

Traffic Safety and Security Division

Regulated sign sheeting selection made easy.

Retroreflective Sign Sheeting Applied to Canadian Standards

In Canada, each province and territory mandate rules and regulations for traffic signage. While most are following the national sign conventions, as outlined in the “Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada”, each jurisdiction may have added additional guidelines and standards, which should be the guiding documents for those involved in designing or fabricating regulated signs.

3M has been providing the industry with retroreflective sign sheeting for over 75 years and we supply products that comply with the standards, types, and classes regulated in Canada today.

This reference guide serves to assist with quick identification and selection of the appropriate 3M™ Retroreflective Sheeting conforming to the ASTM International standard D4956 and Quebec Norme 14101 standard.



3M™ Engineering Grade Sheeting

3M™ High Intensity Sheeting

3M™ Diamond Grade™ Sheeting



Selection Guide for Regulated Signs

Selection Guide for Regulated Signs - Permanent Signs

Standard	Type I	Type III	Type IV	Type VI	Type VIII	Type IX	Type XI
ASTM D4956	3200 EGB 3430 EGP 7930 AEGP	3930 HIP	3930 HIP		3924S	4000 DG ³	4000 DG ³
Quebec norme 14101	3200 EGB 3430 EGP 7930 AEGP	3930 HIP	3930 HIP		3924S	4000 DG ³	4000 DG ³

Selection Guide for Flexible Signs and Non-Signing Applications (Work Zone)

Standard	Type I	Type III	Type IV	Type VI	Type VII	Type IX	Type XI
ASTM D4956		3300 FP 3340**	3300 FP 3910 3340**	RS-24 RS-34 3340**			
Quebec norme 14101		3300 FP 3340**	3300 FP 3910 3340**	RS-24 RS-34 3340**			

* Products that meet the requirements of Type VIII also meet the requirements of former Types VII and X (discontinued by the ASTM International).

** 3M™ Reflective Sheeting Series 3340 is designed for use on PVC cones.

There are nine **types** and five **classes** of retroreflective sheeting.

Types are determined by conformance to the retro-reflectance, colour, and durability requirements (as listed in the standard) and may be of any construction providing that those requirements are met. Common references for each type of retro-reflective sheeting are:

- Type I - engineering grade
- Type II - super engineer grade
- Type III - high-intensity
- Type IV - high-intensity
- Type V - delineators
- Type VI - an elastomeric retroreflective sheeting without adhesive
- Type VIII - a retroreflective sheeting typically manufactured as an unmetallized cube corner microprismatic retroreflective element material
- Type IX - a retroreflective sheeting typically manufactured as an unmetallized cube corner microprismatic retroreflective element material.
- Type XI—A retroreflective sheeting typically manufactured as an unmetallized cube corner microprismatic retroreflective element material.

The adhesive backing required for retro-reflective sheeting is expressed in “class”:

- Class 1 - pressure-sensitive adhesive (no heat or solvent)
- Class 2 - adhesive activated by heat and pressure
- Class 3 - positionable low-tack pressure-sensitive adhesive
- Class 4 - low-temperature (-7°C) pressure-sensitive adhesive
- Class 5 - non-adhesive backing

The most common retroreflective standard used is the ASTM D4956; however, the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) issued standard 62 GB-11M with the latest amendment dated May 1978. The terms “type”, “class”, and “level” have a different meaning here. It is the user’s responsibility to understand the details of the standard in use.

All statements, technical information and recommendations contained in this document are based upon experience, knowledge, and information that 3M believes are reliable. However, many factors beyond 3M’s control affect the use and performance of a 3M product in a particular application. User is responsible for determining whether the 3M product is fit for a particular purpose and suited for user’s application. 3M will not be liable for any loss or damage arising from your decision to use any particular 3M product for your intended application, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential.

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