



**A/To: All ASNs, FIA Technical Department, FIA Sporting Departments**

**De/From: Nuno COSTA**  
Safety Department

**Date:** Geneva, 12 July 2016

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**Update of Appendix L Chapter III "Drivers' Equipment" - Article 2 "Flame-resistant clothing"**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to inform you about the introduction of a *recommendation* for the use of a special balaclava at WRC events which was approved at the World Motor Sport Council held in June in Turin, and can be found on the FIA website at the following link: [www.fia.com](http://www.fia.com).

There are currently two safety equipment manufacturers that have designed a balaclava that complies with the FIA Standard 8856-2000 requirements, and their specific design also allows the removal of the driver's helmet with much lower neck loads than when the helmet is removed without this device (the traditional way). The designs have been checked and validated by the FIA Medical Commission. The FIA TL27, which can be found at the following link

(<http://www.fia.com/file/44657/download/9291?token=iq9jENIV>) mentions which balaclava models allow the removal of the helmet with much reduced neck loads in relation to the traditional method.

The reduction in neck loads plays an important role in preventing a neck injury being made worse after a crash.

The updated regulation is applicable immediately.

We remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours faithfully,

**Nuno Costa**  
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