



Toolbox Talk: PPE - Personal Protective Equipment

What is personal protective equipment?

Personal protective equipment, commonly referred to as "PPE", is equipment worn to minimize exposure to serious workplace injuries and illnesses. These injuries and illnesses may result from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical, or other workplace hazards. Personal protective equipment may include items such as gloves, safety glasses and shoes, earplugs or muffs, hard hats, respirators, or coveralls, vests and full body suits.

What can be done to ensure proper use of personal protective equipment?

All personal protective equipment should be safely designed and constructed and should be maintained in a clean and reliable fashion. It should fit comfortably, encouraging worker use. If the personal protective equipment does not fit properly, it can make the difference between being safely covered or dangerously exposed. When engineering, work practice, and administrative controls are not feasible or do not provide sufficient protection, employers must provide personal protective equipment to their workers and ensure its proper use. Employers are also required to train each worker required to use personal protective equipment to know: When it is necessary, what kind is necessary, how to properly put it on, adjust, wear and take it off. The limitations of the equipment, Proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of the equipment.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Requirements

The NTMA firmly understands the importance and value afforded by PPE within the industry. In conjunction with engineering and administrative control measures, it is through the combination of industry-standard devices and clothing, which meet or exceed American National Standards Institute (ANSI) guidelines and other consensus standards, NTMA establishes and maintains an effective safe and protective barrier between personnel, any company's most valued resource, and identifies potentially harmful objects, substances, conditions and other detrimental occupational exposures and effect.

Anyone have a question or comment about Personal Protective Equipment? Please be sure to sign-in on the training certification form.

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