



# INFORMATION BULLETIN for Allied Agencies

June 1, 1992

## BULLETIN NO. 34 UNAPPROVED MOTORCYCLE HELMET

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is disseminating this information to California law enforcement agencies because of the wide spread use of an unapproved motorcycle helmet.

The CHP received several inquiries regarding a "Beanie" helmet manufactured by E & R Fiberglass of Tacoma, Washington. Although the manufacturer was selling the helmet as U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) approved, there was a concern that the helmet did not actually meet the minimum DOT standards (FMVSS 218). As a result, the DOT was requested to test the helmet to verify compliance with the standards.

The DOT has completed its testing of the helmet and stated that the helmet failed to meet minimum standards as required by California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 27802. The DOT is currently in the process of conducting an investigation regarding the selling of these helmets as an approved type. It is unknown, at this time, whether DOT will issue a safety recall or if the manufacturer will be directed to recall the helmets.

Effective immediately the helmet may no longer be sold as DOT approved. However, the CHP has been informed that the manufacturer will continue to sell the helmet in California as a novelty helmet.

The CHP will issue citations to individuals wearing the E & R helmet for violation of CVC Section 27803. Officers have been directed to refer individuals with questions to the location where the helmet was purchased.

A pass-out that was developed to assist you in identifying these unapproved helmets is attached. Additionally, a copy of a pass-out depicting common approved helmet styles is attached. This information has been very helpful to CHP officers and may be useful to your officers or deputies.

Questions concerning this subject should be directed to the California Highway Patrol, Office of Special Projects, at (916) 657-7222.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

ATTACHMENTS

DISTRIBUTION: A E G S (All Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Departments)

# COMMON DOT APPROVED HELMET STYLES



Full Face



Moto X



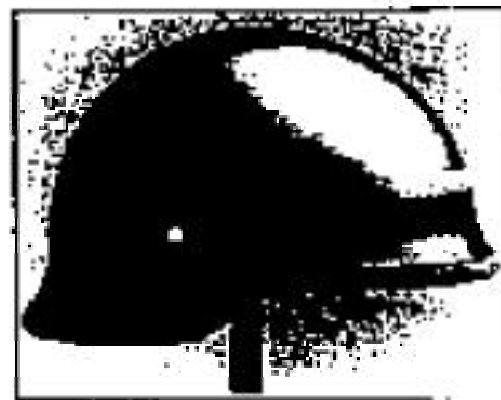
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Half Shell



Half Shell (FIGURE 03)



Half Shell

**UNAPPROVED HELMET**  
**E&R Fiberglass**



(FIGURE #2)