

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423 815-464-0200 No. 30 Vol. 21 Week of 7/24/2023

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

As a construction worker you can be exposed to all kinds of different hazards. In today's safety meeting we will discuss some personal protective equipment (PPE) that you need to use to protect yourself. In particular, we will focus on PPE for your eyes, head, ears, and feet.

Protecting your eyes should be a high priority. If you don't have your eyesight you won't be qualified for most construction jobs. Safety glasses are the basic form of eye protection. You may also need goggles, face shields, welding helmets, or full hoods, or some combination of these. Each of these devices is designed to protect your eyes from specific types of hazards, like flying objects, chemical splashes, radiant energy, and molten metal. Eye and face protective equipment must meet the requirements of ANSI Z87.1.

Head protection is required if you work where there is risk of injury from falling objects, or if you work near exposed electrical conductors. Hard hats are designed to protect you from head injuries. The suspension system inside the hat acts like a shock absorber and distributes the impact over a larger area of your head. Class A and B hard hats also provide electrical protection. It is a good practice to always wear your hard hat with the cap bill facing forward. For more information see "Hard Hats" *Weekly Safety Meeting* No. 4, Vol. 21, 1/26/98.

Hearing protection will reduce the damage which can result from long term exposure to noise. To protect your hearing wear the right earplugs or ear muffs. Reducing the length of time you are exposed to noise can also reduce the damage. Many of life's most valued pleasures involve hearing — take the time to protect your ears!

Protecting your feet requires the use of proper footwear. Good sturdy leather safety shoes or boots go a long way toward protecting your feet. Check with your supervisor for any special footwear requirements, like steel-toed or chemical resistant boots, which may be necessary depending on your duties.

PPE is only effective if you wear it properly. If you are in doubt, check the manufacturer's literature or with your supervisor. All PPE must fit properly and be designed for the hazards you face. You wouldn't try to cut down a tree with a steak knife; don't expect a baseball hat to protect you from a falling brick or fashion sunglasses to protect your eyes from a flying nail.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Keep your PPE clean.
If your PPE is worn or damaged,
have it repaired or replaced immediately.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____