



Snell Memorial Foundation, Inc.
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INFORMATION ON SNELL CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Certification - Snell certification requires the submission of a prescribed number of helmet samples, depending on the requirements of the standard, selected as representative production samples for each model and size for which certification is requested, to the Snell Memorial Foundation, Inc. For certification, the Foundation requires that each size of each model that certification is being sought be tested as per the requirements of the standard, and all tested samples must meet all of the testing criteria for that standard. Certification may not be extended to any other sizes, or helmet models with notification to, and approval from the Snell Memorial Foundation.

Pre-Testing Helmet Information Sheet - all helmets submitted for testing must be accompanied by a completed Pre-Testing Helmet Information Form. This document provides Snell technicians with information essential to assure accurate testing and reports. Failure to provide this information will result in delays in testing. This form is available at the Foundation's website, www.smf.org, or by request.

Licensing Agreement - Once a helmet has passed certification testing, a Licensing Agreement is sent to the manufacturer, or "helmet owner". This Agreement is signed and executed by the helmet owner and by the President of the Foundation. This agreement prescribes specific rights and responsibilities with regards to the maintenance of a Snell certification. A sample of this agreement is available on the web site. Any additional models that are certified are included under the terms of this Agreement.

Under no circumstances may a manufacturer use the Snell name in any advertising or in connection with any of their helmets, or receive Snell serialized decals until this Agreement has been fully executed.

Serialized Decals - After the Licensing Agreement has been fully executed, the helmet owner must obtain from the Foundation serialized certification decals to be inserted into all helmet models claiming certification to Snell standards. The manufacturer must then submit quarterly decal usage reports stating serial numbers used, in which models the decals are affixed and to where these helmets are distributed. All helmets claiming certification to Snell standards must contain a Snell serialized decal.

Random Sample Assessment Test Program (RST) - Once a helmet has been certified, the Foundation will obtain continue to test samples of certified models for as long as those helmets



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are available in the market. This, unlike some other programs, is based upon random sample selection of the product from the marketplace, rather than from the manufacturer's plant. The Foundation bases the amount of helmet testing on the monthly decal usage reports submitted by the manufacturer in accordance with the Licensing Agreement. The Foundation acquires the helmets from stocks of helmets intended for public distribution including distribution and retail outlets, performs the testing, notifies the manufacturer of the results and bills the manufacturer for the testing and any acquisition costs.

If any helmets should fail to meet the testing requirements of the standard during RST, three more sample helmets of that certified model and size will be obtained and retested to follow up, and attempt to verify the original failure (RSTR). If any one of these follow up helmets should fail in the same manner as the RST, the Foundation will demand that the application of Snell serialized decals in the affected models be suspended, and that this model and size helmet's production and advertisement with respect to Snell certification and its publish standards be discontinued. The matter is then reviewed by the Foundation to determine what additional measures must be taken by the licensed owner of the helmet in order to resolve the issue.

Manufacturer Visits - After a company has certified a helmet, Snell representatives may wish to schedule a visit to the manufacturing facility. Such visits are always planned in advance at the convenience of the manufacturer.

Please Note - It is Snell policy to deal directly with the licensed helmet owner. If they wish to have another party receive copies of test results and to order and/or pay for decals and testing, the Foundation must be advised of this in writing by the licensee. Decals are shipped only to the place of manufacture unless otherwise arranged, and the Licensing Agreement must be signed by the owner, or party responsible for the manufacture of the helmet. In addition, all testing must be scheduled in advance and testing for non-certified manufacturers must be pre-paid.

Prototype Testing - In some instances, manufacturers do not have comparable testing facilities and are not certain as to whether a specific model is capable of meeting the Foundation's performance Standards. Under such circumstances, the helmet owner may elect to submit helmet samples as a prototype specimen for preliminary testing, as this may be economically more feasible than a full certification submission. Prototype tests are meant to be a tool for helmet developers to try to ascertain if the helmet they wish to have certified by Snell may be suitably designed and constructed to meet the requirements of the applicable standard. A passing prototype test in no way guarantees that the helmet will meet all of the performance requirements of the standard during a certification test. A full certification series is required however, before any helmet can be certified, even if the sample passes the prototype test.