



Safety Tip of the Week

Eye and Face Protection

Eye injuries occur in American workplaces every single day. No matter where we work, flying particles, dusts, splashes, or flying objects are apt to expose us to potential eye injury.

Causes of Eye and Face Injuries:

- Splashes from harmful liquid chemicals such as acids or cleaning solutions;
- Flying debris, chips, and dust from grinding and windy conditions;
- Flying projectiles from objects colliding, falling, or being dumped;
- Loose straps, cords, or banding that breaks or snaps under extreme tension; and
- Extreme heat and light radiation from exposure to flames, welding, or torches



The Bureau of Labor Statistics found that almost 70% of the eye accidents studied resulted from flying or falling objects, or sparks striking the eye.

It is not enough to provide personal protective equipment (PPE). Employees must be trained on the selection, use, fitting, inspection, maintenance, and storage of PPE.

Reduce Eye Hazards:

- Use engineering controls (best) such as machine guards that prevent the escape of particles or welding curtains for arc flash protection.
- Use administrative controls (good) such as making certain areas “off limits” unless that is your work assignment area or putting passageways out of active work zones.
- Use the proper protective eyewear (required but doesn’t remove all risk).

Summary:

Always give your eyes the highest possible level of protection. The PPE will give your eyes the greatest protection against all possible hazards. Inspect and maintain your PPE to prevent damage to your eyes.

EYES ARE PRICELESS – EYE PROTECTION IS CHEAP!!