

Personal Protective Equipment

Overview

This document covers the measures necessary to ensure that the use of PPE is effective.

What is PPE?

- 1) PPE is equipment or clothing worn to protect the user from known hazards in the workplace.
- 2) In construction, the most commonly worn items of PPE are safety helmets, high visibility clothing and safety footwear.
- 3) Other examples of PPE are respirators, safety harnesses, earplugs, safety glass and goggles, protective gloves and also some clothing.

Limitations

- 1) PPE will only protect the user.
- 2) It must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and any training provided.
- 3) The actual level of effectiveness is difficult to assess.
- 4) It must be in good condition to be fully effective; do not mistreat PPE, your health or life might depend upon it.

What your employer must do

- 1) Assess the risks to your health and safety arising from your work activities.
- 2) Try to organize work activities so that PPE is not necessary.
- 3) Where PPE is necessary, select appropriate items that suit the wearer and are CE-marked.
- 4) Supply you with the necessary PPE free of charge.
- 5) Train you to use relevant PPE, explain its limitations and explain the implications of not using it.
- 6) Ensure compatibility if more than one item of PPE is worn.
- 7) Ensure that PPE is maintained and replace defective or lost PPE, at no cost to you.

What you must do

- 1) Use PPE in accordance with the instructions and training given.
- 2) Return PPE to its storage, where provided, after use.
- 3) Take reasonable care of your PPE and report its loss or any damage to it to your employer.
- 4) Never work without PPE when it is known to be necessary

Health and safety



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Summary

TOOL BOX TALK RECORD

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Personal Protective Equipment

Feedback arising from Talk



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