



Correct Wearing of PPE

The correct wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is important in the prevention of injury or harm.

Employers have a duty to provide PPE and train employees on correct use. PPE is equipment that will protect the user against health or safety risks at work. It can include items such as safety helmets, fire resistant & arc rated coveralls, gloves, eye protection, high-visibility clothing, safety footwear and safety harnesses.

Employees have a duty to use their PPE in accordance with their training and to report lost or defective PPE.

Common areas relating to incorrect use of PPE within our business are detailed below:-

- Failure to use chinstrap on helmet when working at height. This could result in the helmet becoming detached during a fall or falling from height and striking a third party.
- Incorrect wearing of fire resistant & arc rated coveralls which could result in serious injury in the event of fire or electrical explosion. The correct wearing of the garment is defined as being worn with both sleeves covering the arms down to the wrists. Front of coveralls fastened up to the neck and trouser bottoms worn outside of protective footwear.
- Improper use of protective footwear by leaving laces undone which could result in a slip, trip or fall.
- Use of wrong hand protection for the task being undertaken. Operatives must use the correct glove for the hazard they are exposed to. Refer to SPEN glove guide for specific guidance.

Recommendations and action points

- PPE is the last line in defence and must be worn correctly, contact your supervisor if you have any concerns or issues relating to your PPE.
- Refer to the SPEN glove guide for information on what glove you should wear for specific hazards you may be exposed to.
- You can prevent injury or harm by wearing your PPE in accordance with your training. Contact your supervisor if you have any doubts on how you should wear your PPE.



Correct wearing of fire resistant & arc rated coveralls.



Incorrect use of chinstrap for working at height



Failure to secure laces can result in slips, trips or falls.