3M™ Uvicator™ Technology for safer working conditions

When a safety helmet is exposed to sunlight the stability of the plastic shell may be adversely affected due to interaction between UV-radiation and the plastic material which may weaken the helmet and compromise safety of the wearer. The adverse effect is dependent not only on the nature of the plastic material but also the intensity of the UV-radiation. All too often damage to the helmet shell may not be visible to the naked eye.

Red, the new sign of safety

The patented Uvicator technology is intended to easily and clearly help show the user when his/her helmet has been over-exposed to UV-radiation and thus when to replace it. This technology is the result of many years of full scale and artificial ageing testing of different material combinations under various sunlight exposure conditions.

As the helmet is exposed to sunlight, the Uvicator indicator is calibrated to detect the amount of UV radiation received and gradually changes colour over time, clockwise, from red to white. When the Uvicator indicator turns completely white, it means that the helmet has received maximum tolerable radiation and therefore needs to be replaced.