



Personal Protective Equipment

Reason for Talk

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is designed to protect workers from potential hazards that cannot be eliminated through engineering or administrative controls.

Main Discussion Point

For Personal Protective Equipment to protect you, it must be used and worn properly!

Discussion Questions

1. When and why is PPE necessary?
2. What type of PPE is necessary to fit your job duties?
3. Do you know how to correctly put on, take off, adjust, and wear needed PPE?
4. What are the limitations of the equipment?
5. Do you know how to properly care, clean, maintain, and disposal of your PPE?

When to Use PPE

PPE should be used when all other safety measures have been considered and implemented. It serves as the final line of defense against workplace hazards. Here are key scenarios when PPE is necessary:

- **Hazardous Environments:** In areas where workers are exposed to chemical, biological, or physical hazards, PPE is essential. This includes working with hazardous substances, handling infectious materials, or operating in environments with extreme temperatures.
- **Manufacturing and Industrial Settings:** Workers in manufacturing plants and industrial facilities often face risks from machinery, loud noises, and flying debris. Ear protection, safety glasses, safety boots, gloves, arm sleeves, and respirators are examples of PPE used in these environments.



Types of PPE

- Hearing Protection
- Head Protection
- Respiratory Protection
- Eye and Face Protection
- Body Protection
- Hand and Arm Protection
- Foot Protection
- Fall Protection



Conclusion

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is a critical component of workplace safety. Understanding when to use PPE and selecting the appropriate types for specific hazards can significantly reduce the risk of injury and illness. Employers must ensure that PPE is readily available, properly maintained, and that workers are trained in its use. By prioritizing PPE, we can create a safer and healthier work environment for everyone.

Remember, PPE is the last line of defense. Always strive to eliminate hazards through engineering and administrative controls first, and use PPE to protect against residual risks. Stay safe and stay protected!



SafeGuard

Facilitator Tip Sheet

1. Engage Employees

- a. Lead Employees – Do not Read to Employees
- b. Make Eye Contact
- c. Be in close proximity of your audience (Ex: Huddle)
- d. Eliminate any distractions (Ex: Noise, other communications)
- e. Position the group around you, but not behind you
- f. Project your voice, in order for the furthest person to hear you
- g. Use Props and Visual Aids when possible
- h. Rotate employees or other leaders to conduct meeting. This will help promote ownership in Safety

2. Ask open ended questions

- a. Ask – Don't tell. Never tell them something, that they can tell you.
- b. The more information employees can tell you, the more they take ownership of that information.
- c. Don't ask questions that can have a yes or no or short response reply.
**Example of Closed Ended Question – "Is everyone going to work safely today?"*
**Example of Open Ended Question – "John, you are working in the press department, what are you going to do today to work safely?"*

3. Verify that employees comprehend and retain the information

- a. Verify they are listening to you and not just hearing you? They must be engaged by the speaker to be really listening to what is being said. Give them reason to listen by relating to them.
**Example: "John, who do you have at home relying on you to return safely from work?"*
- b. Ask, Show and Do (Ask the right questions, show a visual aid, do a hands-on demonstration with a volunteer(s).
- c. Providing hands on engagement leads to the information being driven into the long term memory.
- d. Get feedback of understanding and comprehension. Ask an open ended question.
**Example: "John, can you quickly summarize what we talked about today?"*

Communicate



Engage



Seek
Feedback



Improve