Use of Personal Protective Equipment

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1. GENERAL

Personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used wherever hazards of processes or environment may result in injury or impairment and all other reasonable means of control have been documented as inappropriate and/or unfeasible.

PPE includes all clothing and work accessories designed to protect individuals from workplace hazards such as chemical, radiological, or biological materials or mechanical irritants. Examples of PPE include, but are not limited to, hard hats, safety glasses, face-shields, hearing protection, safety shoes, gloves, lab coats and respiratory protective devices.

2. PROGRAM GUIDELINES

2.1. Each of the members should adopt programs as necessary to:

   (a) Identify workplace hazards requiring the use of PPE;
   (b) Identify responsibilities for providing PPE; and
   (c) Select, use, maintain and inspect PPE.

2.2. The employer should provide training to each employee who is required to use PPE. Training should include the following:

   (a) When PPE is necessary;
   (b) What PPE is necessary;
   (c) How to properly use PPE;
   (d) The limitations of PPE; and
   (e) The proper care, maintenance, useful life and disposal of PPE.

3. CRITERIA FOR PPE

PPE selection should comply with applicable standards and guidelines such as ANSI, NIOSH, MSHA or other nationally recognized standards.