

# Personal Protective Equipment Awareness

## WHAT IS PPE?

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT WILL PROTECT YOU AGAINST DEATH AND SERIOUS INJURY.**



## WHY DO I NEED IT?

**PPE IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE IT PROVIDES A LAST LINE OF DEFENCE AGAINST INJURY, AND IT CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE.**



**IT *CAN'T* HAPPEN TO ME. CAN IT? OF COURSE IT CAN! AS DEMONSTRATED IN THIS TRAGIC STORY...**

A construction worker was using a power-activated nail gun while attempting to anchor a plywood concrete form.

A nail passed through the hollow form and travelled 27 feet before striking a 22-year-old apprentice.

The victim died from his injuries.

He was not wearing PPE at the time.



## IGNORANCE IS THE SILENT KILLER!

Try to visualise what your life would be like now or during your retirement years if your health failed due to an injury or illness that could have been prevented.

What areas of your life would be compromised?

Try to remember that you're not invincible, and take responsibility for your own safety.

## Be PPE Savvy!

It only takes a second for an accident to occur. Whether you'll be in a hazardous area for 10 minutes or 10 hours, you need to have on all required PPE. Let's look at the 7 types.



### EYE PROTECTION

Thousands of people are blinded each year from work-related eye injuries. Injuries that could have been prevented, if only people would have used eye or face protection.



### BODY PROTECTION

In some cases, you must shield most or all of your body against hazards in the workplace, such as exposure to heat and radiation as well as hot metals, scalding liquids, body fluids, hazardous materials or waste, and other hazards.



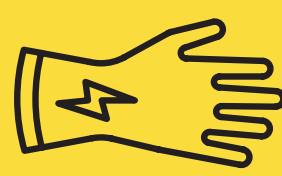
### RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Because many substances which are health hazards can become airborne, knowing how to protect yourself is very important.



### HEAD PROTECTION

Injuries to the head are very serious. For this reason, head protection and safety are very important.



### HAND AND ARM PROTECTION

If you are exposed to harmful substances through skin absorption, severe cuts or lacerations, severe abrasions, chemical burns, thermal burns, and harmful temperature extremes, you will benefit from hand/arm protection.



### HEARING PROTECTION

Wearing earplugs or earmuffs can help prevent damage to hearing.



### FOOT AND LEG PROTECTION

In addition to foot guards and safety shoes, leggings (e.g., leather or other appropriate material) can help prevent injuries by protecting you from hazards such as falling or rolling objects, sharp objects, wet and slippery surfaces, molten metals, hot surfaces, and electrical hazards.

## TAKE AWAY



PPE is incredibly important, because it provides a last line of defence against injury and it can save your life.

For it to be effective, you must use PPE in accordance with instructions and any training provided.