the safety footwear type, whether fitted or not, in the packaging in which it is to be supplied;

AA.1.5 Additional samples at the request of the NRCS;

AA.1.6 The intended position of the approval number referred to in clause 3.6 of this compulsory specification;

AA.1.7 Information for users supplied with the safety footwear type, including instructions for use;

AA.1.8 Information to the satisfaction of the NRCS regarding the measures taken by the applicant to ensure ongoing conformity of the safety footwear; and

AA.1.9 Any reasonable additional information as may be requested by the NRCS.

AA.2 APPROVAL

AA.2.1 The NRCS shall assess the evidence of conformity supplied by the applicant and shall decide to grant approval or not, at its sole discretion.

AA.2.2 The NRCS shall assign a unique approval number to each safety footwear type approved.

AA.2.3 The NRCS shall confirm with the applicant that approval has been granted by means of a Letter of Authority certificate bearing the approval number referred to in paragraph AA.2.2.

AA.2.4 The approval granted with respect to safety footwear pursuant to this compulsory specification may be withdrawn by the NRCS, at any time, after the applicant has been notified in writing, if the requirements have not been met or maintained.