

**STANDARD PERFORMANCE  
SPECIFICATION FOR  
RECERTIFIED BASEBALL-SOFTBALL  
BATTERS AND CATCHERS HELMETS**

**NOCSAE DOC (ND) 026 – 11m11**

Prepared By



**NATIONAL OPERATING COMMITTEE  
ON STANDARDS FOR ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT**

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## 1 Scope

- 1.1 This standard specification establishes performance requirements for the recertification of baseball-softball batter's helmets with or without face protectors and catcher's helmets with attached face protectors.
- 1.2 ***All testing and requirements of this standard specification must be in accordance with NOCSAE DOC.001, except where modified herein.***
- 1.3 Firms may recertify only those helmets/combinations that have been previously certified to NOCSAE.
- 1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

## 2 Referenced Documents

- 2.1 STANDARD DROP TEST METHOD AND EQUIPMENT USED IN EVALUATING THE PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS OF PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR, NOCSAE DOC.001
- 2.2 STANDARD PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION FOR NEWLY MANUFACTURED BASEBALL/SOFTBALL BATTER'S HELMETS, NOCSAE DOC 022
- 2.3 STANDARD PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION FOR NEWLY MANUFACTURED BASEBALL/SOFTBALL CATCHER'S HELMETS WITH FACEGUARD, NOCSAE DOC 024

## 3 Helmet Preparation

- 3.1 See Section 10, NOCSAE DOC.001.
- 3.2 Face Protectors – Catcher Helmets must be tested with face protectors attached. Batter's helmets may be tested with face protectors attached.
  - 3.2.1 Recertifiers shall verify that the face protectors on catcher's helmets are attached properly according to the manufacturer's instructions and are intended for the helmet they are attached to. All face protectors that are attached to catcher's helmets must be visually inspected for damage. (refer to sec 6.5 of NOCSAE Doc.024)
  - 3.2.2 Recertifiers shall verify that the face protectors on batter's helmets are attached properly according to the manufacturer's instructions and bear the NOCSAE logo. If the logo is present and a visual inspection of the protector indicates no damage the unit may be recertified. If no logo is present or the face protector is damaged the face protector must be removed before the helmet can be recertified.
- 3.3 Helmets must be tested before and after all processing and in the condition in which they are to be returned to use (not all helmets are tested - not all helmets are tested both before and after) a statistical sample must be tested. This section should not be construed in any way as overriding Section 3.2 above.

## 4 Conditioning Environments

- 4.1 See Section 12.1 and 12.3, NOCSAE DOC.001

## 5 Impact Attenuation Tests

- 5.1 The ½” Test MEP is used as the impact surface for recertification tests.
- 5.2 Impact locations are described in Section 19, NOCSAE DOC.001.
- 5.3 Each submitted sample helmet shall be impacted in the side position and in one other location in accordance with Table 1 below and as depicted in Figure 1.

**TABLE 1**

**LOCATION - DROP velocities – ft/s (m/s)**  
(All drop velocities must be within +3% -0%)

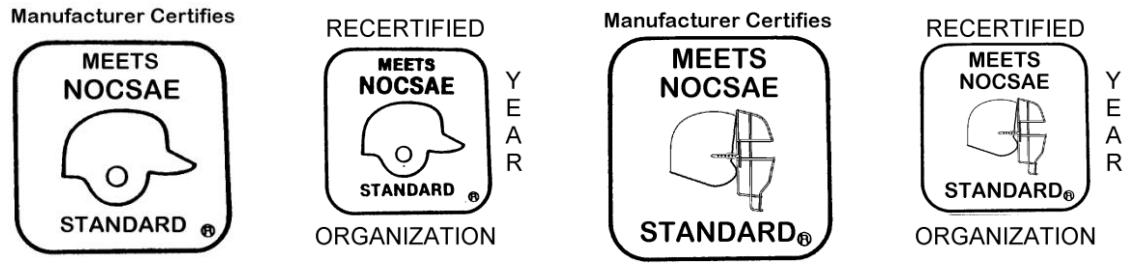
	<b>RIGHT SIDE</b>	<b>REAR BOSS</b>	<b>REAR</b>
<b>Ambient Temperature</b>	13.89 (4.23)	13.89 (4.23)	13.89 (4.23)

## 6 Test Requirements for Recertification

- 6.1 Helmet configuration must be the same as originally certified.
- 6.2 All components must function as originally certified.
- 6.3 Helmet shells must be free from cracks (as defined in NOCSAE DOC.001, Section 3.7).
- 6.4 The peak severity index of any impact shall not exceed 1200 SI.
- 6.5 Helmet repositioning during testing is anticipated. Any structural changes or other changes that take place during impact testing which result in un-restorable, loosening of the fit (see Section 20, NOCSAE DOC.001) shall be cause for failure.
- 6.6 A passing helmet is able to withstand all impacts at an acceptable SI and meets all other requirements when tested in accordance with this performance specification.
- 6.7 When helmets are re-certified and returned with face guards attached, the helmet re-certifier must verify that the faceguard was originally certified and has been either recertified or at a minimum inspected to determine that it is free of cracks (including welds) and have no exposed metal or sharp corners. Metallic (i.e., wire or metallic tubing) face guards must have a surface coating of resilient material, designed to reduce the risk of chipping, burrs, and the like that may result in increased risk of injury to the user or opponent. Helmet re-certifiers that mount certified/inspected faceguards with non-OEM hardware must demonstrate that the helmet/hardware faceguard combination meets the requirements of the NOCSAE faceguard standard. Damaged face protectors shall not be recertified or returned to play.

## 7 Labels and Warnings

- 7.1 See Section 9.1 through 9.3 of NOCSAE DOC.001.
- 7.2 The labels identified in Section 9.1 shall be permanently and legibly labeled or marked in a manner such that the information can be easily read without removing any permanent component.
- 7.3 A permanent replica of one of the seals shown below must appear on the exterior of the headgear. If the original "Manufacturer" NOCSAE logo is not clearly legible, then the "Recertified" logo shall be applied.



If the "recertified" seal needs to be added, the "YEAR" data must be given and it shall reflect the year of the particular reconditioning season (e.g., 2003) that the helmet is being recertified. The "ORGANIZATION" information is optional; examples might be the name of the recertifier's organization or his company (e.g., NAERA or XYZ Reconditioning).

- 7.4 Each helmet shall have permanently affixed to the exterior of the shell a clearly legible statement which can be easily read without removal of any decal tape, other temporary material or permanent component, which contains language which effectively communicates to the purchaser and user the following information using the same or similar language:

**WARNING:**

**NO HELMET CAN PREVENT ALL HEAD OR ANY NECK INJURIES A PLAYER MIGHT RECEIVE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN BASEBALL-SOFTBALL.**

**DO NOT USE THIS HELMET IF THE SHELL IS CRACKED OR DEFORMED; OF IF THE INTERIOR PADDING IS DETERIORATED. SEVERE HEAD OR NECK INJURY, INCLUDING PARALYSIS OR DEATH MAY OCCUR TO YOU DESPITE USING THIS HELMET.**

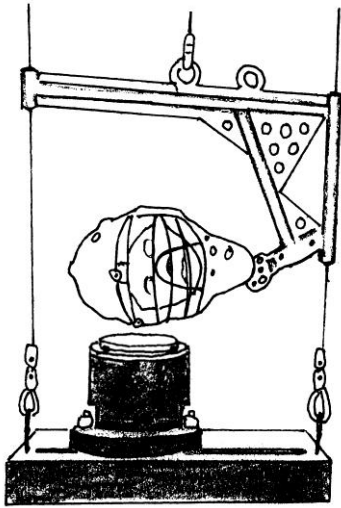
- 7.5 Recertified helmets must have a recertification seal that includes the name of the recertifying firm and the year of recertification. This seal may be placed on the interior or exterior of the shell in an area in which it can be easily read without removal of any permanent component and will also contain the following language:

**"This helmet has been recertified according to procedures established to meet the NOCSAE Standard."**

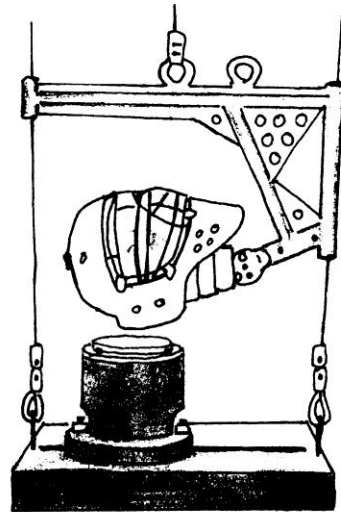
- 7.6 Batters protectors shall have the appropriate labels, warnings and attachments as required in NOCSAE DOC 022 section 6.

*This standard is subject to revision at any time by the responsible technical authority and must be reviewed every five years and if not revised either reapproved or withdrawn. Your comments are invited either for revision, modification or creation of additional standards and should be addressed to NOCSAE's Executive Director. Check the web at [www.nocsae.org](http://www.nocsae.org) to obtain the latest version of a standard.*

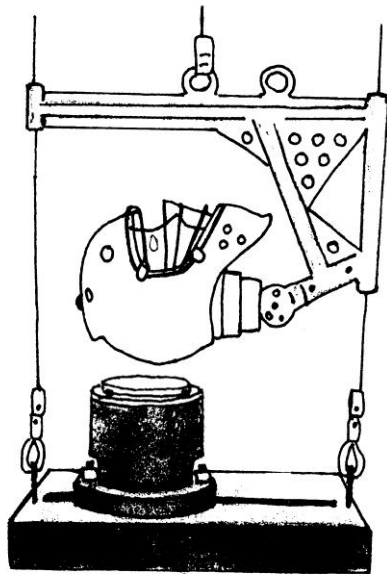
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Right Side Impact



Rear Boss Impact



Rear Impact

Figure 1

### **JUNE, 2004 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS**

- Added section 5.3
- Added the word “helmets” in the scope

### **DECEMBER 2004 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS**

- Modified section 3.3 to clarify helmets tested.

### **MARCH 2007 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS**

- Modified section 5 to clarify impact surface.
- Modified figure 1 to illustrate impact surface.

### **JANUARY 2008 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS**

- Corrected typographical error in section 7.

### **FEBRUARY 2010 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS**

- Changed Warning statement to be consistent with baseball –softball standard

### **FEBRUARY 2011, MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS**

- **REVISION-** Change drop heights to drop velocities. Clarified attachment of component requirement. Moved test requirements to section 6.