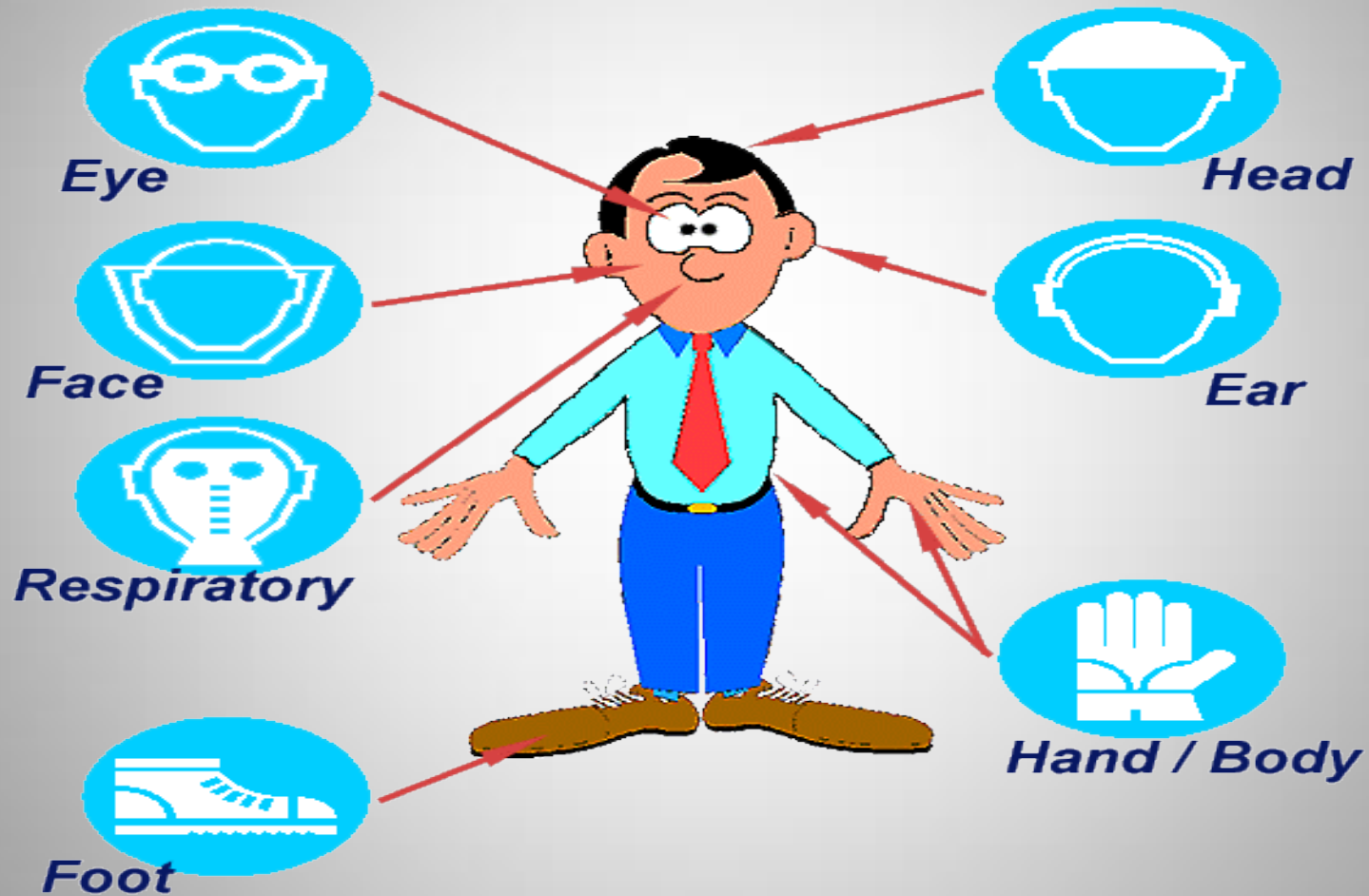


Personal Protective Equipment



Workplace Evaluation

An evaluation of your workplace conditions is required to determine and select the appropriate personal protective equipment

Hazard Assessment

- A hazard is any practice, behaviour, substance, condition or combination of these that can cause injury or illness to people or property
- An assessment is the process of identifying the hazards so they can be eliminated or controlled
- Controls are the processes put into place to protect against injury or illness

Selection, Use and Maintenance

PPE must

- Be selected and used in accordance with recognized standards, and provide effective protection
- Not in itself create a hazard to the wearer
- Be compatible, so that one item of personal protective equipment does not make another item ineffective
- Be maintained in good working order and in a sanitary condition
- Inspected prior to use
- Replaced as necessary

Responsibilities

The Employer

Must ensure that all workers using PPE are

- Adequately instructed in the correct use, limitations and assigned maintenance duties

The Supervisor

Must ensure that appropriate PPE is

- Available to workers
- Properly worn, cleaned, inspected and maintained
- Understand manufactures recommendations

Worker's responsibilities

- Use the equipment in accordance with training and instruction
- Inspect the equipment before use
- Report any equipment malfunction to the supervisor or employer
- Clean, maintain or store personal protective equipment in accordance with training and instruction and/or according to the manufactures instructions

The Equipment

Hard Hats

- Must be worn any time there is a danger from falling, flying or thrown objects
- Must meet CSA Z94.1-92 or ANSI Z89.1-1986 standards
- Any time the employer requires
- Removed from service if damaged – look for UV fading, cracks, damaged suspension
- CSA approved Helmets must be worn when operating or riding on ATV

Hearing Protection

- Mandatory when noise exceeds 85 dBa
- If you need to shout to hear it is too loud
- Must meet CSA Standard Z94.2-02
- Many different styles; ear plugs, custom plugs, earmuffs
- The proper fit, care and maintenance is key to hearing preservation
- Initial and Annual hearing tests conducted at UNBC

High Vis Vests

- Must be worn when working around mobile equipment and vehicles
- Must be used when it is necessary to check on a workers location or well-being
- Not covered by other clothing or items
- Must have a florescent background with a contrasting color and retro reflective striping meeting WCB PPE Standard 2-1997

Safety Eyewear

- A worker must wear properly fitting safety eyewear appropriate to the conditions of the workplace
- When exposed to material that will injure or irritate the eyes
- Prescription Eyewear with side shields
- Consider goggles or face shields
- Must meet CSA standard Z94.3-92
- Can be tinted for conditions

Footwear

- Determine the design, construction and material appropriate to the protection required
- Safety protective footwear must meet CSA Standard CAN/CSA-Z195-M92
 - Toe and/or metatarsal protection
 - Puncture resistant soles
 - Dielectric
- Other factors to be considered: slipping, uneven terrain, abrasion, ankle protection, temperature extremes and any other recognizable hazard

Buoyancy Equipment

- Must be used when working conditions involve a risk of drowning
- PFD or Life Jacket
- Designed to different Standards
 - Careful selection for the intended use as not all will turn an unconscious person from a facedown position in the water

Selecting a Flotation Device

Standards are based on

- Is rescue readily available
 - is the worker wearing this flotation device within eyesight or earshot of another worker who is in a position to immediately come to the worker's aid
- Is worker working alone
 - when working around water this means out of eyesight or earshot of another worker
- Is the water rough
 - Can the individual's mouth might be raised above the water if the individual is unconscious.

Look For

- Retro reflective material on surfaces that are normally above the water surface
- If automatically inflatable lifejackets are used keep record of all inspections and maintenance
- Buoyancy Rating
 - Minimum buoyancy of 15.5lbs
 - Must be appropriate for both your weight and the amount of gear and clothing you have on
- Size
 - Weight
 - Chest size
 - Consider the clothes you will be wearing while working

Buoyancy Equipment must have a permanent label identifying

- The standard it meets
- The size of the jacket
- The weight of person the jacket is designed for
- The name of the manufacturer
- The date of manufacture
- The Transport Canada approval number

Chest Waders

- Select the type of wader for water and stream bed conditions – thickness, water temperature, felt or lug sole
- Sizing – mobility, layer clothing underneath
- Hazard of falling and the waders filling with water
- Use a wader belt, this will slow down the amount of water entering your waders
- In fast moving water float on your back with your feet forward
- Feel your way with your feet as you move, barely picking your feet up

Wading - Know your limits

- Do not panic. Once your waders fill with water they will become buoyant
- Wade up to only your hips
- Wear a PFD
- Read the water and know your surroundings
- Stream speed, slippery rocks, deep pools, limited visibility
- Linked arms or wading staff if crossing stream

Gloves

- Identify why a glove is necessary
 - To protect hands against the product
 - To protect hands against the environment
 - Chemical resistant, leather, anti vibration
- Identify the hazard
 - Abrasions, scrapes and cuts
 - Chemical
 - Viruses, Bacteria, Blood born pathogens, Body fluids
 - Temperature
 - Power – Electrical current

Selecting a Glove

- Select the appropriate material for the hazard
 - Do some research, make sure you have the right material
 - There are many different materials
cotton, leather, vinyl, nitrile, latex, PVC, Neoprene
Kevlar and combination gloves
 - Check the MSDS
 - Talk to a supplier

- Size the glove correctly
 - Makes handling tools difficult
 - More likely to take them off
 - Is layering the gloves necessary
- Assess other factors
 - How long does the glove need to be
 - Vibration
 - Insulated
 - Breathable
 - Dexterity

Weather Conditions

- Watch for signs of hypo/hyperthermia
- Work rest/cycles, work/warm cycles
- Fluid replacement
- Acclimation and personal conditioning
- Beaufort Scale: 10_{mph} wind at 0 = -24
- Coastal conditions versus Interior
- Be prepared with extra clothing
- Dry feet and hands, warm head
- Sun Screen, sunglasses and hats

Electro fishing is dangerous work

- Workers involved in electrofishing operations must be trained in the fundamentals of electricity, and follow written safe work procedures
- employers and representatives of the employers (i.e. crew supervisors) need to ensure the ongoing competence of the electrofishing operators

The employer must ensure that

- only certified workers trained in a course acceptable to the Board conduct electrofishing operations
- workers are provided with a statement of their responsibilities and written safe work procedures
- workers are trained in and are knowledgeable of their responsibilities and work procedures
- Ensure only commercially available certified electrofishing equipment is used

Crew Leader or Supervisor

- responsibilities include the following:
- Supervising daily operations and safety of the team
- Identifying and assessing site hazards, and ensuring adequate control measures are in place before initiating electrofishing work procedures
- Conducting bank-side crew talks regarding equipment checkout procedures and safe work procedures
- Inspecting equipment and ensuring maintenance and repair (Inspection should be daily and the testing/maintenance interval should not be greater than once a year)
- Preventing hazardous work procedures

Crew Members

- responsibilities include the following:
- Being knowledgeable of and following provided instruction, training, and written safe work procedures
- Ensuring a detailed instruction manual for electrofishing equipment is available and that they are thoroughly familiar with the manual
- Reporting identified and/or observed hazardous conditions to the supervisor or employer

Electro fishing safe work procedures

Crew size and the role of each member

Safe use of equipment

Setup and security of work area

Maintenance and inspection of equipment

Use of protective equipment and clothing

- non conductive footwear

- gloves 14" in length with 5000 Volt rating

Emergency Plan

Written procedures addressing

- First aid procedures
- Action plans in case of accidents such as electric shock
- Transport of injured workers
- Emergency contact phone numbers

Supervisor responsibilities

- ensure the health and safety of all workers under the direct supervision of the supervisor
- be knowledgeable about this Part and those regulations applicable to the work being supervised
- comply with this Part, the regulations and any applicable orders
- ensure that the workers are made aware of all known or reasonably foreseeable health or safety hazards in the area where they work