

Transportation Safety Division

Sign sheeting selection made easy.

Retroreflective Sign Sheeting Applied to Canadian Standards.

In Canada, each province and territory mandate guidelines for traffic signs and devices. 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 signs and devices.

3M has been providing the industry with retroreflective sign sheeting for over 80 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 D4956 and Quebec Norme 14101.



3M™ Engineering Grade Sheeting

3M™ High Intensity Sheeting

3M™ Diamond Grade™ Sheeting



Selection Guide

Permanent Signs

Standard	Type I	Type III	Type IV	Type VI	Type VIII*	Type IX	Type XI
ASTM D4956	3200 EGB 3430 EGP	3930 HIP	3930 HIP			4000 DG ³	4000 DG ³
Quebec Norme 14101	3200 EGB 3430 EGP	3930 HIP	3930 HIP			4000 DG ³	4000 DG ³

Temporary Traffic Control (Work Zone) Signs and Devices

Standard	Type I	Type III	Type IV	Type VI	Type VIII*	Type IX	Type XI
ASTM D4956	7300 AFEG	3300 3934 HIP	3910*** 3934 HIP	RS20 RS30*** 3340**	3924S	4084 DG ³	4084 DG ³
Quebec Norme 14101	7300 AFEG	3300 3934 HIP	3910*** 3934 HIP	RS20 RS30*** 3340**	3924S	4084 DG ³	4084 DG ³

* 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.
 *** Meets Type VI minimum Coefficients of Retroreflection.

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 withdrawn Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) standard 62-GP-11M also includes the terms “type”, “class”, and “level” with different definitions. It is the user’s responsibility to understand the details of the standard in use.



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