

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

(Reviewed 9/27/2007)

### A. Responsibilities

1. Supervisors are responsible for identifying personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements of each assigned task and ensuring that the equipment is available to and properly used by their supervised employees.
2. Employees are responsible for correctly using and caring for PPE identified for performance of specific tasks.

### B. Protective Devices

1. Eye protection
  - a. Approved eye protection devices must be worn by all personnel when working or visiting in eye hazard areas.
  - b. Photochromatic lenses will not be used for industrial safety lenses. These lenses are objectionable because of their high transmission of near ultra-violet and infrared light, their rather slow recovery time to maximum transmission of visible light, and their tendency to darken when exposed to many types of fluorescent lamps.
  - c. Contact lenses cannot be considered as substitutes for approved eye protection. In some instances, contact lenses may increase the hazard to the eyes. The work environment in eye hazard areas shall be evaluated to determine advisability of wearing contact lenses. Contact lenses shall not be worn in environments where there are chemicals, fumes, smoke, dusts, particles, or molten metals.
  - d. Prescription safety glasses shall be purchased for employees who must wear corrective lenses and are exposed to eye hazards on a continuing basis. Employees with only occasional exposure to eye hazards may use goggles or face shields designated to fit over standard eyeglasses.
2. Head protection
  - a. Approved safety helmets or "hard hats" will be stocked and issued to employees and visitors at projects when danger of head injuries exists from falling objects or other hazards.
  - b. Safety helmets will be used on jobs involving construction; moving or dumping earth, rock or gravel; operation of cranes; logging and clearing

brush; use of chain saws; fire fighting or prescribed burning; and other similar types of work.

- c. METAL HARDHATS MUST NOT BE WORN WHEN WORKING ON OR NEAR ELECTRICAL WIRING.

### 3. Hand protection

- a. The use of protective gloves is mandatory when working with or handling any materials likely to be hazardous to the hands.
- b. Barrier creams are also recommended to prevent dermatitis while working with chemicals.
- c. Appropriate hand protection materials will be furnished by the Center.

### 4. Foot and leg protection

- a. Hiking boots will be provided for specific jobs where the need has been identified.
- b. Special equipment to prevent leg injuries will be provided and used as required; e.g. leg chaps will be worn when chain saws are operated
- c. Rubber boots or waders will be provided when required. Rubber boots are to have steel toe protection on jobs that would normally require safety boots.

### 5. Other protective equipment

- a. Equipment to meet special conditions will be furnished if it would not ordinarily be purchased by the employee for personal use.

Selected Tasks and Associated Personal Protective Equipment

<u>Task</u>	<u>Personal Protective Equipment</u>
Chemical handling	Eye protection, respirators, rubber aprons, rubber gloves, protective cream, face shield, portable eyewash as required
Firearms practice and sighting in	Eye protection, hearing protection.
Herbicide Application	Respirator*, Tyvek coveralls, rubber gloves and boots.
Rat Handling	Leather gloves
Rat Cage handling	Leather or other sturdy gloves