

This is the final for SA2020, the next revision of the Snell Special Applications Standard for Protective Headgear for Use in Competitive Motorsports. Although much in SA2020 remains unchanged from SA2015, the requirements for impact have been chosen to assure compatibility with FIA 8859-2015. That is: compared to the corresponding values in FIA 8859, the impact criteria for SA2020 are either the same or more stringent and the impact velocities either the same or more severe.

The table shows the SA2020 and SA2015 demands for standard impact testing. The grey cells indicate the changes.

Impact Velocity Table							
Head Form		A	C	E	J	M	O
SA2020 Peak G		300	300	300	300	280	280
SA2020 Certification	1 st	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.15 m/s
	2 nd	6.80 m/s	6.80 m/s	6.80 m/s	6.45 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s
	3 rd	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s
SA2015 Peak G		300	300	300	300	264	243
SA2015 Certification	1 st	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.50 m/s	8.00 m/s	7.75 m/s
	2 nd	6.64 m/s	6.64 m/s	6.64 m/s	6.31 m/s	5.70 m/s	5.02 m/s
	3 rd	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	6.00 m/s	5.70 m/s	5.02 m/s

Proposed Transition Schedule

- Certification testing to SA2020 will begin immediately.
- April 1, 2020 – The Snell office will begin to ship stocks of SA2020 certification labels to certified manufacturers who request them. However, SA2020 labeled helmets may not be made available for sale until the Standard takes effect.
- October 1, 2020 – Snell SA2020 will take effect, the first SA2020 labeled helmets may be advertised, displayed and sold as of this date. There should be no SA2020 labeled headgear or claims for such until this date.
- June 30, 2020 – Shipments of SA2015 certification labels will cease. Production of SA2015 labeled helmets may continue through March of 2021.
- March 31, 2021, production and shipping of SA2015 labeled units must cease.

I thank those who responded to the SA2020 drafts. Your advice has been very useful. We seek standards describing the best protective helmets the industry can be persuaded to make and drivers persuaded to wear. We rely on advice of the best in the industry to do so.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Becker
Executive Director/Chief Engineer
Snell Foundation, Inc.