

PART 6

Personal Protective Equipment

Previous Regulation(s): New (Previously enforced through other regulatory requirements)

Summary of requirements:

- **Safe work procedures** to be developed, implemented, and workers trained.
- **Employer obligations re: personal protective equipment:** provided at no cost to the worker (except for protective headwear in construction and protective footwear in all sectors - where the worker must provide); must be appropriate to the risks associated with the workplace; must be stored in a clean and secure location readily accessible to workers; immediately repaired or replaced if defective; immediately replaced when contaminated.
- **Employer obligations re: equipment provided** – ensure the equipment is fit for its purpose, fits the worker correctly, and the worker is informed and understands the risks.
- **Worker obligations re: ppe** – wear or use in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications; take reasonable steps to prevent damage and inform the employer if the equipment becomes defective.
- **Where a worker is required to provide protective headwear or protective footwear** – the employer must ensure that the ppe meets, and is used in accordance with the requirements of this Part.
- **Specific types of personal protective equipment:**
 - **High visibility apparel** where there is a risk from moving vehicles or powered mobile equipment or due to visibility risks from environmental conditions.
 - **Skin protection equipment** where there is a risk from sparks, molten metal or ionizing or non-ionizing radiation.
 - **Protective clothing** – where there is a risk from contamination of the workers' skin or clothing by a hazardous substance. The employer must ensure that the clothing is laundered or disposed of on a regular basis. A place to store street clothes must also be provided.
 - **Protective headwear – employer to provide – at a workplace that is not a construction project site** – a liner for the headwear to protect the worker from cold conditions and a retention system to secure the headwear firmly to the worker's head
 - **Protective footwear – responsibilities of employers (in all sectors)** – must provide outer foot guards, where there is substantial risk of a crushing injury to the worker's foot; and protective footwear, where the worker's feet may be endangered by a hot, corrosive or toxic substance.

- **Protective foot wear – exception (in consultation with committee/representative)** – a worker may be allowed to use soft-soled, slip resistant protective footwear without puncture-proof plates in the soles and toecaps, if the worker is a steel erector or is engaged in the installation of roof finishing materials.
- **Eye and face protectors** – if there is a risk of irritation or injury to the worker's face or eyes from flying objects or particles; splashing liquids or molten metal; ultraviolet, visible or infrared radiation, or any other material, substance or matter. Prescription lenses or prescription eyewear are not included as eye protectors.
- **Hand, arm, leg and body protection must be provided by the employer** – if there is a risk of injury to the worker's hands, arms, legs or torso and appropriate gloves or mitts and sleeves if there is a risk of injury to the worker from contact with an exposed energized electrical conductor.
- **Respiratory protective equipment** appropriate to the risks must be provided. Equipment must be used and maintained as per the appropriate CSA Standard, must be of proper size and must make an effective seal. Equipment must be kept in a clean and convenient location and not shared by other workers.
- **Protection when working in dangerous atmospheres** – must be provided where a worker is required to enter an atmosphere that is immediately-dangerous to his or her safety.
- **Protection from drowning** - to be provided where a worker is required to work at a place, other than a boat, from which he/she could fall and drown.
- **All-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles** – if a worker is required or permitted to travel in an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile or a towed conveyance the employer must ensure that the worker is provided with protective headwear, including a liner where required, cold weather face guard and an eye protector for working in cold conditions. This does not apply where the all-terrain vehicle is equipped with roll-over protective structures and enclosed by a cab.

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**Note: This is high-level summary.
Please refer to the Regulation for more detailed requirements.**