

SAFETY BULLETIN

TO: All Employees
FROM: Dean Argenta - Field Safety Coordinator
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REFERENCE: PPE (Standards)



Personal Protective Equipment

Team, I wanted to provide this Safety Bulletin to outline different PPE standards.

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PPE Must be kept in serviceable condition:

- > **No rips/tears/cuts**
- > **Adjustment straps in place/usable**
- > **Viewing lenses not overly-scratched**
- > **Not deformed or broken**

*** Employers must assess the workplace to determine if hazards requiring PPE use are present or likely to be present.**

Examples: of PPE

- > **Eye – safety glasses/Safety Goggles/Face face shield**
- > **Head - hard hat**
- > **Ear -ear plugs**
- > **Hand - rubber gloves**
- > **Foot - safety shoes**
- > **Body - rubber apron/tyvek**
- > **Respiratory-respirator**

Determining Eye/Face Protection

> **If any objects can contact the eyes during the performance of the job, safety glasses **WITH SIDE SHIELDS** should be worn.**

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>Goggles should be used when working with chemicals or if vapors/mists are present and/or produced. *Face shields* (along with goggles) should be used when doing grinding operations.

When to Use Head Protection

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.135(a)(1) states, "Each affected employee shall wear protective helmets when working in areas where there is a potential for injury to the head from falling objects."

***** *Manufacturers do not recommend that workers wear standard hard hats backwards unless it is necessary for certain job applications, such as welding, where a mask is required.*

OSHA clearly specifies that workers must wear their hats the way they were designed to be worn, unless the manufacturer states a hat can be worn backward.

Using Hearing Protection

***** *Hearing protection must be made available to employees if they are exposed to **noise between 85-90 dBA** anytime during their work shift.*

***** *Hearing protection **MUST** be used if the exposure **level is 90 dBA or higher** for any duration during their shift.*

Correct Hand Protection

>*Evaluate the job/task being done and provide the best protection.*

>*Cloth or leather gloves should not be used for protection against chemical hazards.*

>*Surgical gloves are not to be used for electrical use.*

>*Cloth gloves should not be used for material handling*

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Foot protection

****Typical foot injury is caused by object falling fewer than 4 feet; Average weight of object is about 65 pounds.***

- 1. Wear appropriate foot guards, safety shoes or boots for protection from falling, rolling, sharp objects - hot, wet, slippery surfaces.***
- 2. Should be sturdy and have an impact-resistant toe.***
- 3. Some have puncture-resistant insoles to help protect against puncture wounds.***
- 4. Some types have metatarsal guards.***

Body Protection

****Should be used in the event of: chemical, hot metal or liquid splashes, cuts, acids, intense heat, cold and radiation.***

Respiratory protection

Respirators shall be provided when necessary to protect the health of employees from breathable hazards.

****There are two main types of respiratory hazards: oxygen deficiency and airborne contaminants.***

- 1. ▶ Where exposure levels exceed the permissible exposure limit, or PEL, during the time period necessary to install or implement feasible engineering/work practice controls.***
- 2. ▶ In regulated areas.***
- 3. ▶ Where employer has implemented all feasible engineering and work practice controls and these are not sufficient to reduce exposures to or below the permissible exposure limit.***

Please contact me at 570-903-2893 or Dargenta@scenv.com with any questions or comments.

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