PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to identify areas where PPE is required and the types of PPE recommended for use in those areas.

1. GENERAL
2. Company employees will be trained regarding the proper use, fitting, donning, doffing, cleaning and maintenance of Personal Protective Equipment. Records of such training kept for a period of not less than 1 year from the effective date.
3. When issued, required PPE will be used at all times as deemed necessary by supervisory personnel, Customer, and whenever the individual employee recognizes actual or potential hazards where the use of same, might prevent an occupational injury due to inhalation, absorption or physical contact.
4. All PPE shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations. At no time shall PPE be altered or in any manner degraded to the point where it will not accomplish its intended purpose. Defective, inoperative or damaged PPE shall not be used. The minimum required personal protective equipment for all non-office personnel consists of wearing:
5. Safety glasses with a side shield (ANSI Z87.1);
6. Use of hearing protectors in environments where noise levels exceed 85dBA;
7. Safety shoes must be steel-toe and must meet ASTM-2413-2005 specifications or equivalent; and
8. A hard hat in areas where required (ANSI Z89.1).
9. Fire Resistant / Fire Retardant Clothing (FRC) shall meet 29 CFR 1910.132 (a) and NFPA 2112, 2113 & NFPA 70E for all applicable employees. Prior to use, Flame Retardant Clothing is to be visually inspected for signs of damage, deterioration and areas where sections of the body may not be adequately covered. FRC should be laundered and used in accordance with manufacturer requirements.
10. Other protective equipment that may be required, but not be limited to:
11. Safety goggles which meet ANSI Z87.1 specifications or equivalent. For use by employee in every instance where industrial soap or chemical is incorporated.
12. Respiratory protection to be worn in areas where the ambient atmosphere contains or is suspected to contain harmful or toxic dust, fumes, mists, gases or vapors. The type of respirator used is dependent upon the kind of hazard the employee will need to be protected against.
13. Full body safety harness with lanyard should be used by those employees who will work at elevated surfaces which are six (6) feet or higher.
14. Face-shields are to be worn by employees who will be involved in pressure washing, grinding, chipping, or other activities where airborne projectile are present and eye/face injury hazard. Employees may, depending upon the hazard of the operation, need to wear both safety goggles and face-shield when performing some activities.
15. Hearing protection such as ear plugs or ear muffs are to be worn by employees whenever they are exposed to noise levels in excess of 85dBA, or if two employees who are standing three feet or less apart must yell in order to be understood.
16. Gloves, which are suitable to provide the degree of protection the employee requires in order to protect his/her hands from hazard exposure.
17. PPE shall be turned in to the HSE Manager whenever:
* It fails to provide the level of protection required,
* It is visibly damaged (i.e., cut, frayed straps, dry rotted, etc.),
* It does not provide a comfortable fit, and/or
* The change schedule or wear date has expired or is no longer applicable.
1. TYPES & USES OF EQUIPMENT
2. Fall Protection Devices - During all work activities where an employee works above ground more than six (6) feet, a full body harness will be worn by all employees. It will be the responsibility of the individual employee to make the determination as to when such PPE is required, with such decision being confirmed and approved by the on-site supervisor and/or customer representative. Rigging should be routinely inspected and taken out of service when frayed, cut, worn, or dry rotted (See Fall Protection Program for more detailed information).
3. Ventilation Devices - It is mandatory that all confined or enclosed spaces, or areas where contaminants may accumulate, maintain adequate mechanical ventilation during entry operations. The methods of mechanical ventilation used by the Company include, but may not be limited to:
4. Natural Ventilation – When oxygen levels remain constant between 20.0% - 20.9%.
5. Pneumatic Blowers – When a maximum exchange of air capacity is required for large or oddly configured spaces. These blowers must be powered by air with the usual source being a compressor.
6. Air Horn (siphon type) – Suitable for use in smaller openings where controlled discharge is required.
7. Flexible Ducting – When ventilation from an area cannot be achieved through direct discharge of vapors or gases into the atmosphere.
8. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters – When electrical cords must run across metal grating or wet surfaces, the use of a ground fault circuit interrupter should be a main priority.
9. Level C Attire – When employees will don a Tyvek suit to avoid direct skin contact with known contaminants. Ankles and wrists are to be taped over the outside of boots and gloves.
10. PPE ASSESSMENTS, SELECTION & MAINTENANCE

1. The HSE Manager shall have the responsibility of conducting, documenting an annual PPE Hazard Assessment Certification. The hazard assessment will indicate a determination if hazards are present or are likely to be present, which necessitate the use of PPE. The PPE Hazard Assessment shall include the certifier's name, signature, date & document identification.
2. Employees will be provided the opportunity to select the personal protection at no cost to them, which offers a comfortable fit, without compromising the safety factor associated with the equipment when known or potential hazards exist. PPE selection and reasons for selection shall be given to the employee. Under no circumstances are employees to provide his/her own safety equipment without consultation and approval from the HSE Manager. The purpose of this is to ensure that all PPE meet applicable ANSI, ASTM and NIOSH requirements as well as assurances of its adequacy, maintenance & sanitation.
3. Additionally, protective equipment, including personal protective equipment for eyes, face, head, and extremities, protective clothing, respiratory devices, and protective shields and barriers, shall be provided, used, and maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition 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.
4. EMPLOYEE TRAINING
5. Each employee who may need to wear PPE shall be properly trained and/or retrained. Employee training will include, but may not necessarily be limited to:
6. When PPE is necessary;
7. How to properly don, doff, adjust & wear PPE;
8. Appropriate ANSI & ASTM standards regarding such PPE;
9. Situations, which require reassessment of PPE use;
10. Manufacturer’s limitations of PPE including the proper care, maintenance, useful life & disposal of PPE;
11. How to determine when and what type of PPE is necessary for existing and changing hazardous environments.
12. Levels of PPE adequate to protect the employee from the identified exposure hazard, with consideration to permeation, degradation, puncture worthiness and penetration.
13. Retraining of the employee is required when:
14. The type of PPE Changes;
15. The workplace changes, making the earlier training obsolete;
16. The employee demonstrates lack of use, improper use, or insufficient skill or understanding
17. Certifications must include the employee name, the dates of training, and the certification subject.

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| **Reviewed and Approved** |
| Quality Manager or President |   |   |
|   | Date |