

# TOOLBOX TALK

DISCUSS WITH CREWS

mm/dd/yyyy

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

### Topic Overview

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is a worker's last defense against injury and death when other items in the hierarchy of controls are not possible. To make sure this equipment protects workers as it should, know your responsibilities for PPE under the OHS Regulation and related materials.

### Hazards to be aware of

#### REMAIN CAUTIOUS WHILE WEARING PPE

No piece of PPE will protect you against every workplace hazard. That's why there are so many types and styles. Each one protects you from different types of hazards. No matter what PPE you wear, it is essential to follow the safety procedures that have been established by your employer.

### Safety Tips

#### PPE SHOULD BE THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE

The first line of defense against safety hazards is elimination. PPE should only be used in conjunction with the hierarchy of controls. PPE should never be used as the only control to reduce injury.

#### PPE MUST FIT AND BE WORN PROPERLY

PPE that is too large or too small may not properly protect you from hazards and could create additional hazards. Wearing improper PPE could subject you to harm.

#### REUSABLE PPE MUST BE KEPT CLEAN AND WELL-MAINTAINED

Reusable PPE should be cleaned after each use and inspected before every use to ensure that it is still in good working order.

#### PPE DOESN'T LAST FOREVER

Worn out PPE may not provide the proper protection and can become a hazard. Replace PPE when it shows visible signs of wear or when test data shows that it is no longer serviceable.

#### PPE ONLY PROTECTS YOU WHEN YOU'RE WEARING IT

Even the most expensive, highest quality PPE won't protect you if it's not worn and properly applied.

Don't be afraid to **ask questions** about the PPE you're wearing and never hesitate to replace PPE that is worn out or does not fit well. It is your employer's responsibility to explain workplace hazards and provide safeguards. It is your job, however, to make sure that PPE is worn properly and fits well.

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### Resources

#### **WorkSafeBC Regulation 8.2 Responsibility to provide:**

1. A **worker** is responsible for providing
  - clothing needed for protection against the natural elements,
  - general purpose work gloves and appropriate footwear, including safety footwear, and
  - safety headgear.
2. An **employer** is responsible for providing, at no cost to the worker, all other items of personal protective equipment.
3. If the personal protective equipment provided by the employer causes allergic or other adverse health effects, the employer must provide appropriate alternate equipment or safety measures.

# TOOLBOX TALK

LOCATION		DATE	
PRESENTED BY		TIME	

## Review previous Workplace Inspections


## Review previous Accident/Incident/Near Misses


## Other Safety Issues or Suggestions made by Staff


## Attendance Record

NAME	SIGNATURE	NAME	SIGNATURE

TOOLBOX MEETING REVIEWED	NAME (PRINT)	SIGNATURE	DATE
MANAGEMENT REP			
WORKER REP			