



### Personal protective equipment

GIZ FABRIC – ETP Operator Course



Contents

Basic concept

Different types of personal protective equipment

Good practices to consider

Personnel to protect themselves against hazards and risks and take care of their well-being

#### Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- exposure barrier between person and hazard
- immediate but not ultimate risk control
  - temporary measures until other controls in place
  - precautionary measures
- limitations and drawbacks
  - only effective upto certain protection level
  - often uncomfortable and affecting worker's productivity
  - posing risks per themselves



### **Selection requirements**

- addressing specific hazards (e.g. dust or vapors)
- protection level to be achieved (e.g. legal threshold limits, reduction rating)
- suitable for conditions of workplace and tasks to be performed
- proper fit and size
- adjustable to user (shape of face, body size)
- comfortable and easy to use



### Propagating proper use

- Training and instructions on
  - purpose and limitations
  - use and maintain
  - check proper fit
  - detect wear and tear
- Safety signs in location where PPE to be used
- To be used by everybody exposed to the same hazard
  - Manager, supervisor, worker, contractors, visitors





#### **Safety helmet**

- To be worn whenever risk of head injury (falls, falling objects)
- Fitted with chin strap
- To be regularly inspected for
  - Cracks and signs of impact
  - Rough treatment and wear-out
- Good condition of inner cradle
  - important for absorbing shock of blow.
- Damaged protective helmet to be discarded and replaced



#### **Hearing protection**

- To be worn against high sound level pressure (noise) throughout duration of exposure
- Selected on basis of noise level measurement
  - Noise level and legal threshold level determining desired noise reduction rating
  - Ear muffs against very high noise
  - Ear plugs against elevated noise levels
- Proper fitting, correct seating and comfortable.
- Regular cleaning of muffs required
- Ear plugs not be shared





### **Eye protection**

- To be worn primarily against physical damage to eye
  - Also against possible exposure to chemicals
- Different types
  - Protective goggles
  - Safety spectacles
  - Visors or screens (splashes, welding arcs, grinding sparks)
- Where practicable, fixed fitted to machinery (e.g. bench grinders)
  - not substituting wearing of personal eye protection.







### **Respiratory protection**

- To be worn for protecting respiratory system (mouth, nose, airways, lungs) against airborne contaminants
- Differentiation by air-purifying and air-supply protection
- Selection based on
  - type on contaminant
  - concentration of contaminant
  - work environment (humidity, oxygen level)
- Recommendation in safety data sheets
- Always training required for users of respiratory protections





#### **Protective clothing**

- To control the exposure of skins to contaminants or external factors such as water, humidity, chemical and biological agents
- Common types
  - Work cloths
  - Gloves
  - Boots
- To be worn at work in place of day-to-day cloths
  - Storage facility
  - Change facility
  - Not to be shared



#### **Protective footwear**

- In ETPs
  - Non-slip boots for work in wet and muddy areas
  - Safety shoes or boots for maintenance work
    - Provided with strengthening toe caps
- To be kept clean and in good condition
- Proper sizes and fits
  - Too large footwear dangerous
- Worn down or damage footwear to be replaced





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#### **Gloves**

- Glove material to be suitable against type of agents and hazards
  - Sharp or hot items leather working gloves
  - Chemicals chemical resistant gloves (e.g. acid proof)
  - Electrical work rated electrical safety gloves
- Gloves not be used while working on moving machinery
- Gloves with metal reinforcement never around electrical apparatus or installations
- Regularly to be checked for wear, tear, holes
- Hand and arms to be washed after removal of any safety glove



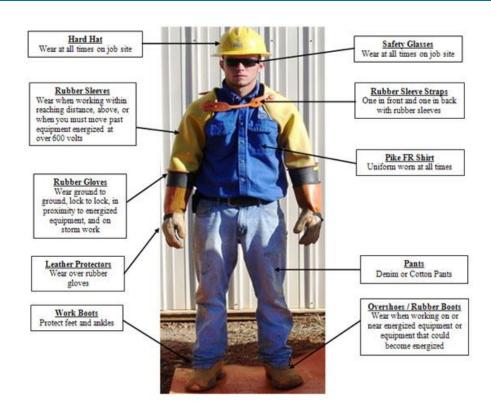
#### Fall protection equipment

- Use for working at elevated locations and for confined space entry, exit and rescue
- Main components.
  - anchorage,
  - body support
  - connector
- Tripod winch for vertical entry into confined space (e.g. manhole entry) without ladders
  - easily set-up by one worker and transported to locations
  - limitation for larger size openings





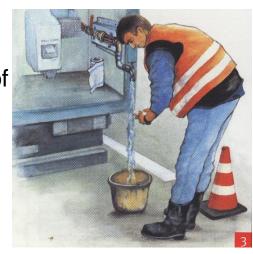
### Ready? Check



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### Personal hygiene practices

- Wash hands before eating or drinking as well as at end of shift.
- Avoid smoking with soiled hands because of risk of infection
- Non-potable water to be clearly marked not to confuse with potable water
- Keep food items away from areas with chemical and biological agents
  - Designated storage place in ETP



#### **Good housekeeping practices**

- Use cleaning facilities before entering ETP office or laboratory
  - Clean soiled footwear
  - Clean or change washable working clothes and protective clothing.
- Provide and use doormats or gratings for roughly cleaning boots or shoes
- Change into clean clothes before leaving work



#### **Special case - Chlorination for disinfection**

- Chlorine used for disinfection in some ETPs
  - highly toxic in very low concentrations.
  - incorrect use resulting in hazardous situations without warning

#### **Important**

- Keep water away from chlorine cylinders at all times
- Small leaks detectable by smell or use of aqueous ammonia
- Discoloration of joints sign of leakage



### To remember



- Being safe during work to be way of life rather than practice
- Use of PPE under one's direct control
- PPE not inconvenience, but essential control
- Carefully select PPE for specific hazard and fit of worker
- Be clear what PPE to use when and how
- Be aware of limitations of PPE

ETP OPERATOR COURSE - PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Check PPE regularly and keep in good order



