

MSA Cairns® XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet Frequently Asked Questions



What makes the MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet stand out?

The MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet is third-party tested by an NFPA Certified laboratory to meet the NFPA 1951 Standard. Additionally the Cairns XR2 is a truly modular rescue helmet system with “click-in” accessories designed to adapt to the rescue scene.

Can I use the MSA Cairns XR2 for firefighting operations?

The MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet was designed and engineered for non-firefighting related activities and is NOT tested or certified to NFPA 1971 (Current Edition), Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting. The MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet is third-party tested by SEI and certified to NFPA 1951 (Current Edition), Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents.

What were the changes to NFPA 1951, 2020 Edition Standard* on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents, and how do they impact Technical Rescue Helmet testing and certification?

Some of the highlight changes to the NFPA 1951, 2020 Edition Standard include the following:

- Vented shells permitted
- Electrical conductivity test on shell material and not entire assembly
- Chinstrap width reduced to minimum of ½" or 12mm
- Chinstraps are permitted to be mounted on suspension system
- Elimination of flame resistance tests
- Adopted EN 16473 on lateral impact testing/offset force transmission test
- Product labels cannot be metallic or attached with metal fasteners

What is considered “Technical Rescue” in the Fire Industry?

“Technical Rescue” training and certification standards are defined in NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications. Additionally, NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents, defines how to conduct operations and manage a technical rescue incident.



What type of incidents is the Cairns XR2 designed to be used for?

Technical Rescue is a broad term and includes the following, but is not limited to: Vehicle rescue, trench rescue, high and low angle rope rescue, water rescue, swift water rescue, agricultural rescue, heavy machinery rescue, EMS operations, tower rescue, structural collapse, urban search and rescue, wilderness search and rescue confined space rescue, and man in machine.

Where is the MSA Cairns XR2 manufactured?

The MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet is manufactured by MSA GALLET in Chatillon, France.

WHEN YOU GO IN, WE GO IN WITH YOU.

Is the MSA Cairns XR2 designed and certified to use in wildland firefighting?

MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet is NOT certified nor tested to NFPA 1977 (Current Edition), Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting. The MSA Cairns XR2 does meet EN approval for EN16471 – Wildland firefighting helmets. MSA recommends customer familiarizing themselves with both NFPA 1977 (Current Edition), and EN16471.

Do we need reflective stickers (trim) on the MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet to meet NFPA 1951?

No, there is no requirement for reflective trim for helmets in the NFPA 1951 (Current Edition), Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents. MSA recommends and offers different options for reflective trim.

What eye protection options are available for the MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet?

The MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet offers internal ocular visors that easily attach internally to the helmet shell without tools, and a new MSA Responder™ Goggle that quickly attaches to the helmet shell with modular connection. Additional eye and face protection options will be available in Q4 2021.

What are the goggle sleeve covers for?

The MSA Responder Goggle sleeves are designed for dust and scratch protection while the XR2 is stored and not in use. The goggle sleeves are NOT designed for use on structural fire helmets.

What lighting options are available for the MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet?

Available Q4 2021, the new integrated LED headlamp module is designed to “click-in” to the XR2 shell and replaces the front and rear panels. The LEDs provide up to 250 lumen of light. The integrated LED headlamp offers 2 beams (proximity and spot), and a rear tail light (3 colors, RGB), all powered by 3-AA batteries with up to 6-hours of use.

Can I add stickers, decals, and other aftermarket accessories to the MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet?

MSA Safety cannot confirm any aftermarket decal or accessory would take the helmet out of compliance. MSA offers a number of accessories including lighting, eye, face protection and hearing protection certified to be used with the XR2.

What are my customization options for the MSA Cairns XR2?

Customers have the option to add custom decals to MSA Cairns XR2 front plates similar to the XF1 offering. Additionally, the side reflective trim (stickers) is customizable to add single color text.

Can I machine wash* the entire MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet?

The MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet has NOT been tested for cleaning in machine washers or extractors. Please follow the operating manual along with recommendations in NFPA 1851 (Current Edition), Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting.

What is the warranty for the MSA Cairns XR2 Technical Rescue Helmet?

MSA warrants MSA Cairns Fire Helmets to be free from defects in materials and/or faulty workmanship for a period of ten (10) years from the date of manufacture by MSA. For warranty details, please see “10-Year Warranty and Terms of Sale” (ID 3600-72-MC / February 2015).

** MSA Safety recommends all end users familiarize themselves with NFPA 1951 (Current Edition), Standard on Protective Ensembles for Technical Rescue Incidents and NFPA 1851 (Current Edition), Standard on 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 product uses and performance capabilities are generally described, the products shall not, under any circumstances, be used by untrained or unqualified individuals. The products shall not be used until the product instructions/user manual, which contains detailed information concerning the proper use and care of the products, including any warnings or cautions, have been thoroughly read and understood. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

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