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PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Head protection should be used where objects may be dropped from above, where objects and equipment may be close overhead or someone will need to climb close to overhead projections. Even in some tight confined spaces, consider head protection. The type of head protection used will depend on the particular danger at hand.
- Around operations and equipment that may spread particles into the air, use eye protection and face protection. Dangers might include chemical splashes, grinding or cutting operations that will scatter small particles, or hammering and chipping operations that may throw larger particles.
- Use hand and arm protection where burns, cuts, electrical shocks, amputation, or absorption of chemicals may be possible because of hand and arm movement. Adequate protection might be as simple as using gloves, but also might include pads, wristlets, and protective sleeves.
- A variety of hazards cause injuries to the body's midsection. These include heat, splashes from chemicals or hot metals, impacts, cuts, and radiation. Use protective clothing suited to the hazard involved: vests, jackets, aprons, coveralls, or suits, for example.
- Rolling objects, sharp objects, falling objects (including those a person carries), hot surfaces, wet and slippery surfaces, all may cause injury to feet and legs. Foot and leg protection can include slip resistant materials, impact-resistant toe protection in shoes, and shinguards.
- Breathing air contaminated by harmful dust, gases, and vapors can cause illness. Where such hazards exist, respirators need to be chosen that are appropriate to the hazards. The proper choice might be anything from a simple dust mask to a more elaborate breathing apparatus.
- High noise levels, whether short or prolonged, can impair hearing. Loud noises, and certain specific kinds of noises, can also cause physical and psychological stress. A variety of hearing protectors are available and should be used where noise levels are high.