# VOSS //VFO



# **Durability of VOSS-HELMETS**

# Thermoplastic helmets

The German Mutual Indemnity Association has issued a recommendation suggesting that the period of utilisation of UV-stabilised Polyethylene-helmets is approximately four years. Of course, the helmet is to be exchanged immediately if it was seriously damaged.

The durability of safety helmets is not prescribed by regulations. It is meant as a recommendation only, contained in the Notice for Safety Helmets, issued by the Main Association of the Mutual Indemnity Association for the Trade, Centre for Prevention of Accidents and Occupational Therapy, and refers to thermoplastic helmets only.

It is not possible to state an exact time of durability since every helmet is exposed to different conditions.

In an additional test as per Appendix B of EN 397, all our helmets have proven that they still fulfil all requirements of EN 397 after five years of normal use.

## **Duroplastic helmets**

The widely held belief that duroplastic helmets are not subject to ageing when exposed to UV-rays and that their durability is limited only due to mechanical influences is **wrong!** Long term tests have shown the following durability of safety helmets when used outside:

glass fibre reinforced polycarbonate\*: 10 years

glass fibre reinforced polyester: 10 years

phenolic resin fabric: 8 years

The above mentioned periods are maximum values. For your own safety we recommend that safety helmets should be replaced in much shorter cycles because in general the extent of wear and tear of a safety helmet cannot be proven after a longer period of time.

### Important:

The embossed date inside the helmet shell is the **production** date and not the end of the **durability**!



<sup>\*</sup> This is a thermoplastic helmet with duroplastic properties for heat protection and other particularly high demands