

SUNGLASS STANDARD REVISION - EN 1836:2005

All Sunglass Manufacturers will be obligated to address any and all changes and additions of EN 1836:2005, which supersedes EN 1836:1997 as of March 31, 2006

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) has published a new version of the EN sunglass standard; EN 1836:2005: Personal eye-equipment – Sunglasses and sunglare filters for general use and filters for direct observation of the sun. The new standard supersedes the 1997 version. The new version (2005) will come into effect March 31, 2005 and will be valid for five years, subject to any changes required by CEN.

The Standard was revised under mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association and supports the essential requirements of the European PPE Directive 89/686/EEC. EN 1836:2005 will be the official technical document applied by European Union countries to ensure that sunglasses conform to the health and safety requirements as mandatory under European Directive 89/686/EEC. The distinctions between the 1997 and 2005 standards are as follows:

New requirements and specifications:

- specifications and requirements for gradient filters and their use for while driving.
- specifications and requirements for “eclipse filters” as used for the direct observation of the sun.
- specifications and requirements for reflection factor for sunglasses declared as “antireflection”
- specifications and requirements for nickel release for metal sunglasses frames

New and / or revised referenced test methods:

- method for measuring the reflection factor at the side of the eye for antireflection lenses
- method of irradiation for testing Photochromic lenses in the darkened state
- method for determining the polarization level of a polarizing filter
- method for determining nickel release from particular metals on prolonged contact with the skin.
- method for determining optical radiation resistance (revised)

New and / or revised information and labeling requirements:

- eye protection devices specified for the direct observation of the sun, the information leaflet must carry the warning: “Direct viewing of the sun is dangerous. Projection techniques are safe. Alternatively, adequate eye protection specifically designed for viewing the sun is essential”
- frames not designed for direct viewing of the sun must carry the warning: “Not for direct viewing of the sun”
- filter type (e.g., photochromic, polarizing or gradient);
- for photochromic filters; the light transmission in the dark state, light states and photochromic rang
- for polarizing filters; the degree of polarization in percent

General:

- new informative annex (E) providing guidance & information on”
- use of sunglare filters in daylight and reduced light environments
- direct observation of the sun
- photochromic filters
- infra red risk
- blue light hazard
- ultraviolet risk

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