

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

YOURSAFETY@IRP - TOOLBOX DISCUSSION

What if you lost your hearing, a limb or your eye sight? What would you miss out on? Listening to your favourite band, playing your favourite sport, hearing your child's first words, watching your footy team win the premiership?

Unfortunately, workers still suffer from injuries which cause the loss of hearing, loss of sight and even loss of life due to workplace incidents. Fortunately however, more workplaces are now taking the necessary steps to reduce the chances of these types of injuries and others from occurring through the use of various risk control measures (Hierarchy of Control).

Wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is just one way to reduce the risk of injury in the workplace but is often considered the lowest level of control and "last line of defense" (as illustrated in the diagram to the right).

Steel cap footwear, high visibility vests or clothing, gloves, safety glasses, hearing protection, hard hats, masks, sunscreen and a broad brimmed hat are just a few examples of common PPE used.



What are your PPE requirements?

IRP is committed to reducing the risk of injury in the workplace and therefore make it a policy that all IRP employees **must** wear the required PPE for their role/task.

Breaches of this policy shall be managed at the discretion of IRP and in relation to the nature and severity of the policy breach.

Ensuring a safe workplace benefits everyone, however a safer workplace can only be achieved when everyone participates and commits to safety.

Remember: PPE is just one of the ways to make your role safer. It is your responsibility to not only wear your PPE but also to maintain it. You **MUST** speak to your site supervisor or IRP consultant if you are unsure of its use, if it is damaged, not fitting correctly, or you think additional PPE or controls may be required to improve the safety of your role.

The Hierarchy of Control

Hierarchy of hazard control is a system used in industry to minimise or eliminate exposure to hazards. The most effective methods at the top and the least effective at the bottom.



It's such a simple choice!

Wear your PPE not because we say you have to, but because it could save your fingers, your hearing or even your life.

Do it for your family, your friends and yourself!

Talk to your IRP consultant if you have any questions about your Personal Protective Equipment requirements – Tel. (08) 9477 7999