

Why is MSA Cairns bringing a European-style fire helmet design to North America?

At MSA Cairns, we are always striving to innovate. Looking at the future of firefighting safety, we felt it was the right time to bring a European-style helmet to North America. The design of the NFPA-compliant Cairns XF1 capitalizes on the experience and expertise of firefighters who wear jet-style fire helmets, while blending in the needs of the traditional North American firefighter. This type of helmet, worn by millions of firefighters across the globe, has the potential to change safety here in North America.

Why would I consider wearing a jet-style fire helmet? Where is the brim?

The brimless design of the Cairns XF1 minimizes its profile, which was the intent when the brim was eliminated from the first jet-style design in the 1980s. The elimination of the brim affords easy, snag-free access to confined spaces, such as during vehicle extrication or navigating through studs in a structural fire. Additionally, the removal of the back brim allows you to move your head in all directions, including when you look up.

No helmet brim? Won't water run down the back of the fire helmet and into my gear?

There are two reasons why water should not run from your helmet into your gear. First, new standards require turnout coats to incorporate an elongated collar and throat tab. The extra length will help prevent water and debris from getting into your turnout gear. Second, the Cairns XF1 has an ear cover that extends to the shoulder. When your gear and ear cover are worn properly, water run off should stay away from your neck and back.

Does the Cairns XF1 interfere with situational awareness or peripheral vision?

The Cairns XF1 was designed to provide additional protection from heat and impact for the entire head, including the area from ears to jaw. While firefighters may experience a slight decrease in incoming sound volume, most firefighters who wear the helmet do not feel like it limits situational awareness or peripheral vision.*

Is the Cairns XF1 as durable as the helmet I wear now?

The Cairns XF1 has been durability tested beyond what's required by NFPA-1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, and NFPA-1951, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents. At the MSA labs in Pittsburgh, PA, the Cairns XF1 passed a variety of rigorous durability tests:

- Dropped multiple times under a variety of conditioning scenarios from 6.5 feet
- Tumbled at 27 revolutions per minute for four hours
- Run through "aging conditions" where several different thermal and mechanical stress tests were conducted immediately after each other

Additionally, almost all of the firefighters who tested the product in the field*, felt it was as durable as their current helmets. Testing in our labs and in the field was done to ensure the Cairns XF1 met the same quality standards you've come to expect from MSA Cairns.

How bright is the light from the integrated lighting module?

Two pairs of bright LEDs illuminate your immediate surroundings with 25 lumens of short range light. These integrated lights are always accessible for applications such as confined space rescue or motor vehicle accidents and were called, "amazing" in field trials: "like having a headlight in the dark!" Additionally, these lights were designed to light the area where you are looking without blinding your fellow firefighters.

Why do the integrated lights shine downward?

The XF1's lights are positioned downward to improve immediate visibility while minimizing the blinding of others on scene.

Can firefighters hear each other even when the communication system is turned OFF?

Yes. MSA conducted testing that measured hearing levels with and without the helmet. Results showed a minimal change in hearing level (dB) with the helmet on, as compared to when the helmet was off.

How do I adjust the helmet for the best fit?

For easy-to-follow instructions, view the Cairns XF1 Comfort Adjustments training video or instruction manual www.MSAfire.com/Cairns

What's the fit like when worn with a mask?

During field testing, firefighters told us the helmet fits well and is comfortable, with or without hood and SCBA facepiece on.* The Cairns XF1 was designed to be worn easily with and without an SCBA facepiece. The multi-location headband adjustment helps to reduce any interference between the helmet and the facepiece.

Can I wash the Cairns XF1 Fire Helmet?

The Cairns XF1 is uniquely designed to be cleaned and maintained according to NFPA-1851.** The soft goods, including the chinstrap, are simple to remove without tools, using mostly mechanical attachments (limited hook and loop fasteners). The soft goods have been tested to wash for 52 cycles when laundered according to our instructions.

How do I remove the soft goods so I can clean them?

For easy-to-follow instructions, view the Cairns XF1 Soft Goods Cleaning training video or instruction manual www.MSAfire.com/Cairns

The soft goods are to be cleaned according to the Instruction Manual and the current edition of NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.

Does the inside of the helmet get too hot?

The Cairns XF1 is designed to perform in the same extreme environments as any other fire helmet that is compliant to NFPA-1971 or NFPA-1951. We recommend trying the helmet out and experiencing its benefits first-hand.

Is this going to replace other MSA Cairns fire helmets?

There are no plans to remove fire helmet models from the MSA Cairns product line as a result of introducing the jet-style helmet. The Cairns XF1 is a new addition to the line of innovative and trusted MSA Cairns Fire Helmet models, including traditional fire helmets such as the 1010/1044 and 880 Traditional; the modern fire helmets such as the Metro 660C / 664 Invader and Structural 360S; rescue helmets like the HP3 Commando, Rescue 360R, and Rescue 360R-13; and the iconic leather N5A New Yorker and N6A Houston fire helmets.

Can I add a logo or customize the Cairns XF1?

MSA can print custom information on the helmet's front plate such as your department's logo or station number as a result of introducing the jet-style helmet. Additionally, there are other plate colors available to help designate a rank, job or position.

How can I try a Cairns XF1?

To schedule a demo or wear test of the Cairns XF1, contact an MSA sales manager or authorized MSA Cairns Channel Partner <http://us.msasafety.com/locateSalesManager> or visit www.msafire.com/xf1 for more information.

*This information based on Beta trial of 250 participants with various facepieces, including competitor SCBA.

**NFPA-1851 Standard for the Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting

Note: This bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While uses and performance capabilities are described, under no circumstances shall the products be used by untrained or unqualified individuals and not until the product instructions including any warnings or cautions provided have been thoroughly read and understood. Only they contain the complete and detailed information concerning proper use and care of these products.



MSA – The Safety Company
1000 Cranberry Woods Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066 USA
Phone 724-776-8600
www.MSAafety.com
U.S. Customer Service Center
Phone 1-800-MSA-2222
Fax 1-800-967-0398

MSA Canada
Phone 1-800-672-2222
Fax 1-800-967-0398
MSA Mexico
Phone 01 800 672 7222

