



SafetyAlert

We're Serious About Safety

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

A PPE program should address the hazard(s) present; the selection, maintenance, and use of PPE; the training of employees; and monitoring of the program to ensure its ongoing effectiveness. All personal protective equipment should be safely designed and constructed, be maintained in a clean and reliable fashion, and properly stored when not in use. PPE should fit comfortably, encouraging worker use it at all times.



Uncontrolled Hazards Which May Require PPE

- **EYE** – projectiles, dust, chemical splashes, steam, molten metals, and light radiation
- **HAND** – heat, cuts, abrasions, puncture, contact with chemicals
- **HEAD** – falling objects, projectiles, low headroom, or sharp edges overhead
- **FOOT** – falling objects, chemical contact, puncture, slippery floors
- **LUNGS** – dust, vapors, steam, lack of oxygen
- **NOISE** – consistently loud noise, impulse or impact noise

With few exceptions, OSHA now requires employers to pay for personal protective equipment used to comply with OSHA standards. The standard makes clear that employers cannot require workers to provide their own PPE and when a worker provides his or her own PPE, the employer must ensure that the equipment is adequate to protect the worker from hazards at the workplace.

For more information about the OSHA PPE standard, visit OSHA's website: <https://www.osha.gov/>

Personal Protective Equipment Checklist:

- Conduct Workplace Hazard Assessments
- Develop a written PPE Program
- Conduct Employee Training:
 - When PPE is necessary?
 - What PPE is necessary and why?
 - How to properly inspect, put it on, adjust, wear, remove, clean, and store PPE
 - The limitations of the PPE
 - Proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of the equipment
 - *Training is required upon hire, annually thereafter, when there is a change in hazard(s), and when employees are observed improperly using PPE.*



Beacon Mutual offers a variety of training opportunities for employees, supervisors and managers. Please check our seminar schedule for more information. www.beaconmutual.com

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