

Personal Protective Equipment Program

Does your company have a Personal Protective Equipment Program? If your answer is NO, then are you aware that Cal/OSHA requires a documented “Work Place Hazard Assessment” to determine the need for PPE.

Goals:

- Assess hazards in the workplace to determine which hazards may require the use of PPE
- Be familiar with assessment and training certification, and
- Know PPE training requirements

Personal Protective Equipment or PPE is selected based on the specific job hazards you face. Job hazards can be:

Noise	Chemicals
Accidental Impact	Sharp Objects
Flying Particles	Dust & Mists
Bright Light	Vibration

What you should know about PPE:

Limitations of PPE	How to use PPE
When to use PPE	Replacement
Cleaning and Storage	Inspect before use

What parts of the body require PPE:

Eyes	Face
Head	Hands
Feet	Ears

General Policy

Engineering controls should be the primary method used to eliminate or minimize hazardous exposures in the workplace. Second is administrative controls. When such controls are not practical or applicable, personal protective equipment can be employed to reduce or eliminate personnel exposure to hazards. Personal protective equipment (PPE) must be provided, used, and maintained according to manufacture instructions.

Responsibilities

Management

- Conduct hazard assessments to identify specific PPE for specific tasks
- Train employees in the selection, use, inspection, storage, cleaning, and limitations of specific PPE
- Identify any new hazards that would require the use of PPE

Supervisors

- Monitor use of PPE
- Provide replacement PPE when needed
- Identify any new hazards that would require the use of PPE

Employees

- Properly use and care for assigned PPE
- Immediately inform supervisor if PPE is damaged or not effective

Training

All Employees who are required to use PPE shall be trained to know at least the following:

- When PPE is necessary
- What PPE is necessary
- How to properly wear, remove, adjust, and wear PPE
- The limitations of the PPE
- The proper care, maintenance, inspection, useful life, and disposal of the PPE

Each affected Employee shall demonstrate an understanding of the training and the ability to use PPE properly, before being allowed to perform work requiring the use of PPE.

Cal/OSHA requires certification of PPE training.

All personal protective clothing and equipment will be of safe design and construction for the work to be performed. Only those items of protective clothing and equipment that are at least equivalent to those complying with the standards approved by The American National Standards Institute, Bureau of Standards, or other recognized authorities shall be used.