



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

www.shglobal.co.uk

What is Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

- PPE is equipment that will protect the user against health or safety risks at work. It can include items such as safety helmets, hard hats and gloves.
- Hearing protection and respiratory protective equipment provided for most work situations are not covered by the regulations because there are other more specific regulations that apply to them. However, these items need to be compatible with any other PPE provided.
- Cycle helmets or crash helmets worn by employees on the roads are not covered by the Regulations. Motorcycle helmets are legally required under road traffic legislation.



What is Personal Protective Equipment? (PPE)

Examples of relevant standard requirements;

- Site safety helmet to EN/BS 397
- Ear defenders to EN/BS 352
- Eye protection to EN/BS 166.1.B
- Dust mask to EN/BS
- High visibility clothing to EN/BS 471 Class 2
- Gloves to EN/BS 388
- Safety boots to EN/BS 345 200



Selection of PPE.

- Choose only good quality products which are CE marked in accordance with the Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002 – suppliers can advise you.
- Choose equipment that suits the wearer – consider the size, fit and weight. You may need to consider the health of the wearer, e.g. if equipment is very heavy, or whether pre-existing health issues are present, standard PPE may not be suitable.
- Ask users to help choose it, they will be more likely to use it.



Use of PPE.

- Instruct and train people how to use it.
- Explain **why** it is needed, **when** to use it and what its **limitations** are.
- Ask, can they still use controls and touch screens when wearing safety gloves?... which will prevent workers from taking them off.
- Never allow exemptions for those jobs that will 'only take a few minutes'.
- If something changes on the job, check that the PPE is still appropriate – speak with your supplier, explaining the job to them.
- If in doubt, seek further specialist advice.



PPE is the last form of defence.

- Method statements and risk assessments are drawn up to identify safe methods of work and the risks involved.
- The risk assessment highlights the risk involved and the means to reduce that risk.
- The risk is primarily to do with YOU.



Legislation.

Summary of the main legal requirements:

- **Employer** has a duty of care to his/her employees to provide a safe place of work.
- **Employee** has a duty of care to him/her self and others that might be affected his/her actions.



PPE

- Even when you wear all the right PPE...
You *still* have to follow the safe systems of work laid out in the method statement.











**Leave work the same way you came,
not in a ambulance.**

Do you have any questions?

