

Personal Protective Equipment Standard

SUMMARY

This standard outlines the requirements for the selection and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

TARGET AUDIENCE

All employees exposed to hazards that are not adequately controlled by engineering or administrative controls.

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REQUIREMENTS

1 General

1.1 Personal protective equipment must be:

- Provided, used, and maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition where necessary, which is determined by: process hazards, environmental, chemical, or radiological hazards, or mechanical irritants capable of causing injury or illness through absorption, inhalation or physical contact.
- Distinctly marked so as to facilitate identification of the manufacturer.

NOTE

Exception: Employer manufactured shields, barriers, etc.

- Of such design, fit and durability as to provide adequate protection against the hazards for which they are designed.

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- Reasonably comfortable and not unduly encumber the employee's movements necessary to perform work.
- 1.2 Where employees provide their own protective equipment, PG&E is responsible for assuring that the equipment meets the requirements of this standard, including proper maintenance and sanitation of such equipment.
- 1.3 PG&E must assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present, or are likely to be present, which require the use of PPE. If such hazards are present, or likely to be present, PG&E must:
1. Select and have each affected employee use the types of PPE that will protect the affected employee from the hazards identified in the hazard assessment.
 2. Communicate PPE selection decisions to each affected employee.
 3. Select PPE that properly fits each affected employee.
- 1.4 PG&E must verify that the required workplace hazard assessment has been performed through a written certification that includes:
- The workplace being evaluated
 - The person certifying that the evaluation has been performed
 - The date(s) of the hazard assessment
 - A statement identifying the document as a certification of hazard assessment.
- 1.5 Defective or damaged personal protective equipment must not be used.
- 1.6 PG&E must provide training to each employee who is required to use PPE. Each employee must be trained to know:
- When PPE is necessary
 - What PPE is necessary
 - How to inspect PPE prior to use
 - How to properly put on, take off, adjust and wear PPE
 - The limitations of the PPE
 - The proper care, maintenance, useful life and disposal of the PPE.
- 1.7 Each affected employee must demonstrate an understanding of the training and the ability to use PPE properly before being allowed to perform work requiring the use of PPE.

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- 1.8 When PG&E has reason to believe that any affected employee who has already been trained does not have the understanding and skill required to properly use PPE, PG&E must retrain each employee. Circumstances where retraining is required include, but are not limited to, situations where:
- Changes in the workplace render previous training obsolete
 - Changes in the types of PPE to be used render previous training obsolete
 - An affected employee's knowledge or use of assigned PPE indicates that the employee has not retained the understanding or skill to properly use the PPE.
- 1.9 PPE, used to comply with this standard, must be provided by PG&E at no cost to employees.
- 1.10 PG&E must pay for replacement PPE as required.
- 1.11 Where an employee provides adequate protective equipment he or she owns, PG&E may allow the employee to use it and is not required to reimburse the employee for that equipment.
- 1.12 PG&E must verify that each affected employee has received and understands the required training, for the respective PPE, through a written certification that:
- Contains the name of each employee trained
 - Contains the date(s) of training
 - Identifies the subject of the certification.
- 1.13 PPE must be disposable or be capable of being cleaned easily and disinfected. PPE must be kept clean and in good repair. Safety devices, including protective clothing worn by the employee, must not be interchanged among the employees until properly cleaned.

2 Head Protection

- 2.1 Employees working in locations where there is a risk of receiving head injuries from flying or falling objects and/or electric shock and burns must wear approved head protection.
- 2.2 When head protection is required, PG&E must ensure that the head protection provided for each employee exposed to high-voltage electric shock and burns also meets the specifications contained in any of the following consensus standards:
- American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) Z89.1-2009, "American National Standard for Industrial Head Protection"
 - ANSI Z89.1-2003, "American National Standard for Industrial Head Protection"
 - ANSI Z89.1-1997, "American National Standard for Industrial Head Protection."

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- 2.3 PG&E must ensure that the appropriate impact type helmet is selected and used.
- 2.4 All protective helmets must meet either Type I or Type II impact requirements. Type I helmets are intended to reduce the force of impact resulting from a blow only to the top of the head. Type II helmets are intended to reduce the force of impact resulting from a blow to the top or sides of the head.
- 2.5 PG&E must ensure that the appropriate class of ANSI designated helmet is selected and used in accordance with the following:
- When protective helmets are only required to reduce the danger of injury from flying or falling objects, protective helmets must be ANSI-Z89.1 designated Class C, E, or G.
 - When there is a risk of head injury from contact with conductors less than 600 volts, protective helmets must be ANSI-Z89.1 designated Class E or G.
 - When there is a risk of head injury from contact with conductors greater than 600 volts, protective helmets must be ANSI-Z89.1 designated Class E.
- 2.6 Protective helmets must bear the permanent markings required by the ANSI standard under which it was approved. At a minimum, the marking must identify the manufacturer, ANSI designated standard number and date, and ANSI designated class and impact type of helmet.
- 2.7 Where there is a risk of injury from hair entanglements in moving parts of machinery, combustibles or toxic contaminants, employees must confine their hair to eliminate the hazard.

3 Eye and Face Protection

- 3.1 Employees working in locations where there is a risk of receiving eye injuries such as punctures, abrasions, contusions, or burns as a result of contact with flying particles, hazardous substances, projections or injurious light rays which are inherent in the work or environment, must be safeguarded by means of face and/or eye protection.
- 3.2 Suitable screens or shields isolating the hazardous exposure may be considered adequate safeguarding for nearby employees.
- 3.3 PG&E must provide and ensure that employees use protection suitable for the exposure.
- 3.4 Where exposed to injurious light rays, the shade of lens to use in any instance must be selected in accordance with [Table EP-1 in Title 8 CCR Section 3382](#).
- 3.5 Where eye protection is required and the employee requires vision correction, such eye protection must be provided in one of the following ways:
- Safety glasses with suitable corrected lenses
 - Safety goggles designed to fit over glasses

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- Protective goggles with corrective lenses mounted behind the protective lenses.
- 3.6 Wearing of contact lenses is prohibited in working environments having harmful exposure to materials or light flashes, except when special precautionary procedures, which are medically approved, have been established for the protection of the exposed employee.
- 3.7 Existing devices for eye and face protection must be in accordance with ANSI, Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, Z87.1-1989 or later.
- 3.8 Newly purchased eye and face protection must be designed, constructed, and used in accordance with ANSI Z87.1-2010.
- 3.9 Safety eyewear must bear one of the following markings (usually found on the temple of safety eyewear frames):
- Z87
 - Z87+
 - Z87-2
 - Z87-2+.
- 3.10 Side shield protection must be used whenever the hazard of flying objects is angular and frontal.
- 3.11 Employees who are exposed to laser beams must be furnished suitable laser safety goggles which will protect for the specific wavelength of the laser and be of optical density (O.D.) adequate for the energy involved. [Table EP-2 in Title 8 CCR Section 3382](#) lists the maximum power or energy density for which adequate protection is afforded by glasses of optical densities from 5 through 8. Output levels falling between lines in this table require the higher optical density.
- 3.12 All laser safety goggles must bear a label identifying the following data:
- The laser wavelengths for which use is intended
 - The optical density of those wavelengths
 - The visible light transmission.
- #### 4 Hand Protection
- 4.1 Hand protection must be required for employees whose work involves exposure to cuts, burns, harmful physical or chemical agents or radioactive materials which are encountered and capable of causing injury.

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- 4.2 Hand protection, such as gloves, must not be worn where there is a danger of the hand protection becoming entangled in moving machinery or materials.

5 Body Protection

- 5.1 Body protection may be required for employees whose work exposes parts of their body, not otherwise protected as required by other sections of this standard, to hazardous or flying substances or objects.
- 5.2 Clothing appropriate for the work being done must be worn. Loose sleeves, tails, ties, lapels, cuffs, or other loose clothing which can be entangled in moving machinery must not be worn.
- 5.3 Clothing saturated or impregnated with flammable liquids, corrosive substances, irritants or oxidizing agents must be removed and must not be worn until properly cleaned.

6 Foot Protection

- 6.1 Appropriate foot protection must be required for employees who are exposed to foot injuries from electrical hazards, hot, corrosive, or poisonous substances, falling objects, crushing or penetrating actions, or who are required to work in abnormally wet locations.
- 6.2 Protective footwear must, at a minimum, meet the requirements and specifications in American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F 2412-05, Standard Test Methods for Foot Protection and ASTM F 2413-05, Standard Specification for Performance Requirements for Foot Protection.
- 6.3 Protective footwear must bear the marking ASTM F2413-05. This marking is usually found on the tongue of safety shoes.
- 6.4 Lines of Businesses (LOBs) may require a specific type of foot protection (e.g. composite, steel, etc.).
- 6.5 Footwear, which is defective or inappropriate to the extent that its ordinary use creates the possibility of foot injuries, must not be worn.

7 Life Rings and Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

- 7.1 PG&E must protect employees exposed to drowning hazard by having:
- At least one U.S. Coast Guard approved 30-inch life ring with 90-feet or more of 600-pound capacity line attached and kept in a conveniently accessible place where employees are exposed to the hazard of drowning or
 - Each employee wearing a U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFD.
- 7.2 Any PFD must be approved by the U.S. Coast Guard as a Type I PFD, Type II PFD, Type III PFD, or their equivalent.

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7.3 PFDs must be maintained in good condition. They must be removed from service when damaged so as to affect their buoyant properties or capability of being fastened.

8 Hearing Protection

8.1 For hearing protection requirements, see [SAFE-2003S Noise Control Standard](#).

9 Respiratory Protection

9.1 For Respiratory Protection requirements, see [SAFE-2006S Respiratory Protection Standard](#).

END of Requirements

DEFINITIONS

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Specialized clothing or equipment worn by employees for protection against health and safety hazards.

IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lines of business (LOBs) are responsible for assessing the specific work hazards related to their work processes, and are accountable for complying with this standard at a minimum, and specifying measures that exceed this standard at their discretion.
- Officers, directors, superintendents, and supervisors of Utility Operations are responsible for determining which of their employees are covered by this standard and ensuring that employees are trained and comply with the requirements of this standard.
- Safety Compliance and Auditing will communicate the requirements of this standard to the impacted LOBs.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

[Utility Standard: SAFE-1001S – Safety and Health Program](#)

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT / REGULATORY COMMITMENT

[Title 8 CCR Subchapter 7 General Industry Safety Orders, Article 10. Personal Safety Devices and Safeguards](#)

[Title 8 CCR Subchapter 4 Construction Safety Orders, Article 3. General](#)

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Developmental References:

NA

Supplemental References:

Personal Protective Equipment Standard

SAFE-2003S Noise Control Standard

SAFE-2006S Respiratory Protection Standard

APPENDICES

NA

ATTACHMENTS

NA

DOCUMENT REVISION

SHC 241 Industrial Prescription Safety Eyewear Program

DOCUMENT APPROVER

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REVISION NOTES

Where?	What Changed?
1	Revised Section 1 General to include certification and PPE requirements and updated language to 1.9
2	Revised wording for head protection requirements
5	Added requirement for hand protection
6	Added requirement for foot protection
8	Updated to link standard to company's Noise Control Standard
9	Updated to link standard to company's Respiratory Protection Standard