

# **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**



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# **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

## **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

The safety coordinator shall be responsible for the maintenance, annual audit and all written and signed workplace hazard assessment to be completed for all jobs, processes, or phases of activity prior to the consignment of work to determine what hazards are present or may become present during the course of work which necessitates the use of personal protective equipment.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) included clothing and accessories (such as but not limited to the following): hard hats, safety glasses, hearing protection, respirators, etc. that are required in the work place to protect the safety and health of employees shall be provided by Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc. at no cost to the employee. Personal protective equipment is essential for employees to effectively guard against the many types of hazards that may be encountered on the job. Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc. shall provide training on the potential hazards in the workplace and the correct use of PPE for their protection employees are required to wear and maintain the PPE as instructed. Any violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action.

All PPE provided must be used according to Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc.'s policy for that type of PPE.

All provided PPE must be maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition.

All PPE will be selected and fitted for each affected employee. The reason for selection will be given to affected employees.

All PPE shall be inspected prior to each use. Defective or damaged equipment shall not be used.

Employee owned PPE shall not be permitted.

## **Head Protection**

Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc. employees shall wear hard hats when working in areas where there is a potential for injury to the head from falling or moving objects and when they are near exposed electrical conductors, which their head could contact.

## **Hard Hat Areas**

Hardhat areas shall include all areas where construction work of any nature is in progress.

## **Eye and Face Protection**

Each employee will furnish the required eye and face protection for each task. Safety glasses with side shields are required where there is a potential for injury resulting from flying objects, chemical or gases. Prescription glasses meeting the Federal requirement can be obtained through most opticians. Goggles are to be used during grinding and all other activities where required. Each vehicle will be furnished with a set of goggles.

## **How to Recognize Safety Glasses**

- Lenses:** Safety glasses that meet OSHA standards have glass, plastic, or polycarbonate lenses. They are stronger than street-wear lenses, are impact-resistant, and come in prescription and nonprescription (plan) forms.
- Frame imprint:** All safety frames that meet OSHA standards have the imprint “Z87” stamped on them.
- Frames:** Safety frames are stronger than street-wear frames. They help prevent lenses from being pushed into your eyes.
- Lens marking:** The manufacturer’s logo is marked (or etched) on the top of each safety lens that meets OSHA standards.

## **Welder Helpers**

Welder helpers shall wear eye protection with the appropriate lens shade in the welding area. Helpers observing actual welding operations shall wear the same protection as the welder.

## **Respiratory Protection Requirement**

In the control of those occupational diseases caused by breathing air contaminated with harmful dusts, fumes, mists, gases, smokes, sprays, or vapors, the primary objective shall be to prevent atmospheric contamination. This shall be accomplished as far as feasible by engineering control measures (for example, enclosures or confinement) of the operation, general and local ventilation, and substitution of less toxic materials. When effective engineering controls are not feasible, or while they are being instituted, appropriate respirators shall be used. Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc. shall provide respirators when such equipment is necessary to protect the health of the employee. Respirators shall be suitable for the purpose intended. Employees who wish to use Respiratory protection when not required by the standard shall be provided information contained in Appendix "D" of 1910.134 including voluntary use of dust masks.

## **Medical Requirements**

Persons should not be assigned to tasks requiring use of respirators unless it has been determined that they are physically able to perform the work and use the equipment. A physician shall determine what health and physical conditions are pertinent. The respirator user's medical status should be reviewed periodically.

## **Hearing Protection**

Employees shall be protected from the effects of harmful noise levels. This responsibility shall include provisions by Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc. for determining the presence of harmful noise levels and the implementation of an effective hearing conservation program when noise levels exceed the values set forth herein.

## **Noise Levels**

Protection against the effects of noise exposure shall be provided when the sound levels exceed those shown below when measured on the A scale of a standard sound level meter as a slow response:

<b>Duration per day, hours Slow Response</b>	<b>Sound Level, DBA'</b>
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1.5	102
1	105
1.5	110
0.25 or less	115

## **Measurement**

Qualified personnel using sound level meters meeting shall measure sound levels current ANSI Z1.4 "Specification for Sound Level Meters," or dosimeters meeting current ANSI Z1.25, "Specification for Personnel Noise Dosimeters."

## **Engineering Control**

Insofar as practical, exposure to excessive noise shall be eliminated by engineering and/or administrative controls.

**Hearing Protectors** Employees are to be provided and required to use hearing protection devices that reduce employee exposure to at least the levels indicated.

**Education** Employees shall be informed of hazardous areas through appropriate signage and instruction. Training on the proper use and maintenance of hearing protectors is also to be provided.

## **Protective Clothing**

### **Welding Leathers**

Personnel engaged in overhead welding or burning where severe burn hazards exist should wear leather gloves, leather apron, and coats or a combination of coats, sleeves, and pants providing equal protection. Leather gloves and apron should be worn during routine welding and burning. Appropriate clothing required for any welding operation will vary with size, nature, and location of the work.

### **Gloves**

Hand protection should be worn by employees, and be suitable to withstand the hazard, when certain types of hazards are present. These include hazards from skin absorption of hazardous chemicals, severe abrasions, punctures, chemical burns, thermal burns, and harmful temperature extremes. Material Safety Data Sheets can provide the necessary information on the type of glove to be used when handling chemicals.

### **Foot Protection**

Foot protection in the form of substantial leather shoes shall be worn on all construction projects. **Tennis type canvas shoes are not acceptable.** Employees are encouraged to wear steel toe shoes on the job site.

## **Training**

Steingass Mechanical Contracting, Inc. shall conduct and document training, including retraining where appropriate, to each employee who is required to use PPE. Each such employee shall be trained to know the following:

- **When PPE is necessary**
- **What PPE is necessary**
- **How to properly don, remove, adjust, and wear PPE**
- **The limitations of the PPE**
- **The proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of the PPE**

## **Retraining**

**Retraining will be conducted any time there are changes in the worksite, making earlier training obsolete or when the employee demonstrates lack of use or insufficient skill or understanding.**

**Written certification of training will be maintained and include employee name, date and time of training, and signature of who provided training.**