



Australian Motorcycle Council Inc.

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AMC Position Statement – Protective Clothing

Research has shown that in a crash, protective clothing is able to reduce the severity of injuries. However, there is no guarantee that what is sold as motorcycle protective clothing in Australia is “fit for purpose”.

Priority:- High

Where we are now:

The Motorcycle Council of NSW obtained funding from the Motor Accidents Authority (MAA) to review research that has been conducted into the effectiveness of protective clothing. The findings of this review are the basis of the information which is on the MCC website. www.roadsafety.mccofnsw.org.au

This review found that there is no guarantee that what is sold as motorcycle protective clothing will actually perform as expected in the event of a crash. The only standards currently available are those that have been developed in Europe. These are called CE standards and currently retailers promote the benefits of armour that conforms to the CE standard.

A protective clothing seminar was held in May 2005 which was attended by national representatives of manufacturers, importers and retailers as well as other interested parties and the recommendations of this seminar were:

- to adopt the European CE Standards
- that these standards should be voluntary for manufacturers

Where we want to be:

When riders purchase protective clothing they can make informed choices as to the standard of protective clothing they chose to buy and enable legal recourse on fitness for purpose. This will ensure that Personal Protective Apparel meets Standards otherwise it will be deemed “just” clothing.

How to get there:

That AMC work together with all rider groups and committees to raise awareness of CE standards for protective clothing.

In addition, the AMC needs to be represented on the appropriate committees.