

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

ANSI is an independent agency that establishes safety and health standards based on scientific research.

OSHA periodically refers to ANSI standards in their regulations. ANSI standards can be purchased for a nominal fee.

ANSI Standards include:

- Eye Protection
- Foot Protection
- Head Protection
- Respiratory Protection

LIMITATIONS OF PPE

It is very important to be aware of all warning labels for and limitations of PPE.

All employees should seek instruction from their Supervisor on demonstrations of, and practice in wearing all PPE, as well as any instruction necessary for a specific job requiring the use of PPE.



CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

All PPE must be kept clean and properly maintained by the employee to whom it is assigned. Cleaning is particularly important for eye and face protection where dirty or fogged lenses could impair vision.

PPE is to be inspected, cleaned and maintained by employees at regular intervals as part of their normal job duties so that the PPE provides the requisite protection.

When a piece of PPE is in need of repair or replacement it is the responsibility of the employee to bring it to the immediate attention of his or her supervisor, the Safety Representative, or the Safety and Health Officer. The use of PPE that is in disrepair or not able to perform its intended function is prohibited.

Contaminated PPE which cannot be decontaminated is disposed of in a manner that protects employees from exposure to hazards.



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published the Personal Protective Equipment Standard 29 CFR 1910.132 - 139 to protect employees wherever it is necessary by reason of hazards of processes or environment, chemical hazards, radiological hazards, or mechanical irritants encountered in a manner capable of causing injury or impairment in the function of any part of the body through absorption, inhalation or physical contact.

This brochure was designed as a supplement to the Personal Protective Equipment Training Program. For more information, contact the Manager of Environmental Health and Safety, (330) 672-1950, dbaden@kent.edu, (330) 672-9565 or dehead@kent.edu

**Environmental Health
and Safety**

WHEN IS PPE NECESSARY?

PPE is usually the last line of defense in protecting workers from occupational hazards. It is also used to provide an extra level of protection. PPE is usually designed to protect:

- Eyes
- Extremities
- Face
- Head
- Respiratory System
- Hearing

HAZARD ASSESSMENT

The PPE Assessment Form is used to determine and document hazards in the workplace requiring the use of PPE.

When using the PPE Assessment Form, consider the work area and the relationship between activities, people and possible hazards.

WHAT PPE IS NECESSARY?

PPE is selected based on the associated hazards and/or potential hazards in the area. These hazards can come from a number of sources. An evaluation of the work area and related activity will help to determine the PPE that will provide the best protection.

HOW TO WEAR PPE

PPE must fit and be worn properly to achieve maximum protection.

TYPES OF PPE

Clothing

The clothes you wear should be appropriate for the job you are doing. Loose or torn clothing might catch in machinery, or on other items.

Eye and Face Protection

Many jobs - grinding, drilling, chipping, welding, handling dangerous substances require PPE for your eyes and face.



Foot Protection

Proper foot protection should be worn to protect from hazards which could cause foot injuries, ankle injuries, slips, and falls.

Substantial footwear must be worn in designated areas. Generally, they must be a sturdy, low heel shoe with a leather, vinyl or similar upper, leather or rubber sole, and no open toe.



Hand Protection

Protective gloves should be worn to provide protection from cuts, burns, or chemical exposure. Always be on the watch for pinch points. These are places where two surfaces come together and can pinch a finger or hand.

Head Protection

A hard hat is mandatory whenever there is a danger of injury to the head. Injuries to the head are typically caused by bumps or falling objects.

Hearing Protection

Hearing protection must be worn when working in a designated high-noise area, or performing certain tasks.

Hearing protection guidelines and related policies and procedures are detailed in the Hearing Conservation Program.

Respiratory Protection

In areas where respiratory hazards might exist, a formal analysis shall be conducted to determine employee exposure to such hazards.

Respiratory protection guidelines and related policies and procedures are detailed in the Respiratory Protection Program.

