

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

### INTRODUCTION

Per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.132 personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be provided, maintained, and used whenever the workplace poses a hazard to the head, eyes, hands or feet. To determine if these hazards exist, and what PPE is necessary, a hazard assessment of the workplace shall be conducted and documented. In addition, each employee required to use PPE addressed herein, shall be trained in its use. Training shall be documented as well.

NOTE: For PPE requirements against hazards not addressed in this chapter refer to other chapters in this manual that deal with specific risks such as noise, radiation and sources of ignition from electric arcs, welding, open flames, radiant heat and sparks. The referenced standards in those chapters will address the PPE requirement that matches the exposure.

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

#### Hazard Assessment and Certification:

Each division/section shall ensure a PPE hazard assessment is conducted and documented for their area of responsibility. The method used to conduct the assessment shall be determined by each division/section. Documentation shall be accomplished via a written, dated record, including the workplace evaluated, and name(s) of the person(s) who conducted the assessment.

#### Training:

Divisions/Sections shall provide their employees with PPE training. Training methods used shall be determined by each division/section. Training tools can be obtained through the ES&H Section's Safety & Environmental Protection Group. Minimally, employees shall know:

- when PPE is necessary,
- what PPE is necessary,
- how to properly don, doff, adjust, and wear PPE,
- the limitations of the PPE, and

- the proper care, maintenance, useful life and disposal of the PPE.

All training shall be documented in the ES&H Train database.

Non-Mandatory use of PPE:

Divisions/Sections may, at their discretion, distribute PPE to employees not required to use such PPE. However, Fermilab does not approve the personal use of Fermilab supplied PPE for uses other than Fermilab approved activities.

Technical Appendix:

The attached technical standard contains guidance on the following:

- The need for PPE
- Selection of PPE
- Maintenance of PPE
- How to obtain PPE
- Training tools
- [Hazards assessment checklist](#)

## TECHNICAL APPENDIX Personal Protective Equipment

### WHEN MUST PPE BE USED?

#### 1. Eye & Face Protection:

- a. Each employee shall wear eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from:
- "desktop" soldering iron operations,
  - torch soldering or debrazing,
  - welding,
  - Oxygen cutting,
  - flying particles or objects,
  - molten metal,
  - hazardous, liquid chemicals,
  - acids,
  - caustic liquids,
  - hazardous gases, vapors or fumes,
  - cryogenic liquids,
  - potentially injurious light radiation, and
  - any other work condition posing a hazard to the face and/or eyes.

#### 2. Head Protection:

Each employee shall wear protective helmets while:

- a. working in areas where there is a potential for injury to the head from falling objects,
- b. working near electrical conductors -- these helmets must be designed to reduce electrical shock, See FESHM Chapter 5048 for further guidance.
- c. working below other workers who are using tools and materials which could fall,
- d. working around or under conveyor belts which are carrying parts or materials,
- e. working below machinery or processes that might cause material or objects to fall,

NOTE: This appendix contains a list of helpful guidelines to be used as a reference when determining the need for head protection (see Guidelines for Selecting Protection).

#### 3. Foot Protection:

- a. Each employee shall wear protective footwear while working in areas where there is a danger of foot injuries due to falling and rolling objects, objects piercing the sole, and electrical hazards.

NOTE: This appendix contains a list of helpful guidelines to be used as a reference when determining the need for foot protection (see Guidelines for Selecting Foot Protection).

NOTE: See Fermilab's [request form for safety shoes](#).

#### 4. Hand Protection:

- a. Each employee shall wear the appropriate hand protection while their hands are exposed to hazards such as those from:

- skin absorption from harmful substances,
- cuts or lacerations,
- abrasions,
- punctures,
- chemical burns,
- thermal burns, and
- harmful temperature extremes.

NOTE: This appendix contains a list of helpful guidelines to be used as a reference when determining the need for hand protection (see Guidelines for Selecting Hand Protection).

### SELECTING PPE

Where foot, head, eye and face, and hand hazards exist, appropriate expertise must be applied to select the proper PPE to be used.

Minimally, the selected PPE shall:

- a. provide adequate protection against the particular hazards for which they are designed,
- b. be reasonably comfortable during use,
- c. fit snugly and shall not interfere with the wearer's movements,
- d. be durable,
- e. where feasible, be capable of being disinfected (for PPE that is not capable of being disinfected, e.g., disposable PPE, the PPE, if contaminated, shall be disposed of in a manner that protects employees from exposure to hazards),
- f. unless disposable, be easily cleanable, and

- g. not present a hazard due to use.

NOTE: Guidelines for selecting PPE are included at the end of this appendix.

Other things to consider when selecting PPE are:

- a. eye protection equipped with side shields shall be worn during exposure to flying particles,
- b. employees requiring prescription lenses shall wear eye protection that incorporates the prescription into its design, or shall wear eye protection that can be worn over the prescription lenses without disturbing the proper position of the prescription lenses or the protective lenses,
- c. eye and face PPE shall be distinctly marked to facilitate identification of the manufacturer,
- d. for exposure to injurious light radiation, employees shall use filter lenses that have a shade number appropriate for the work being performed.

## MAINTENANCE OF PPE

All PPE shall be inspected, cleaned, and maintained at regular intervals so that it provides the required protection. Defective and/or damaged PPE shall not be used. This is particularly important for eye and face protection where dirty or fogged lenses could impair vision.

Also, contaminated PPE that cannot be decontaminated shall be disposed of in a manner that protects employees from exposure to associated hazards.

## OBTAINING PPE - Eye & Face Protection

1. Non-Prescription Eye & Face Protection:
  - a. The Laboratory Stockroom provides safety eyewear (wrap arounds only), safety goggles and face shields. Welding goggles and helmets must be purchased through outside vendors and must comply with ANSI Z87.1 standards.
2. Prescription Eyewear:
  - a. The ES&H Section coordinates the dispensing of prescription safety eyewear and has a limited supply of safety eyewear with plano (A lens that does not incorporate a corrective prescription; this lens is not necessarily flat) plastic polycarbonate lenses.

Other divisions/sections also supply approved safety eyewear. Contact your division/section ES&H group for more details.

- b. The division/section SSO and pertinent supervisor must approve all prescription safety lenses containing "glass lenses." This practice is strongly discouraged since their use presents an unacceptable risk of injury in some work situations.
- c. Procedures for obtaining prescription safety eyewear are described in this appendix. The latest version of the "[Fermilab Optical Prescription Safety Eyewear Request](#)" form can be obtained from the web. It is also available from the ES&H Section, WH-7E or division/section ES&H groups. Below are some points to remember when obtaining prescription safety eyewear.
  - In general, not more than one pair of prescription safety eyewear will be provided to an employee within any 12-month period. Exceptions may be granted by the employee's supervisor.
  - The Fermilab optics technician contractor cannot determine an eyeglass prescription from an existing pair of eyeglasses. A prescription from your physician must accompany your request when placing your order for safety eyewear. Prescriptions shall not be more than 12 months old.
  - When appropriate, lens tinting is used to limit exposure to visible, ultraviolet and/or infrared radiations. This may include sunlight, welding arc radiation, or laser radiation.
  - Contact lenses are not protective eyewear. They may in some cases be worn in conjunction with protective eye and face devices.
- Deviations from these procedures will be allowed only on the written permission of the employee's Senior Safety Officer and the Fermilab Medical Department with advice from the employee's optometrist or ophthalmologist.

### Protective Eye & Face Selection Chart

SOURCE	HAZARD ASSESSMENT	PROTECTION
IMPACT - Chipping, grinding, machining, masonry work, woodworking, sawing, drilling, chiseling, powered fastening, riveting, sanding, etc.	Flying fragments, objects, large chips, particle, sand, dirt, etc.	Spectacles with side protection, goggles, face shields. See notes 1, 3, 5, 6, & 10. For severe exposures, use faceshield.
HEAT - Furnace operations, pouring, casting, hot dipping, and welding.	Hot sparks  Splash from molten metals  High temperature exposure	Faceshields, goggles, spectacles with side protection. For severe exposure use faceshield. See notes 1, 2, & 3.  Faceshields worn over goggles. See notes 1, 2, & 3.  Screen face shields, reflective face shields. See notes 1, 2, & 3.
CHEMICALS - Acid and chemicals handling, degreasing, plating, etc.	Splash  Irritating mists	Goggles, eyecup and cover types. For severe exposure, use face shield. See notes 3 & 11.  Special-purpose goggles.
DUST - Woodworking, buffing, general dusty conditions.	Nuisance dust	Goggles, eyecup and cover types. See note 8.
LIGHT and/or RADIATION Welding: Electric arc  Welding: Gas  Cutting, Torch brazing, Torch soldering  Glare	Optical radiation  Optical radiation  Optical radiation  Poor vision	Welding helmets or welding shields. Typical shades: 10-14. See notes 9 & 12.  Welding goggles or welding face shield. Typical shades: gas welding 4-8, cutting 3-6, brazing 3-4. See note 9.  Spectacles or welding face-shield. Typical shades, 1.5-3. See notes 3 & 9.  Spectacles with shaded or special-purpose lenses, as suitable. See notes 9 & 10.

NOTE: For hazard sources not listed, refer to pertinent safety person or review Material Safety Data Sheet for proper PPE.

## Notes to Eye & Face Protection Selection Chart:

1. Care should be taken to recognize the possibility of multiple and simultaneous exposure to a variety of hazards. Adequate protection against the highest level of each of the hazards should be provided. Protective devices do not provide unlimited protection.
2. Operations involving heat may also involve light radiation. As required by the standard, protection from both hazards must be provided.
3. Faceshields should only be worn over primary eye protection (spectacles or goggles).
4. As required by the standard, filter lenses must meet the requirements for shade designations in Table 1 below. Tinted and shaded lenses are *not* filter lenses unless they are marked or identified as such.
5. As required by the standard, persons whose vision requires the use of prescription (Rx) lenses must wear either protective devices fitted with prescription (Rx) lenses or protective devices designed to be worn over regular prescription (Rx) eyewear.
6. Wearers of contact lenses must also wear appropriate eye and face protection devices in a hazardous environment. It should be recognized that dusty and/or chemical environments may represent an additional hazard to contact lens wearers.
7. Caution should be exercised in the use of metal frame protective devices in electrical hazards areas.
8. Atmospheric conditions and the restricted ventilation of the protector can cause lenses to fog. Frequent cleansing may be necessary.
9. Welding helmets or faceshields should be used only over primary eye protection (spectacles or goggles).
10. Non-sideshield spectacles are available for frontal protection only, but are not acceptable eye protection for the sources and operations listed for "impact."
11. Ventilation should be adequate, but well protected from splash entry. Eye and face protection should be designed and used so that it provides both adequate ventilation and protects the wearer from splash entry.
12. Protection from light radiation is directly related to filter lens density. See note (4). Select the darkest shade that allows task performance.

**Table 1 - Filter Lenses for Protection Against Radiant Energy**

OPERATIONS	ELECTRIC SIZE 1/32 IN.	ARC CURRENT	MINIMUM* PROTECTIVE SHADE
Shielded metal arc welding	Less than 3 .....	Less than 60 .....	7
	3-5 .....	60-160 .....	8
	5-8 .....	160-250 .....	10
	More than 8 .....	250-550 .....	11
Gas metal arc welding and flux cored arc welding		Less than 60 .....	7
		60-160 .....	10
		160-250 .....	10
		250-500 .....	10
Gas Tungsten arc welding		Less than 50 .....	8
		50-150 .....	8
		150-500 .....	10
Air Carbon Arc Cutting	(Light) .....	Less than 500 .....	10
	(Heavy) .....	500-1000 .....	11
Plasma arc welding		Less than 20 .....	6
		20-100 .....	8
		100-400 .....	10
		400-800 .....	11
Plasma arc cutting	(Light)** .....	Less than 300 .....	8
	(Medium)** .....	300-400 .....	9
	(Heavy)** .....	400-800 .....	10
Torch brazing			3
Torch soldering			2
Carbon arc welding			14

**Filter Lenses for Protection Against Radiation Energy - Continued**

OPERATIONS	PLATE THICKNESS - INCHES	PLATE THICKNESS --MM	MINIMUM* PROTECTIVE SHADE	
Gas welding:				
	Light	Under 1/8 .....	Under 3.2 .....	4
	Medium	1/8 to 1/2 .....	3.2 to 12.7 .....	5
Heavy	Over 1/2 .....	Over 12.7 .....	6	
Oxygen cutting:				
	Light	Under 1 .....	Under 25 .....	3
	Medium	1 to 6 .....	25 to 150 .....	4
Heavy	Over 6 .....	Over 150 .....	5	

\* As a rule of thumb, start with a shade that is too dark to see the weld zone. Then go to a lighter shade which gives sufficient view of the weld zone without going below the minimum. In oxyfuel gas welding or cutting where the torch produces a high yellow light, it is desirable to use a filter lens that absorbs the yellow or sodium line in the visible light of the (spectrum) operation.

\*\* These values apply where the actual arc is clearly seen. Experience has shown that lighter filters may be used when the arc is hidden by the workpiece.

## GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING HEAD PROTECTION

The context below provides guidance for selecting the appropriate safety helmet for a given hazard. Safety helmets may be obtained through the Laboratory Stockroom, or purchased through outside vendors. All helmets shall meet ANSI Z89.1 standards.

### 1. Types of Helmets

- a. **Class G (General)** helmets intended to reduce the danger of exposure to low voltage electrical conductors, proof tested at 2,200 volts. Class G is tested at 2,200 volts for 1 minute, with 3 milliamps max. leakage. (formerly Class A)
- b. **Class E (Electrical)** helmets intended to reduce the danger of exposure to high voltage electrical conductors, proof tested at 20,000 volts. Class E is tested for force transmission first, then tested at 20,000 volts for 3 minutes, with 9 milliamps maximum current leakage; then tested at 30,000 volts, with no burn-through permitted. (formerly Class B)
- c. **Class C (Conductive)** helmets not intended to provide protection from electrical conductors. Class C is not tested for electrical resistance. (no change in class designation)

### 2. When Should Helmets be Worn?

Protective helmets must be worn where falling objects present hazards. Some examples include:

- a. working below other workers who are using tools and materials which could fall,
- b. working around or under conveyor belts which are carrying parts or materials,
- c. working below machinery or processes which might cause material or objects to fall, and
- d. working on exposed energized conductors, See FESHM Chapter 5048 for further guidance.

### 3. Occupations Requiring Head Protection:

Some examples of occupations for which the use of head protection should be considered include:

a. carpenters	f. linemen	k. packers
b. electricians	g. mechanics	l. handlers
c. pipe fitters	h. repairers	m. stock handlers
d. assemblers	i. plumbers	n. warehouse laborers
e. timber cutters	j. loggers	o. riggers

## GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING FOOT PROTECTION

The context below contains guidance for selecting the appropriate safety footwear for a given hazard. To order safety footwear, the [Safety Toe Footwear Request form](#) must be properly completed. The latest version of the "[Fermilab/Knippen Shoes Safety Toe Footwear Request](#)" form can be obtained from the web. It is also available from the ES&H Section, WH-7E or division/section ES&H groups.

### 1. Types of Foot Protection:

- a. Safety shoes or boots with impact protection would be required for carrying or handling materials such as packages, objects, parts or heavy tools, and for other activities where objects might fall onto the feet.
- b. Safety shoes or boots with compression protection would be required for work activities involving skid truck (manual material handling carts) around bulk rolls (such as paper rolls) and heavy pipes, all of which could roll over an employee's feet.
- c. Safety shoes or boots with puncture protection would be required where sharp objects such as nails, wire, tacks, screws, large staples, scrap metal, etc., could be stepped on by employees causing a foot injury.

### 2. Occupations Requiring Foot Protection:

Some examples of occupations for which the use of foot protection should be considered include:

a. shipping and receiving clerks	m. stock clerks
b. punch and stamping press operators	n. welders
c. carpenters	o. laborers
d. electricians	p. mechanics
e. machinists	q. repairers
f. gardeners and grounds-keepers	r. plumbers
g. timber cutting and logging workers	s. lathers
h. pipe fitters	t. packers
i. stock handlers and warehouse laborers	u. wrappers
j. structural metal workers	v. craters
k. technicians	w. sawyers
l. drywall installers	x. assemblers

## GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING HAND PROTECTION

The context below provides guidance for determining the appropriate hand protection for a given hazard. Gloves may be obtained through the Laboratory Stockroom, or purchased through outside vendors.

### 1. General Hand Protection Information:

- a. Selection of the appropriate hand protection shall be based on an evaluation of:
  - the task(s) to be performed,
  - conditions present,
  - duration of use, and
  - the hazards and potential hazards identified.
- b. Generally, any "chemical resistant" glove can be used for dry powders.
- c. For mixtures and formulated products (unless specific test data are available), a glove should be selected on the basis of the chemical component with the shortest breakthrough time, since it is possible for solvents to carry active ingredients through polymeric materials.
- d. Employees must be able to remove gloves in such a manner as to prevent skin contamination.

Additionally, the selection of protective gloves should be determined based on the type of hazard -- the duration, frequency, and degree of the exposure, and the physical stresses that will be applied. Also to be considered are toxic properties and potential health effects of the chemical(s) present.

NOTE: Employees are urged to wash their hands with soap and water after removing personal protective gloves.

### PPE TRAINING TOOLS

Videotape #FN000199, *PPE Availability and Use*, is designed to make employees and other Lab workers aware of the PPE requirements and to familiarize them with the various types of PPE available at the Lab. It can be given in a classroom environment or on the job. The classroom presentation includes a lesson plan with a short video. The "on the job" (OJT) material consists of small laminated lesson plans to be used by the supervisor for one-on-one training.

For more information on PPE training tools, contact the ES&H Section.