

Eyes and Face Safety and PPE Overview

Refer to sign-in sheet for attendees (note: a separate meeting should be held with all absent employees).

1. Overview:

OSHA requires employers to require employees to wear eye and face protection from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids and other hazardous chemicals, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation. Over 1000 eye and face injuries occur in the workplace every day. According to OSHA, these injuries cost more than \$300 million per year in lost production time, medical expenses, and worker compensation. Many of these injuries result in severe pain and suffering with some resulting in partial or total blindness. Eye and face injuries can be prevented if the hazards are recognized and with the proper selection and use of eye and face protection. <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/eyeandface/index.html>

2. Eye and Face PPE for the Workplace:

Eye and face protection must meet the applicable ANSI Z87.1 standard. Compliant eye and face protection must be marked with the manufacturer's identification mark and the Z87.1 mark to indicate it meets this standard. Safety glasses, both non-prescription and prescription, meeting this standard will be marked on each temple piece, the lens frame, side shields (if removable) and the lens. Face shields will be similarly marked on the shield and on the shield suspension system. Eye and face protection for radiant energy, e.g., welding and cutting, are also similarly marked as well as goggles.

Employers must:

- Perform hazard assessments of the workplace and implement measures to protect employees from the identified hazards including the selection and use of eye and face PPE.
- Provide eye and face PPE appropriate for the identified hazards.
- Train employees on the proper wear, removal, storage and maintenance of eye and face PPE.
- Install eyewash stations and safety showers that are immediately accessible in areas where chemicals are used.

The following are typical workplace hazards which may require hand and arm PPE:

Hazard Type	Examples of Hazard	Common Related Tasks
Impact	Flying objects such as large chips, fragments, particles, sand, and dirt.	Chipping, grinding, machining, masonry work, wood working, sawing, drilling, chiseling, powered fastening, riveting, and sanding.
Heat	Anything emitting extreme heat.	Furnace operations, pouring, casting, hot dipping, and welding.
Chemicals	Splash, fumes, vapors, and irritating mists.	Acid and chemical handling, degreasing, plating, and working with blood.
Dust	Harmful Dust.	Wood and stone working, buffing, and general dusty conditions.
Radiant Energy	Radiant energy, glare, and intense light.	Welding, torch-cutting, brazing, soldering, and lasers.

Continued on Next Page

Employers must:

- Receive employer provided eye and face protection training.
- Wear employer required PPE.
- Inspect PPE prior to each use to ensure it is in good condition. Do not use defective or damaged eye and face protection.
- Wear, remove, store and maintain eye and face protection in accordance with PPE manufacturer's requirements and their employer's training and requirements.
- Report to their Supervisor if there are any issues, concerns or questions regarding the selection and use of eye and face protection.

3. Discussion:

- Discuss the eye and face hazards in your workplace.
- Discuss whether you have all of the appropriate types of eye and face protections that you need for the type of work that is done in your shop.

4. RECAP/REVIEW:

- Review your company policy for wearing face and eye protection.
- Review to see that your eye and face protection have the required manufacturer's and Z871 marks.

5. Reminder:

- Safety is the responsibility of both management and employees!

Next Safety Meeting is scheduled for _____ and the topic will be _____.

Take Exam / Review Results

The information herein is provided by MIA+BSI as a general summary for use in job site toolbox talks and is provided to augment and not substitute for or replace required training under any applicable local, state or federal workplace statute, law or regulation. It is the user's responsibility to ensure this content is consistent with job site requirements and applicable statutes, laws or regulations prior to use and make any required additions or changes.