

Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to outline the minimum Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements for A/Z projects.

Scope

This standard applies to all A/Z Team Members (TMs) and subcontractors.

General Requirements

- ▶ Subcontractors are to supply, at no cost, the personal protective equipment (PPE) and training required to their employees for them to do his or her job safely. This does not include equipment, which is personal in nature, such as prescription safety glasses.
- ▶ Written hazard assessments are required on jobsites to determine if hazards are present which demand the use of PPE. These assessments should be included as part of the written and signed Job Hazard Analysis.
- ▶ Following the assessment phase, and upon hazards being present or likely to be present, A/Z shall inform each affected subcontractor that PPE is required, and require each affected subcontractor to wear the correct sizes and types of PPE for the work area.
- ▶ Hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, hard-toed boots, and high visibility outer garment are required on all work sites at all times.
- ▶ All PPE used shall be fitted to each affected subcontractor and inspected on a regular basis. Defective, damaged, or worn equipment shall not be worn and replaced at once.
- ▶ PPE shall be properly cleaned and maintained according to manufacturers' recommendations. PPE is to be used and maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition.
- ▶ All subcontractors shall use PPE when required by A/Z, Owner, or general contractor. In the event of conflicting policies, the more stringent PPE requirements shall apply.
- ▶ PPE shall be the last line of defense in controlling hazards.
- ▶ Routine audits shall be conducted to assure that personnel are wearing the appropriate PPE on the job.
- ▶ The Safety Department shall inventory and test PPE.
- ▶ The Safety Department shall maintain certification records.

Eye/Face Protection

- ▶ Approved safety glasses with side shields (ANSI Z-87.1) shall be worn on all A/Z jobsites 100% of the time. This applies to all subcontractors.
- ▶ Safety glasses and a full-face shield are required for operations such as grinding, using a chop saw, or any other activities generating potential for flying projectiles.



- ▶ Eye and face protective equipment shall meet the specifications of American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87.1.
- ▶ Dark or tinted glasses shall not be worn indoors or at night except when prescribed by a physician.
- ▶ Subcontractors involved in welding and/or burning operations shall wear the proper shaded lenses/goggles.
- ▶ Contact lenses shall not be worn unless proven authorization has been given by a physician.
- ▶ Suitable laser safety lenses shall be worn by subcontractors exposed to laser beams.

Head Protection

- ▶ Approved head protection (ANSI Z89.1) will be worn at all times and on every jobsite (see contract document *Exhibit T – A/Z Safety Helmet Agreement*).
- ▶ Subcontractor work that puts them in close proximity to electrical conductors shall wear protective helmets which reduce the electrical hazard.
- ▶ Painting, defacing, or punching holes in hard hats is prohibited. Job only related decals are permitted.
- ▶ Suspension systems of hard hats shall not be altered.
- ▶ Do not store anything under your hard hat that may interfere with the suspension.
- ▶ Hard hats shall not be worn backwards unless actively involved in welding operations, or manufacturer recommendations authorizes such use.

Foot Protection

- ▶ An ANSI-approved safety boot with an all-leather upper minimum 6" in height and a wide form base in good condition shall be worn on all jobsites.
- ▶ Sneakers, sandals, safety tennis shoes, or open-toed shoes are forbidden.

Hand Protection

- ▶ A/Z has implemented a 100% Hand Protection Policy with gloves meeting a minimum of ANSI cut level 4, requiring gloves to be worn at all times on project sites while in the active work area(s) (see contract document *Exhibit S – A/Z Mandatory Hand Protection*).
- ▶ If an activity can't be performed with work gloves, then it must be addressed in the Daily Safe Plan and supported by the JHA (e.g. fiber optic splicing).
- ▶ Hand protection selection shall be based on the tasks to be performed, conditions present, duration of use, and the potential hazards identified (cuts, burns, etc.). This shall be addressed in the JHA and the Daily Safe Plan.
- ▶ An all-purpose glove does not exist. Evaluate the hazards to determine the proper protection needed or contact a member of the Safety Department for guidance.
- ▶ As gloves wear out, tear or develop holes, they should be traded in for a new pair.



- ▶ Appropriate hand protection, as identified in Section 8 of the Chemical-Specific Safety Data Sheet (SDS), shall be worn when hands are exposed to chemical substances which could burn or irritate the skin, or which could be absorbed by the skin.
- ▶ A minimum ANSI Cut Level A4 glove shall be worn if a subcontractor has exposure to cuts or lacerations of the hands or wrists; abrasions or punctures.
- ▶ Leather style heat resistant gauntlet gloves shall be worn for welding activities.
- ▶ Gloves should not be worn around machinery or rotating equipment.
- ▶ High-voltage gloves shall be worn when working on or around known or suspected energized equipment or lines.

Hearing Protection

- ▶ Approved hearing protection shall be worn in all areas where postings require it; when working in known and unknown high noise areas; and around equipment and machinery which produces excessive levels of noise.
- ▶ Refer to Section 18, Noise/Hearing Protection of contract document *Exhibit I – A/Z Trade Contractor Safety Manual*, for more details.

Protective Clothing

- ▶ Subcontractors shall wear suitable clothing for the performance of their jobs.
- ▶ Loose clothing, dangling sleeves, ragged clothing, neckties, and hanging jewelry shall not be worn near moving or rotating machinery or equipment.
- ▶ Where possible, avoid clothing contact with paints, oils, solvents, or other hazardous and flammable substances.
- ▶ Jewelry is not recommended on the jobsite. Wedding rings are not encouraged, however, will be accepted.
- ▶ Shorts, sweatpants, ripped jeans, and tank tops are strictly prohibited.
- ▶ Subcontractors are required to wear, at a minimum, 4" sleeves, a machined collar, and long pants. Long sleeves are recommended due to the greater protection offered against skin contact from hazardous materials.

Other Protective Equipment & Clothing

- ▶ Examples of other PPE that may be required on any given job are as follows: welding hoods, life jackets, knee pads, Class 2 reflective vests, aprons, chemical resistant suits, electrical blankets or mats, etc.

Training

- ▶ Subcontractors are to provide their employees with documented training and ensure an understanding of the following PPE principles:
 - When personal protective equipment is necessary on the job
 - What types of PPE are necessary during which operations
 - How to properly don, doff, adjust and wear PPE



- The limitations of PPE
 - The proper care, maintenance, useful life of and disposal of PPE
- ▶ A post-test shall be given succeeding the training to verify comprehension of PPE policies, practices, and limitations.

Re-Training

- ▶ Documented re-training may be required in the instances listed below.
- A subcontractor employee displays incompetence in the selection, use, and maintenance of PPE.
 - Workplace changes render previous training obsolete.
 - Advances in the type of PPE being used.