



MAY SAFETY BULLETIN

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Hazards exist in every workplace in many different forms: sharp edges, falling objects, flying sparks, chemicals, noise, and a myriad of other potentially dangerous situations. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires that employers protect their employees from workplace hazards that can cause injury. Each task should be evaluated, and every effort should be given to controlling the hazard at its source. The Hierarchy of Controls (below) shows the preferred methods of controlling hazards.

Job Hazard Assessment and the Hierarchy of Controls

- Elimination
- Substitution
- Engineering Controls
- Administrative Controls
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)-

Most Effective



Least Effective

If we can't eliminate or engineer out the hazard, the last line of defense is to apply protection to the employee in the form of PPE. A Job Hazard Assessment should be performed to identify the risks, and select the appropriate forms of protection.

Selection

- For Equipment- refer to the manufacturer's Operators Manual and follow recommendations
- For chemical handling and application- refer to the Safety Data Sheets, section 8 Exposure Control and PPE

Training- employees should be trained in the following:

- Which tasks require PPE
- How to inspect the PPE
- Proper fit- how to put on, take off and adjust PPE
- Limitations, maintenance, and usable lifespan of PPE

