



TDCJ Risk Management's Training Circular

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AUGUST DO YOUR JOB SAFELY



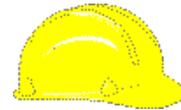
Am I in danger of becoming a statistic? Am I doing my job safely? What kind of personal protective equipment (PPE) do I need to complete this job safely? These are questions you need to ask yourself before starting any job. When choosing your personal protective equipment, remember the task at hand so you will obtain the proper PPE for the job. Need some help in choosing the right PPE?



What is Personal Protective Equipment?

Personal protective equipment, or PPE, is designed to protect you from serious injuries, illness resulting from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical or other hazards. Besides face shields, safety glasses, hard hats, and safety shoes, PPE includes a variety of devices and garments such as goggles, coverall, gloves, vests, earplugs, and respirators. The following information on personal protective equipment will help you make the right choice.

by falling or flying objects, fixed objects, or contact with electrical conductors, also OSHA regulations require workers cover and protect long hair to prevent it from getting caught in machine parts such as belts and chains.



Can PPE protect you from foot and leg injuries?

Yes. In addition to foot guards and safety shoes, leggings (e.g., leather aluminized rayon, or other appropriate material) can help prevent injuries by protecting you from hazards such as falling or rolling, sharp objects, and slippery surfaces, molten metals, hot surfaces, and electrical hazards.



Can PPE protect you from head injuries?

Yes. Hard hats can protect you from head impact, penetration injuries, and electrical injuries such as those caused



Does PPE help protect you from eye and face injuries?



Yes. Besides spectacles and goggles, PPE such as helmets or shields, spectacles with side

shields, and face shields can protect you from hazards of flying fragments, large chips, optical radiation, splashes from molten metals, as well as objects, particles, sand, dirt, mists, dusts, and glare.



What can PPE do to protect me from hearing loss?



Wearing earplugs or earmuffs can help prevent damage to hearing. Exposure to high noise levels can cause irreversible hearing loss or impairment as well



as physical and psychological stress. Clean earplugs regularly, and replace those you can not clean or are damaged.



Should workers wear PPE to help prevent hand injuries?



Yes. Workers exposed to harmful substances through skin absorption, severe

cuts or lacerations, severe abrasions, chemical burns, thermal burns, and harmful temperature extremes will benefit from hand protection.

When you are walking around observe the areas that require the use of gloves. We use gloves in the food service department for cooking and transferring food inserts. Field force and agriculture areas have gloves for staff and offenders using various



kinds of equipment. We also use gloves in the chemical rooms for handling chemicals and security staff use gloves to conduct searches of offenders and cells.

When should you wear PPE for respiratory protection?



BREATHING PROTECTION

Workers must use appropriate respirators to protect against adverse

health effects caused by breathing air contaminated with harmful dusts, fogs, fumes, mists, gases, smokes, sprays or vapors. Respirators generally cover the nose and mouth or the entire face or

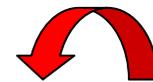


head and help to prevent illness and injury. A proper fit is essential.

Making the right choice

We all know the importance of choosing the proper kinds of clothing to protect ourselves from rain, cold, or snow. The same good judgment must be used against workplace hazards.

On-the-job hazards fall into two basic categories:



1. Physical hazards
2. Health hazards

Match your equipment to the hazard.



Hazards don't take coffee breaks



Once you've been given the proper equipment, **USE IT!**

Use it or you might LOSE IT !!

Your job is to use the equipment responsibly, so it can do its job of protecting you.

Some of the most common, on-the-job physical hazards are:

- ◆ Slips, trips and falls
- ◆ Moving parts or sharp objects.
- ◆ Bumping of the head



With all the various departments and operations the Texas Department of Criminal Justice has, you will find a wide variety of personal protective equipment including gloves, hard hats safety shoes, hearing protection and much, much more. Have you ever thought about thrust vests or riot helmets being personal protective equipment. Believe it or not, yes these items are also a form of personal protection equipment. This PPE provides security staff the protection to be able to perform their assigned duties in a safe manner. What about baseball players, football players, and hockey players we see wearing uniforms?. We really don't think about knee pads, shoulder pads, teeth guards as being protective equipment - but they are.

Safety Facts from the International Labor Organization

- ◆ Each day, an average of 6,000 people die as a result of work-related accidents or diseases, totaling more than 2.2 million work-related deaths a year.
- ◆ About 350,000 deaths are from workplace accidents and more than 1.7 million are from work related diseases. In addition, commuting accidents increase

the burden with another 158,000 fatal accidents.

- ◆ Each year, workers suffer approximately 270 million occupational accidents that lead to absences from work for 3 days or more, and fall victim to some 160 million incidents of work-related disease.



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