



## Toolbox Talk

# Eye Protection

### Introduction: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Eye Protection

For many tasks PPE is your last line of defence against injury... or worse. Before starting any task, consider the implications if something goes wrong. If you receive chemical or physical damage to your eye you can permanently damage your vision. Think of your favourite thing to see, whether it is watching your favourite sports team, or your children opening their birthday presents, then imagine never seeing that again. Once you realise what you have to lose, you will remember to wear your PPE.

### Requirements & Regulations:

- PPE can only protect you if it is right for the task and is in good condition
- The above is true of all Personal Protection Equipment. And it's particularly important in relation to eye protection.
- Not all eye protection is equal, but they all have to meet the Australian standards AS/NZS 1337.1: 2010
- The standards stipulate what markings should be present and what these mean
- Markings on the frame identify the manufacturer and indicate the mechanical, electrical, chemical and thermal resistance
- Markings on the lens indicate all of the above and also the type of filtration and optical class of the lens

### Good Practice

#### Fit for use

- ✔ You should also visually inspect your PPE every time you use it.
- ✔ Any cracks, could weaken your glasses/goggles
- ✔ Any significant scuffs could reduce your vision
- ✔ If your lenses are not clear and damage free, you should get a new pair

#### Fit for purpose

Always ensure you are wearing the right eye protection for the job. If you are working overhead and there is risk of debris falling on your face, ensure you have goggles which do not allow debris to enter from the sides

### Markings and what they mean

Marking	Hazard	Application for
C or 3	splash proof	goggles, eye shields and face shields
D or 4	dust proof	goggles
G or 5	gas tight	goggles
M or 9	molten metal and hot solids	face shields only

### Summary

- ✔ Always wear PPE where required
- ✔ Make sure it is the right type of PPE for your task
- ✔ Ensure it meets Australian legislation
- ✔ Make sure it fits and you know how to use it
- ✔ Check it regularly

