

THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY SHOES FOR PREVENTING ACCIDENTS & INJURIES

The importance of safety shoes at the workplace has several reasons. Wearing safety shoes at work is extremely important, did you know that 25% of disability applications worldwide are due to injured feet which cost the companies a lot of money.

These expenses, and the inconveniences suffered by employee & Employers has a multiplying effects on the overall efficiency of the organisation. Many countries all over the world are implementing tougher policies and stricter standards in terms of work safety, so as to assure protection at the workplace. In Canada, for instance, the amount of feet injuries decreased by 60% since the use of safety shoes at work became compulsory.

OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.136(a) states: *“The employer shall ensure that each affected employee uses protective footwear when working in areas where there is a danger of foot injuries due to falling or rolling objects, or objects piercing the sole, or when the use of protective footwear will protect the affected employee from an electrical hazard, such as a static-discharge or electric-shock hazard, that remains after the employer takes other necessary protective measures”.*

A word of Caution.

Safety shoes form the basic requirement for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) a work site, especially at industrial and construction worksites. There are various types of shoes available in the market. Selecting the correct footwear for the basic of an accident free work place. Needless to say it is equally important to all Grades and Genders of work force. Shoes may not seem as critical to workplace safety as protective eyewear or gloves, but footwear provides many benefits.



Some of the basic functions of Safety Shoes are as follows: -

- ✓ Protect From Falling & Flying Objects - Protective shoes like steel toe boots can effectively prevent crushing injuries to the feet.
- ✓ Protect From Punctures - When workers could step on sharp objects or be struck by sharp objects from above, shoes with heavy-duty soles and thick materials surrounding the foot offer the best protection. Customised steel plates can also be inserted in the shoes to make it puncture resistant.
- ✓ Protect From Cutting Hazards - Machinery that is sharp or contains moving parts can pose cutting hazards. Workers in the logging industry, for example, face dangers from chainsaws.
- ✓ Protect From Electrical Hazards- To reduce the chances of an electrical accident, non-conductive footwear made from leather, rubber or other materials that don't conduct electricity can be worn.

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- ✓ Prevent Slips, Trips & Falls - Shoes with appropriate traction can help prevent falls on the same level in slippery environments. They can also prevent falls from ladders, which are all too common when people don't wear shoes with proper treads. Footwear that fits well and feels comfortable can also improve balance, which will help prevent slips, trips and falls, too.
- ✓ Prevent Fatigue - For workers who stand all day, especially on hard surfaces like concrete, fatigue can be a real problem. Shoes that provide adequate cushioning and arch support can make people more comfortable, which alleviates strain on muscles. Employees who are less fatigued will be more alert, so they will likely do their jobs more safely and more efficiently.
- ✓ Prevent Burns - Burns from fire can happen in the workplace, but so can burns from chemicals and even from common workplace materials like cement. Footwear made from durable materials can prevent burns from chemicals splashes, molten metal splashes and other dangerous substances that could injure the skin on the feet.
- ✓ Protect From Extreme Weather - In some cases, this disorder can impact the feet, too, so keeping the feet warm and comfortable in conjunction with other measures for keeping the body warm is important. Not all footwear is waterproof or insulated to provide protection against the cold, rain and snow, so be sure to select shoe options that are made from appropriate materials.



Make sure your business follows the requirements and selects the appropriate safety shoes. Doing so will improve safety and comfort, which will make your employees happy, too.

!!!We are a click/ call away for any further assistance!!!

***!! Don't forget to spread the message to your**

family, friends & colleagues too !!*

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