

# Construction Hazards and Risks Control

**Lecture Title: – The Critical Role of PPE in Construction**

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**Undergraduate Diploma in  
Occupational Health and Safety**

# Objectives

- **Propose the personal protective equipment (PPE) and its appropriate usage.**



- The first importance of PPE in construction is that of the worker's safety. If a person is injured, this can and will impact the rest of their life. It affects their financial situation, family, and psyche. PPE, if used properly, can reduce the impact or save workers from dangerous scenarios that could potentially injure them and cause severe ramifications in their day-to-day life forever.



# Group Work

- Think of a scenario at the place of work (construction) and use the hierarchy of elimination to reduce the risk.

## Example

- Painting a beam at ground level on a construction site
- Using a ladder to paint the façade
- Cleaning outside of the upper window from the sill.



# What is PPE?

- Personal Protective Equipment refers to clothing and accessories designed to protect workers from hazards.
- Examples of PPE: Hard hats, gloves, safety goggles, high-visibility vests, respirators, and safety boots.



# Selecting Appropriate PPE

- Type of work being performed
- Potential hazards present
- Comfort and fit of the PPE



# Information to employees

- Guidelines for correct usage
- Cleaning and storage of PPE



# Employer responsibilities vs. employee responsibilities

6. (1) It shall be the duty of an employer to ensure the health and safety at all times of all persons who may be affected by the work being carried out for such employer.

Duties of  
employers.

Provided that where in pursuance of the foregoing an employer enlists competent external services or persons, the employer shall not be discharged from such incumbent duties arising out of this Act and out of regulations made under this Act.

Provided further that the workers' obligations in the field of occupational health and safety shall not affect the principle of the responsibility of the employer.

(2) The measures that need to be taken by an employer to prevent physical and psychological occupational ill-health, injury or death, shall be taken on the basis of the following general principles of prevention, that is by -

- (a) the avoidance of risk;
- (b) the identification of hazards associated with work;
- (c) the evaluation of those risks which cannot be avoided;
- (d) the control at source of those risks which cannot be avoided;
- (e) the taking of all the necessary measures to reduce risk.





as much as reasonably practicable, including the replacement of the hazardous by the non-hazardous or by the less hazardous;

- (f) giving collective protective measures priority over individual protective measures;
- (g) adapting the work to the worker, particularly in so far as the design of work places, the choice of work equipment and the choice of working and production methods are concerned, in particular with a view to alleviating monotonous work and work at a predetermined work-rate, and to reducing their effect on health;
- (h) by adapting to technical progress in the interest of occupational health and safety; and
- (i) by the development of a coherent overall prevention policy which covers technology, the organisation of work, working conditions, social relationships and the influence of factors related to the working environment.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of the preceding subarticle (2), it shall be the duty of an employer to provide such information, instruction, training and supervision as is required to ensure occupational health and safety.

(4) It shall be the duty of an employer to ensure that at work places wherein a sufficient number of workers are employed, there shall be elected, chosen or otherwise designated a person or persons to act as the Workers' Health and Safety Representative or Representatives, and who shall be consulted in advance and in good time by the employer on matters which may affect occupational health and safety.



*Duties of workers.*

7. (1) It shall be the duty of every worker to safeguard one's own health and safety and that of other persons who can be affected by reason of the work which is carried out.

(2) It shall be the duty of every worker to co-operate with the employer and with the Health and Safety Representative or Representatives at the work place on all matters relating to health and safety.



# Do you believe PPE is adequately used on construction sites?



# LN 141 of 2003 - S.L.424.21

- **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AT WORK REGULATIONS**



- Personal protective equipment shall be used when the risks cannot be avoided or sufficiently limited by technical means of collective protection or by measures, methods or procedures of work organisation, or as otherwise required by article 6(2) of the Act



## Part II - Employers' Obligations

Compliance with  
the Personal  
Protective  
Equipment  
Regulations.  
S.L. 427.38.

5. It shall be the duty of the employer to ensure that, where applicable, all personal protective equipment shall comply with the provisions specified in the Personal Protective Equipment Regulations.

Several items of  
personal protective  
equipment.

6. Where the presence of more than one risk makes it necessary for a worker to wear simultaneously more than one item of personal protective equipment, the employer shall ensure that such equipment is compatible and continues to be effective against the risk or risks in question.

Employer to  
determine  
condition of use.

7. The employer shall determine the conditions of use of personal protective equipment, particularly the period for which it is worn, on the basis of the seriousness of the risk, the frequency of exposure to the risk, the characteristics of the workstation of each worker and the performance of the personal protective equipment.

Equipment worn  
by one or more  
persons.

8. If the circumstances require personal protective equipment to be worn by more than one person, the employer shall take all the appropriate measures to ensure that such use does not create any health or hygiene problem for the different users.

Provision of  
adequate  
information.

9. The employer shall provide at the workplace adequate information comprehensible to all workers regarding each item of personal protective equipment required under regulations 6 and 7.



Equipment to be provided free of charge

10. (1) Personal protective equipment shall be provided free of charge by the employer.

(2) An employer shall ensure that the equipment is in good working order and satisfactory hygienic condition by means of the necessary maintenance, repair and replacements.

Duty to inform worker of risks prevented.

11. Before any worker makes use of personal protective equipment, the employer shall inform him of the risks against which it protects him.

Training and demonstrations

12. An employer shall arrange for training and shall, if necessary, organize demonstrations in the wearing and proper use of personal protective equipment.

Equipment to be used as specified, instructions.

13. (1) Saving exceptional circumstances, personal protective equipment shall only be used for the purposes specified in accordance with the instructions given to workers by an employer.

(2) Such instructions shall be understandable to the workers.

Duty of employer to assess equipment.

14. (1) Before choosing personal protective equipment, the employer shall assess whether the personal protective equipment he intends to use satisfies the requirements of regulations 6 and 7.

(2) Such assessments shall include:

(a) an analysis and assessment of risks which cannot be avoided by other means;

(b) the definition of the characteristics which personal protective equipment must have in order to be effective against the risks referred to in paragraph (a).



16. Without prejudice to article 6(3) of the Act, an employer shall inform workers and, or their representatives of all measures to be taken with regards to the health and safety of workers when personal protective equipment is used by workers at work.

Information for  
workers.

17. (1) A Workers' Health and Safety Representative shall be consulted in the manner specified in article 6(4) of the Act, and in the General Provisions for Health and Safety at Work Places Regulations.

Consultation with  
Workers' Health  
and Safety  
Representative.  
S.L. 424.18.

(2) A Workers' Health and Safety Representative shall have the right to ask the employer to take appropriate measures and to submit proposals to him to that end to mitigate hazards for workers and, or remove sources of danger.

(3) A Workers' Health and Safety Representative shall not be placed at a disadvantage owing to his activities.



# Training

- Always give training on what PPE needs to be worn on the construction site.
- Always check the manuals of the machinery they are working with.



# Workers Health and Safety Reps

- Always involve Workers Health and Safety Reps in any PPE decision.



- [Silicosis - is it the 'new asbestosis'?](#)

[https://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-  
blog/2020/08/17/respirators-construction/](https://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2020/08/17/respirators-construction/)





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