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First aid kits for the workplace

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Contents

Technical Committee on Workplace First Aid 2

Subcommittee on Workplace First Aid Kits 6

Preface 8

0 Introduction 9

0.1 Background 9

0.2 Classification system 9

1 Scope 9

1.1 Purpose 9

1.2 Inclusions 9

1.3 Exclusions 10

1.4 Terminology 10

1.5 Units of measure 10

2 Reference publications 10

3 Definitions and abbreviations 11

3.1 Definitions 11

3.2 Abbreviations 12

4 First aid kits for the workplace 12

5 Types of workplace first aid kits 13

5.1 Classifications 13

5.2 General 13

5.3 Workplace first aid kit requirements — Type 1: Personal first aid kits 13

5.4 Workplace first aid kit requirements — Type 2: Basic first aid kits 14

5.5 Workplace first aid kit requirements — Type 3: Intermediate first aid kits 16

6 Selection of workplace first aid kits 18

6.1 General 18

6.2 Selection of workplace first aid kits — Other considerations 19

7 Workplace first aid kit container 19

8 Ongoing maintenance of workplace first aid kits 20

Annex A (informative) — Workplace first aid risk assessment 21

Annex B (informative) — Sample workplace first aid risk assessment 25

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CSA Group and the Subcommittee extend their appreciation and gratitude to Jeanne Bank for preparing the seed document and leading the initiative for this new Standard. Her leadership and dedication made the expedited development of this Standard possible.

Preface

This is the first edition of CSA Z1220, *First aid kits for the workplace*.

This Standard is part of a series of standards on workplace first aid. It provides general requirements for workplace first aid kits, specifies a classification system for the kits, and sets minimum requirements for their contents based on their classification. It also provides requirements for the selection of kits based on various workplace environments, for their containers and the marking of the containers, and for ongoing kit maintenance. Two informative annexes provide guidance for organizations on carrying out a workplace first aid risk assessment to determine appropriate levels of first aid equipment and supplies and to assess the need to augment the requirements set out in this Standard.

CSA Group gratefully acknowledges that the development of this Standard was made possible, in part, by financial and in-kind support from the Canadian government departments responsible for occupational health and safety, the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), the Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board (WCB), and EMP Canada.

This Standard was prepared by the Subcommittee on Workplace First Aid Kits, under the jurisdiction of the Technical Committee on Workplace First Aid and the Strategic Steering Committee on Occupational Health and Safety, and has been formally approved by the Technical Committee.

Notes:

- 1) *Use of the singular does not exclude the plural (and vice versa) when the sense allows.*
- 2) *Although the intended primary application of this Standard is stated in its Scope, it is important to note that it remains the responsibility of the users of the Standard to judge its suitability for their particular purpose.*
- 3) *This Standard was developed by consensus, which is defined by CSA Policy governing standardization — Code of good practice for standardization as “substantial agreement. Consensus implies much more than a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimity”. It is consistent with this definition that a member may be included in the Technical Committee list and yet not be in full agreement with all clauses of this Standard.*
- 4) *To submit a request for interpretation of this Standard, please send the following information to inquiries@csagroup.org and include “Request for interpretation” in the subject line:*
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 - c) *wording of the proposed change; and*
 - d) *rationale for the change.*

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First aid kits for the workplace

0 Introduction

0.1 Background

In October 2014, CSA Group's Occupational Health and Safety Standards Program and the Canadian Red Cross's Workplace Injury Reduction Collaborative Forum held a joint workshop to discuss and reach an agreement on the development of national guidance in the area of first aid competencies. Participants agreed that the development of a standard could serve as part of a national system for first aid training and assessment of training organizations. A CSA Technical Committee was formed to develop CSA Z1210, *Workplace first aid*.

Stakeholders also identified the need to establish national guidance regarding the contents of workplace first aid kits to provide clarification and consistency to organizations as part of a national system for workplace first aid. As such, this Standard is a companion document to CSA Z1210. The language, terminology, and requirements in this Standard are aligned with those of CSA Z1210.

0.2 Classification system

This Standard defines a new workplace first aid kit classification system. It follows a "scalability approach" that will allow organizations improved flexibility in meeting the unique needs of their specific worksites, while still ensuring minimum requirements are set forth based on the number of workers.

Three main classifications of workplace first aid kits are included: Type 1: Personal, Type 2: Basic and Type 3: Intermediate.

Note: *The intermediate kit is intended to be utilized within workplaces with a higher risk environment.*

To allow for organizational variability the Type 2 and Type 3 kits have been further classified into small, medium and large. The sub-classifications of small, medium and large correspond to the number of workers at the worksite per shift ensuring a larger organization has more supplies on hand to satisfy the needs of a larger population.

1 Scope

1.1 Purpose

This Standard establishes the minimum requirements for workplace first aid kits. It is intended to be used by occupational health and safety (OHS) regulators, manufacturers and distributors of first aid kits, employers, and other interested workplace parties.

Note: *At the time of publication, workplace first aid legislation differs from jurisdiction to jurisdiction in Canada. It is the user's responsibility to determine how applicable legislative requirements relate to this Standard.*

1.2 Inclusions

This Standard provides the following requirements for workplace first aid kits:

- a) general requirements (Clause 4);