

**The BETA Standard for Body and Shoulder Protectors  
For Equestrian Use:**

**For Horse Riders, those working with horses,  
and for horse drivers**

**10.03.2009**

**To be known as the 'BETA 2009' Standard**



**The British Equestrian Trade Association Ltd  
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# **The BETA 2009 Standard for Body and Shoulder Protectors Horse Riders and those working with horses, and for horse drivers**

**Issue 1, 10.03.2009**

## **Foreword to the BETA Standard (1995)**

This Standard has been prepared under the direction of the British Equestrian Trade Association Limited by Dr R.I. Woods of the Protective Clothing Research Facility in the Physiological Laboratory of Cambridge University. It is intended that protective clothing conforming to this Standard will comply with the Basic Health and Safety Requirements in Annex II of the Personal Protective Equipment Directive 89/686/EEC.

## **Foreword to The BETA 2000 Standard, Issue 1.**

The main provisions of the BETA Standard (1995) have been incorporated in EN 13158:2000 *Protective Clothing – Protective jackets, body and shoulder protectors for horse riders – Requirements and test methods*. There are some differences between the two standards therefore the BETA Standard has been revised to include EN 13158:2000 as a Normative Reference and to delete all conflicting text. Products complying with the BETA 2000 Standard will thus also meet the requirements of EN 13158.

## **Foreword to the BETA 2009 Standard, Issue 1, 31.3.2009**

EN 13158:2000 has been revised by CEN and issued as EN 13158:2009. This Standard provides revised specifications for dimensions and also for test procedures, but does not alter the impact performance requirements. In addition to horse riders' protectors, those suitable for carriage drivers have been specified.

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### Amendments

Number	Date	Page and reference
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## 1. Introduction

This Standard is intended to replace the BETA:2000 Standard, 10.03.2000. It contains Normative Reference to EN 13158:2009 and requirements for testing and labelling of products for compliance with the Certification scheme for horse riders' protective equipment operated by the British Equestrian Trade Association Limited. The details of the operation of the scheme are given in informative Annex B which will be re-issued periodically by BETA.

## 2. Scope

This standard incorporates EN13158:2009:by Normative Reference. It also contains details of the British Equestrian Trade Association Certification scheme for horse riders' protective equipment.

## 3. Implementation dates

- The first BETA Standard (1991) was withdrawn on 1.1.97.
- The Revised BETA Standard (1995) shall be withdrawn on 1.9.00.
- The BETA 2000 Standard shall be implemented from 10.3.00.
- The BETA:2009 Standard shall be implemented from 31.3.09
- The BETA 2000 Standard shall be withdrawn from 1.08.10

## 4. Normative References

This Standard incorporates by dated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and are listed hereafter. For a dated reference, subsequent amendments to or revisions of it, apply to this Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision.

**EN 13158:2009** *Protective Clothing – Protective jackets, body and shoulder protectors for equestrian use: For horse riders and those working with horses, and for horse drivers – Requirements and test methods*

## 5. Requirements

Products for certification under the British Equestrian Trade Association Limited scheme shall meet all the requirements of **EN 13158:2009**. The certificates shall be valid for one year. Renewal of the Certificate shall require re-testing of the product to show that it complies with **EN 13158:2009**.

## 6. Labelling

Products shall be labelled with BETA 2009 labels as described in Annex A according to the Performance Levels in EN13158:2009 that the products meet.

LEVEL 1 (Vests for Jockeys only)

**Black on white, 2009 Label.**

LEVEL 2 (Lower protection for low risk situations)

**Brown on white, 2009 Label.**

LEVEL 3 (Normal products)

**Purple on white, 2009 Label**

Please note that labels will bear issue numbers that will change periodically in order that BETA can monitor the use of labels.

## **7. Marking**

In addition to the requirements in EN13158:2009, and the number of that Standard, products shall be marked with the appropriate Official BETA 2009 Label obtained only from the British Equestrian Trade Association Limited. The BETA 2009 label shall be placed on the outside of the garment in such a way as the entire label can be seen on the outside of the garment.

## **8. Information for Users**

Protectors conforming to this BETA 2009 Standard and claiming such conformity with permission from the British Equestrian Trade Association Limited shall have attached an authorised swing ticket, the text of which is given in **Annex A** which applies to horse riders and those working with horses. A separate label will be applied to those garments suitable only for carriage drivers and will be added into this document in due course.

## **9. Testing Houses**

The British Equestrian Trade Association holds the right to authorise test houses to examine and test garments to the requirements of the BETA 2009.

New Members: In the case of manufacturers new to the scheme, Test houses are required to ensure that the manufacturer has completed the BETA application form by sighting the confirmation of receipt that the manufacturer will have received from BETA.

Testing houses will inform BETA of each company testing to the EN13158: 2009 Standard that have indicated an intent to join the BETA standard.

Annual Retest:

In being authorised to carry out this testing, Test houses agree to be subject to the requirements laid down by BETA from time to time covering regular testing of the testing houses themselves to ensure ongoing consistency, including contributing testing time for this purpose at no charge to BETA.

## ANNEX A

### Swing Ticket Wording Part One

#### The BETA Body and Shoulder Protector Standard for horse riders

This garment is made to the BETA Standard for Horse Riders' Body and Shoulder Protectors (2009) and EN13158:2009. The BETA Standard provides a minimum industry standard for performance for this type of garment, including guidance on the level of shock-absorbing protection provided. **IT IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF SAFETY.** Any alteration to the protector may mean that it no longer conforms to the BETA Standard.

**By certification and classification of this product, BETA does not guarantee that body or shoulder protectors will prevent serious injury.**

Three classes are specified.

- BETA Level 1:  
Black 2009** Protectors providing a lower level of protection that is only considered appropriate for licensed jockeys.  
**"WARNING: This level 1 garment is designed to meet the weight restrictions that apply to licensed jockeys while racing. It is not intended for use in general horse riding as it provides significantly less protection than a level 2 garment, which is the minimum recommended for normal riding."**
- BETA Level 2:  
Brown 2009** Protectors providing a lower than normal level of protection that is only considered appropriate for use in low risk situations.
- BETA Level 3:  
Purple 2009** Protectors providing a level of protection that is considered appropriate for normal horse riding, competitions and for working with horses.

Most riding organisations will accept garments conforming to Level 2 or 3, but purchasers should contact the relevant riding organisation if in doubt.

## ANNEX A

### Swing Ticket Wording Part Two

#### The BETA Body and Shoulder Protector Standard for horse drivers and passengers

This garment is made to the BETA Standard for Body and Shoulder Protectors (2009) for horse drivers and passengers and EN13158:2009. The BETA Standard provides a minimum industry standard for performance for this type of garment, including guidance on the level of shock-absorbing protection provided. **IT IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF SAFETY.** Any alteration to the protector may mean that it no longer conforms to the BETA Standard.

**By certification and classification of this product, BETA does not guarantee that body or shoulder protectors will prevent serious injury.**

One class is specified.

**BETA Level 3:  
Purple 2009** Protectors providing a level of protection that is considered appropriate for normal horse driving competitions and for exercising horses in harness.  
**Warning: This protector is designed to meet the needs of horse drivers and passengers. It does not provide adequate coverage of the back for those riding horses or those working with them.**

Most riding organisations will accept garments conforming to Level 2 or 3, but purchasers should contact the relevant riding organisation if in doubt.

## ANNEX B

### The BETA Body Protector and shoulder protector certification Scheme

#### B1 Introduction

These Instructions form part of the terms of participation in the BETA Body Protector and Shoulder Protector certification Scheme. They may be amended by the Standing Committee from time to time as it sees fit. You should read these instructions in conjunction with the BETA 2009 Standard for Horse Riders' Body and Shoulder Protectors, a copy of which may be obtained from BETA and the EN13158:2009.

#### B2 Testing and Registration procedure

Manufacturers wishing to join the scheme for the first time should contact BETA for an application form to indicate their intent to join the scheme. Also see Annex C.

Confirmation from BETA of receipt of this application must be submitted to the test house of choice before testing to the BETA standard can commence. The following Test Houses are currently participating in the scheme:

- SATRA Footwear Technology Centre, SATRA House, Wyndham Way Kettering, Northants NN16 9JH Tel: 01536 410000 Fax: 01536 410626
- Magenta Hibiscus Ltd, 46 Common Road, Runcion Holme, King's Lynn PE33 0AA Contact Dr R I Woods, e-mail riw1000@cam.ac.uk or Tel: 01553 811702, or 07718 867866

It is a requirement that the test house check in the case of a new manufacturer to the scheme, that the manufacturer has completed an application prior to starting testing or preparation of the BETA Standard results.

The manufacturer shall agree with the Test House the sizes of the product that will be supplied for testing and the fee for such testing.

When a model of a product has been shown to conform to BETA:2009 the Manufacturer should ensure that the Test House sends to BETA the examination results in full. These shall include full numerical details of all calculated requirements, measurements and tests on all sizes of the product tested according to EN 13158:2009.

The Manufacturer shall send BETA the signed form of Indemnity. The application will be processed and if accepted an invoice will be raised for the License fee. Once the license fee is paid in full the manufacturer may order their first delivery of Swing Tickets and Labels.

Manufacturers who are already a part of the scheme should inform BETA of their intention to produce a new model by completing the same form however testing may still continue without the BETA confirmation.

For every new garment joining the scheme, whether from an existing member or not, or following revision of the garment requiring full testing, two production samples in Adults Medium and Childs medium (if a child's model is produced) must be provided to BETA within one month of purchasing the first supply of labels.

BETA reserves the right to decline applications to join the scheme. In joining the scheme Manufacturers agree not to bring disrepute to the BETA standard through their deeds or actions. To do so will risk having their license terminated.

### **B3 Notes on Testing**

For an **Initial Test including Type Approval Testing** to a stated level submit body protector samples as required by EN13158:2009

State the Performance Level of test required.

Submit all sizes of Shoulder Protectors.

Submit a complete Technical File.

The testing house will inform BETA of each company testing to the standard that have indicated an intent to join the BETA standard.

- **Annual Re-testing**

State the Registration date of the product in the request for re-testing.

Submit at least 2 Body Protectors, one in a child's size and one in an adult's size providing both are manufactured and by agreement with the test house.

Submit 2 pairs of Shoulder Protectors.

Submit, current labels, user instructions and packaging.

Submit all amendments made to the Technical File in the preceding year and current safety data certification.

Tested garments that meet the requirements of the BETA 2009 Standard will be kept by the Test House for eighteen months or until completion of the next Annual re-test, whichever is the shorter period. BETA will not store reference garments.

The testing houses will keep BETA informed of garments being submitted for retest and the progress through the retesting process.

The testing houses shall inform BETA if garments meeting all the requirements of the BETA:2009 Standard have not been received **two months after the initial re-test samples (ie have failed the retest) or within two months of the anniversary of the registration date.**

### **B4 Approved garments and retests**

The Test House will notify the applicant and BETA of the results of all tests (including failures in the case of re-tests) for garments being tested to the BETA Standard which will remain confidential. BETA will issue a Certificate for approved garments, on request, valid for one year from the relevant anniversary of the acceptance and registration of the product into the BETA scheme. Thus re-tests are valid for one year between anniversaries or for less if they are late. The certificate will only be issued to the joining member who is shown on the technical file. This certificate will list all brand names that the model is marketed under. An additional certificate can be listed for specific models and brands if required at an additional charge of £100.

The manufacturer must inform BETA of all brands marketed from the approved model of the garment. This information must be updated as part of the retest. The names of certified models and of the Manufacturers may be published in Equestrian Trade News.

### **B5 Indemnity**



All Manufacturers participating in the scheme will be required to sign a form to indemnify BETA in the event of any legal action or claims against them as well as successfully undergo a credit check to ensure the company is able to support any claims made on them.

## **B6**

### **Renewal of registration**

- Samples of all products shall be submitted for re-test annually. The renewal date will fall one year after the garment first joins the standard, but may be approved up to two months prior to this without affecting this retest date. Any garment not retested to meet all requirements by two months after this date will be deemed no longer approved.
- BETA must be informed of all brands that the garment may be marketed under on an on-going basis.
- If any alteration is made to the design or construction of a garment during its period of Certification it shall be submitted for re-testing.
- Should retesting not have started by the required date, no further labels will be provided to the manufacturer until the results showing a pass have been received by BETA.

## **B7 Fees**

The level of testing fees will be made available by BETA to new enquirers to the standard but are due payable to the relevant test houses.

The BETA license fee for each producer is £1200 in the first year and £200 thereafter, plus VAT. BETA will issue an invoice for the License and annual registration fees when the test results have been received. The annual license fee is due payable on August 1. Those companies joining the standard after April 1 will not be liable to paying a further license fee in their first year.

- The scheme is not restricted to members of BETA. Manufacturers may use the scheme on payment of the license fees, subject to acceptance by BETA into the scheme.
- **Non European companies**, are not liable to pay UK VAT. Companies in the EU are required to pay VAT at their local rate.  
Payment shall be made by either cheque in sterling drawn on a British Bank, or by sterling bank transfer to: National Westminster Bank plc, PO Box 7628, 119 High Street, Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 0FW. Account: BETA Ltd No 79243932  
Sort Code: 60-11-28  
Foreign currency cheques or cheques in sterling drawn on a foreign bank **will not be accepted.**

## **B8 Labels and swing tickets**

It is a requirement of the BETA 2009 Standard that all garments made to the Standard carry an official BETA label. A swing ticket is optional.

These Official Labels and Swing Tickets may only be bought from BETA.

The colours of the labels and Swing Ticket are:

Black, 2009 for level 1

Brown, 2009 for level 2

Purple, 2009 for level 3.

The current price for 1000 Labels and Swing tickets is £100. plus VAT plus Carriage for BETA members and £110 plus VAT and carriage for non members. Labels and Swing tickets must be paid for with your order. The design of both is registered by BETA. Labels are woven colour on white taffeta, cut and end fused. The Swing Tickets will have a hole but no string or elastic. Allow 4 weeks for delivery.

Both labels and swing tags will have issue numbers printed to enable BETA to monitor correct use of the labels.

### **B9 Complaints and Sanctions**

A complaint is constituted by receipt of written information that leads BETA to believe that a garment or garments may not comply with the requirements under the standard for elements of design and non-conformity.

Any garment carrying the BETA label and suspected of being in breach of the Standard may be reported to BETA. BETA will notify the Standard Committee of each case reported and will warn the manufacturer concerned of possible further action.

BETA will write to the manufacturer to indicate that a complaint has been received and that it is believed that the complaint may be valid leading to action being taken under section B9 of the BETA standard. A copy of the report will be sent to the manufacturer once received.

Two garments are to be purchased from the same source appropriate to the complaint and submitted to each of the testing houses. The two houses are to submit a separate report and where there is variation in impact results of more than 20% they are to discuss results and submit a further joint report.

The complainant will bear the cost if the results do not bear out the complaint, the manufacturer will bear the costs if found to fail the standard in the results.

BETA is to inform the manufacturer of the complaint and testing process and of the results and ask for comments in writing within one calendar month. If no response is received then it will be assumed that the manufacturer has accepted the results.

Following the one month and in the case of negative reports, the standards committee will be called to discuss the complaint and the results and actions and any additional implications. A decision will then be made by the standards committee as to action to be taken under the standard which may include withdrawal of certification to that garment and notification through a press statement that the garment no longer has BETA approval.

The manufacturer has a right of appeal which will be heard by BETA Council. Any appeal must be made within 14 days of receipt of the findings of the standards committee. The Council will be called to hear the appeal within 21 days of the letter of appeal. The standards committee will be represented at the meeting as will the manufacturer. The council's decision will be final.

### **B10 The BETA Body Protector General Committee**

The Committee shall consist of the following voting members:

- The Chairman of the BETA Retail committee
- A representative of the Medical Equestrian Association
- A representative of each recognised riding organisation
- A representative of carriage driving users
- A riders representative
- All manufacturers who are current members of the scheme

There shall also be non-voting members including:

- Technical representatives from each of the participating test houses and Notified Body who shall be co-opted.

Co-opted members of interested parties.

The Committee shall meet as required but at least once every two years.

Any manufacturer has the right to submit his own point of view to the committee in writing and may request the committee to discuss any relevant topic

#### **B 11 BETA Standard Committee**

A Standard Committee can be convened on the initiative of the Chairman in order to resolve a dispute in the General Committee. The Standard Committee shall consist of :

The Chairman

The Executive Director of BETA or representative

Two representatives of the recognised riding organisations.

A riders representative.

A medical representative.

A manufacturers representative (in addition to the chairman should the chairman of committee be a manufacturer.

A technical representative who will be advisory non voting.

#### **B12 Terms of reference of the BETA Body Protector General Committee**

The terms of reference of the committee are that it should monitor the performance of the Standard and advise BETA on changes that should be made to it to bring any other relevant matters to the attention of the BETA Council..

**The committee reports to the BETA Council.**

## BETA BODY & SHOULDER PROTECTOR SCHEME

### Application Form

**This form should be completed by a company or individual intending to produce garments to the BETA 2009 Body and Shoulder protector standard under a licensing arrangement with BETA.**

Company Name			
Address			
Postcode		Country	
Contact Name			
Telephone		Email address	
Intended Testing House			
Country of Production			
Body Protector Model Name(s) and performance levels			
Shoulder Protector Model name and performance levels			

- Please ensure that you read the BETA 2009 Body Protector standard document before submitting this form. We will confirm receipt to you in writing and this confirmation must be submitted to the testing house to enable them to proceed in the case of companies joining the scheme for the first time.
- Please note that acknowledgement of this form will not constitute acceptance into the scheme and that BETA reserve the right to refuse entrance to the scheme. As part of the application processing a credit check is undertaken on the company named above.