



SAFETY BRIEF

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOOT AND LEG

When thinking about workplace safety, many people overlook the importance of footwear and legwear. Workers should protect their feet and legs when working in areas with a risk of injuries.

TYPES OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Leggings protect lower legs and feet from heat hazards
- Metatarsal guards protect the top of the foot and instep area from impact and compression
- Toe guards and steel-toe boots prevent impact and compression to the toes
- Foot and shin guards protect lower legs and feet from various injuries
- Safety shoes equipped with impact-resistant toes and heat-resistant soles protect against hot work surfaces and puncture wounds
- Foundry shoes keep hot metals from getting into the shoe and insulate the feet
- Electrically conductive shoes protect against the buildup of static electricity

CONDITIONS THAT REQUIRE PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR

- Carrying items of 20 pounds or more up and down stairs
- Lifting equipment of 20 to 49 pounds above knee level
- Carrying objects 50 pounds or more at any elevation
- Using wheeled carts or dollies that weigh more than 50 pound.
- Operating mechanical equipment to lift objects overhead
- Areas where sharp objects could puncture the feet
- Operating tools, such as chainsaws, that can cut legs
- Walking on or around slippery surfaces
- Working with fire, chemical or electrical hazards



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