

PPE Survey

1. For what occupations are you involved in PPE selection (check all that apply)?

- Firefighter
- Emergency medical service
- Law enforcement
- Health care
- Other, please specify

2. What categories of PPE are you involved in selecting (check all that apply)?

- Body protection
- Eye and face protection
- Foot and leg protection
- Hand and arm protection
- Head protection
- Hearing protection
- Respiratory protection
- Other, please specify

3. Using the scale below, please indicate how commonly your workers encounter a particular hazard relative to all hazards faced. Multiple hazards can be assigned the same value if they are encountered at about the same frequency.

| | Most common | Second most common | Third most common | Rarely | Never |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Falls | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Sprain/strain | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Falling object | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Noise | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Gunshot | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Stab | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Thermal | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Electrical | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Chemical-fire smoke & gas | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Chemical-other | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Biological | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Radiation | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

4. On average, about how frequently do you need to go through the process of selecting PPE?

- More often than weekly
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Every few months
- Annually
- Less often than annually

5. What types of information do you look for when selecting PPE, and what resources do you use to obtain this information? The matrix below lists different

types of information in the rows and different sources of information in the columns. Check all applicable cells in the matrix and explain any responses of "other" in the spaces provided below.

PPE Selection Information Matrix

| | Own knowledge | Peers | Trade shows/conventions | Trade association publications, websites, buyer's guides, etc. | Government agency resources | Academic literature | Distributors | Manufacturers | In-house evaluation | Certification bodies | Other source |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Voluntary standards | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Laws and regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Specific product features | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| User reviews | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prices | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Warranties | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Compatibility with existing equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fit and comfort | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Durability | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Level of conformity assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other information | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Definitions of key terms used in the above PPE Information Selection Matrix

Voluntary standard: Standards developed by non-governmental standards developing organizations, such as the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), ASTM International, or the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Laws and regulations: Legal requirements, including standards, related to PPE design or use. Some voluntary standards have been adopted in laws and regulations.

Level of conformity assessment: The method used to ensure that a product conforms with a standard. Methods include government certification, third body testing, or supplier declaration.

Certification body: An organization that conducts conformity assessment and certifies that a product conforms with a standard.

Government agency resources: Many government agencies, such as NIOSH, the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee, the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Fire Administration, and the National Institute of Justice, to name a few, provide standards, information, and guidance to assist with PPE selection.

6. Of the **rows** in the PPE Selection Information Matrix, which are the most important and why?

7. Of the **rows** in the PPE Selection Information Matrix, which are the most difficult to obtain?

8. Of the **columns** in the PPE Selection Information Matrix, which are the most important and why?

9. If there are specific resources that you find particularly useful (e.g., websites, publications, conventions), please list them here:

10. What resources that are not currently available would you like to have to improve your PPE selection process?

11. Does your agency require you to purchase PPE according to standards? If yes, what are your most frequently cited standards?

12. Please provide us with any additional information about the strategy you use or the challenges you face when selecting/purchasing PPE.

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