PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS – SAQA 244283 – SAFETY OFFICER



Personal Protective Clothing (PPC) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are used in a variety of sectors to protect workers against health and safety issues.

Personal Protective Equipment or PPE is any item that protects users from harm by minimizing their exposure to hazards. The type of PPE required is may differ from one industry to another. When working in settings that present an increased risk, employers have a duty of care to their employees to provide sufficient and appropriate PPE to keep them safe.

The intent of this document is to provide the learner with the minimum requirements to be met/complied with and maintained to ensure the management of PPE/PPC in the workplace.

REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ PPE/PPC requirements must be identified for specific scopes of work. They should be industry specific where practicable.
- ✓ The PPE/PPC must be appropriate to the hazard and the risk attached to the specific scope of work and task for which they are issued.
- ✓ Manufacturers specifications must be read, understand, complied with by the employer and communicated with the employee, to ensure that employees know and understand the limitations of the PPE/PPC that has been issued to them
- ✓ Employees must be provided with the information, storage facilities and training to ensure they can maintain their PPE/PPC in good condition.
- ✓ A procedure outlining the issuing, use, cleaning, disposal, maintenance, replacement of damaged PPE/PPC, storage and disciplinary procedures due to misuse or intentional damage of PPE/PPC must be in place and employees must be trained in said procedure.
- ✓ PPE/PPC must be worn and used correctly in compliance with the applicable standards, manufacturers specification and company specifications.
- ✓ An inspection schedule should include the inspection of PPE/PPC and include records of the expiry dates of said PPE/PPC, or any components attached to said PPE/PPC that may affect the safe use of said PPE/PPC.
- ✓ A PPE/PPC issue register must be maintained and be available upon request.
- ✓ A dedicated quarantine area must be designated for the disposal of contaminated PPE/PPC where practicable. If this is not practicable, documentary proof of arrangements or agreements with service providers used for the disposal of contaminated PPE/PPC must be available upon request.