

# CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT for use by Police Forces, Prison Services, and related Security organisations



The European Personal Protective Equipment Directive 89/686/EEC contains an exclusion specific to police and military personal. This means that CEN, the organisation responsible for creating standards for PPE in the European Union, has not produced standards specific to these end-uses.

However, it is increasingly recognised that the use of CE-marked PPE by these end-users is advisable as an act of due diligence in case of litigation resulting from injuries to wearers.

The UK has developed as British Standards a series of specifications for "Protective clothing and equipment for use in violent situations and training" as **BS 7971 Part 1** to **Part 10**. Unlike CEN PPE standards these BS do not have a presumption of conformity with **Directive 89/686/EEC**.

However, they can form the basis of a manufacturer's technical specification intended to comply with this directive.

BTTG FTS has been directly involved in the development of these standards and provides the following related services:

- Testing of clothing, gloves, fabrics to the requirements of Part 6 and Part 10
- CE - certification of clothing and gloves based on Part 10 and Part 6 compliance, respectively
- Supervision of Part 1 ergonomic/compatibility assessments by end-users
- Advice on routes to CE - Certification
- Manikin testing of clothing and equipment ensembles offering fire protection



"This set of standards leads the way in recognising the crucial importance of ergonomic performance and compatibility with respect to the various items of clothing and other protective equipment required to be worn as an ensemble. BS 7971-1 sets out obligatory and realistic specific tasks that a team of wearers must perform. Each wearer then scores the outcome according to a series of ranked questions, a maximum score being permitted according to the main item being assessed. Therefore Part 6 sets a score for gloves and Part 10 sets a different score for coveralls."

Using new British standards for clothing and equipment to protect against petrol bomb attack

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