

The Theme for February 2019 is: Correct Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Your Health and Safety

Our Environment

Quality Requirements

Whilst implementing a strong safety culture, during 2018, MWHT identified and reported 505 Improve IT Hazards regarding PPE. This figure demonstrates that avoidable hazards are still occurring everyday on site, that could be easily mitigated by following the correct process. Below highlights the key points to remember when using PPE:

1. PPE Requirements:

All personnel within the site boundary must wear as a minimum:

Labels: Safety Helmet, Light Eye Protection, Protective Gloves, Hi-Viz Jacket/Vest, Safety Boots (with ankle support).

All PPE issued must be CE marked and meet the minimum BS-EN standard.

Beanies and hoodies must not be worn under helmets.

In winter layer up and wear waterproof clothing.

2. Practices:

RAMS should outline the appropriate PPE required and any addition requirements.

Subcontractors (including delivery drivers) are required to provide own PPE to comply with MWHT rules.

Standard PPE and replacements required will be provided to MWHT employees free of charge.

3. Task Specific PPE:

When handling hazardous substances or spills, wear the PPE detailed in the COSHH Assessment.

Where identified as required, hearing protection must be provided and worn.

Wear flame proof overalls (BS EN ISO 11612) when excavating (in the event of a service strike).

4. Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE):

All employees using FFP3 RPE must undergo Face Fit Testing.

RPE should not be worn with facial hair as it can compromise the seal of the mask.

Keep records of the face fit tests.

5. Records and Training:

Provide training and instruction to all persons issued with PPE.

Inspection records must be present and in-date for all harnesses.

Keep a record of all issued PPE.

6. Maintenance:

Visually inspect PPE before each wear. Report damaged / faulty equipment.

PPE should be stored in-line with the manufacturer's guidelines.

If moving to a clean from a dirty water site, thoroughly clean PPE to prevent contamination.

Do not dry PPE on a heater, use the dedicated drying room.

Remember PPE is deemed a last resort and should not be used solely to mitigate risk.