

Guidance Document

Gloves/Personal Protective Equipment(PPE)

PPE is equipment worn to minimize exposure to specific hazards. PPE can protect the worker from physical and/or chemical hazards. Examples of PPE include gloves, eye protection, respirators, aprons and coveralls. PPE is only one element in a complete safety program. Remember that PPE does not reduce the hazard itself and it cannot guarantee total protection. PPE must be used if the hazard cannot

dropping heavy objects. Some shoes provide puncture protection against nails, wire or metal scrap. In workplaces such as laboratories and the foundry areas bare feet and sandals are prohibited. Other footwear restrictions may be necessary to protect personnel from chemical exposure. For example, in most labs the wearing of open or pervious shoes should be prohibited.

Hand Protection: Gloves are needed to protect personnel from cuts, scrapes, punctures, burns, freezing, chemical absorption. The type of glove selected must be appropriate for the hazard. A glove must be resistant to permeation, penetration and degradation. The wrong glove may provide little or no protection. This is particularly true with chemical absorption where the wrong glove may allow a chemical to reach your skin, and you may be unaware of your exposure. For assistance with the proper selection of chemical resistant gloves, please contact EHS. Visit the following links for additional information and compatibility charts - [Ansell Glove Compatibility Tool](#) and/or [Ansell Chemical Resistance Guide](#).

Body and Skin Protection: In addition to eye, face and hand PPE, other body and skin protection may be necessary. Some operations will require the wearing of aprons, coveralls, lab coats or impervious garments. As with other PPE, the type of PPE must be selected based upon the hazards.

Hearing Protection: Ear muffs or ear plugs are worn as a last resort if the workplace cannot be made less noisy. The OSHA standard should not be exceeded. Personnel should not be exposed to more than 90 decibels of noise over an 8-hour day. Contact EHS for an evaluation of noise levels and for help in reducing noise in the workplace.

Respiratory Protection: Engineering controls will be used to achieve compliance with all respiratory protection standards. Respirators shall be used only as a last resort, for additional protection, or in emergency response situations. The wearing of respirators for protection against hazardous materials must be coordinated through the EHS Department, in adherence to the CSM Respiratory Protection Program. Dust masks may be worn for protection against large particles of non-toxic materials, not in the presence of hazardous materials.