

**U.S. CONCRETE, INC.
SAFETY POLICY and PROCEDURE MANUAL**

FUNCTION	Safety
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TOPIC	Personal Protective Equipment
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OBJECTIVE(S): To provide a work atmosphere that is conducive to attaining a high work standard and as free as possible from safety and health hazards. To that end, U.S. Concrete has developed this program to establish standard methods, procedures and policies governing the selection and use of personal protective clothing and equipment and to protect employees from chemical and physical hazards.

GENERAL POLICY: (Defined below)

APPLICATION: U.S. Concrete, Inc.

RESPONSIBILITY: President/General Manager

(1) STATEMENT OF POLICY

This program is intended to comply with the applicable requirements of 29 CFR 1910, Subparts H & I. When appropriate, all selections will be in accordance with American National Standards Institute guidelines.

This program is intended for use by all employed at the facility.

(2) EMPLOYEE MEDICAL MONITORING

Employee medical monitoring requirements and conditions are identical to those in the facility's Respiratory Protection Program. The scope is again expanded by this program to cover all potential hazards and conditions. The medical consultant is responsible for notifying management of any physiological or psychological condition that might affect an employee's ability to use personal protective equipment. This is accomplished by the physician's written opinion. This opinion is considered when assigning tasks, which require the use of personal protective

equipment and clothing.

(3) **EQUIPMENT SELECTION**

Personal protective clothing and equipment requirements vary. They are determined by the following factors:

1. The nature of the process or operation.
2. The types of potential hazards.
3. The potential duration of exposure.
4. The potential level of exposure.
5. The characteristics, limitations, and capabilities of available clothing and equipment.

All employees engaged in production activities shall don, at a minimum, the following items:

1. Hardhat, with properly placed logo's (**No caps to be worn under Hard Hat**)
2. Goggles or safety glasses with side shields,
3. Work boots.
4. Safety vest
5. Work Gloves

Employees may be required to wear additional clothing and equipment by management. Employees should don appropriate protective clothing and equipment when they suspect a more severe hazard.

Initial product selections are approved by the facility manager and the designated Safety Manager. Selections are made according to ANSI standards, when appropriate. Product specifications, technical literature, and degradation/permeation data are also considered. Performance standards are given precedence over design standards.

(4) **EYE AND FACE PROTECTION**

1. Mandatory - Safety glasses with side shields are routinely required for all activities outside the administrative building(s) and break room(s).
2. Conditional -Chemical splash goggles or face shields are required when potential splash hazards exist. Sweatbands may be needed to prevent sweat-induced irritation of the eyes.
3. Selection - Protectors must meet the following requirements:
 - a. Provide adequate hazard-specific protection.
 - b. Fit snugly without limiting movements or comfort.
 - c. Durable
 - d. Capable of being cleaned and disinfected.
 - e. Clean and in good condition.

Persons requiring protective lens must either wear protective spectacles with optical correction, goggles over corrective lens, or goggles with mounted corrective lens. Design, construction and use must conform to ANSI Z87.1-1968, or current revision.

(5) **HEAD PROTECTION**

1. Mandatory - Hardhats are routinely required for all activities outside the administrative area(s) and break room(s). (Caps are not to be worn under hard hats)
2. Conditional - Face shields may be used to protect against splashes. Helmet liners may be used to insulate.
3. Selection - Hardhat selections must conform to ANSI Z89.1-1969, or current revision.

(6) **FOOT PROTECTION**

1. Mandatory - Work boots, 6" (inch) minimum heel to ankle height, are routinely required for all activities outside the administrative office(s) and break room(s).
2. Conditional - Disposable shoe or boot covers should be used to protect boots from splash hazards. Rubber boots may be used for additional splash protection
3. Selection - Selection is made according to ANSI Z41.1-1967, or current revision. All boots must provide good traction.

(7) **RESPIRATORY PROTECTION**

The selection and use of respiratory protection is covered in the facility's Respiratory Protection Program.

(8) **HAND AND ARM PROTECTION**

1. Mandatory - Chemical resistant gloves are routinely required for tasks involving the handling or use of chemicals (i.e. solvents, gasoline, and other petroleum based products).. Leather or canvas gloves are routinely required for all other activities involving material handling, equipment operation, or repair activities.
2. Conditional - The use of inner and outer gloves is recommended to provide supplemental protection against abrasions, tears, and chemical contact. Protective sleeves may be required to protect arms from splashes.
3. Selection - Selections for chemical resistant gloves are based on established data concerning resistance to degradation, penetration permeation, and mechanical abrasion. Chemical properties and task requirement are also considered.

(9) **FULL BODY PROTECTION**

1. Mandatory -Standard industrial uniform or clean clothing is routinely required for all production personnel.
2. Conditional - The use of chemical resistance aprons is mandatory when potential splash hazards are encountered.

3. Selection - Selection includes an evaluation of resistance to permeation, degradation and penetration. Disposable chemical resistance clothing is chosen to reduce extended exposure and the need for extensive decontamination.

(10) **HEARING PROTECTION**

1. Mandatory - Mandatory hearing protection is required in all posted areas of the facility and for all tasks so designated.
2. Conditional - Hearing protection in the form of earplugs may be required for specific non-routine tasks, such as the operation of grinders and other tools.
3. Selection - Disposable earplugs are selected to avoid chemical contamination of the ear. Employees must take care to guard against exposure of this nature.

(11) **TRAINING**

A. General

All employees are trained and instructed in the proper use and selection of personal protective equipment and clothing prior to their use. Retraining on the selection and use of this equipment will be conducted on at least an annual basis. This training will be given to all effected employees and shall cover routine, non-routine and emergency use of protective equipment.

B. Program Content

The training given to each employee includes the following:

1. A discussion on the nature, extent and effects of potential hazard.
2. The reasons for the need for personal protective equipment.
3. A discussion on engineering and administrative controls and their limitations.
4. Training on the selection, use and limitations of personal protective equipment.
5. A discussion of equipment maintenance, storage and disposal.
6. Instructions on how to identify and cope with emergencies.
7. Regulations governing personal protective equipment use.
8. A review of the facility's Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment Program.

Supervisors receive additional instruction on the above topics with added emphasis on regulations, identification of hazards, and equipment use monitoring.

(12) **MONITORING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT USE**

Managers and supervisors/team leaders are required to routinely monitor the use of personal protective clothing and equipment. They are required to insure that their subordinates comply with all facets of this program. Violations should be reported to the facility manager and designated Safety Manager.

(13) **MONITORING HAZARDS**

Facility hazards have been evaluated. Physical impact and penetration are potential hazards requiring protection of the head, eyes, and feet. A final major hazard is that of fire. Fire fighting equipment is available, and emergency evacuation plans have been developed.

The following non-routine hazards have been identified:

1. Respiratory and visual hazards associated with welding.
2. Heat stress and cold exposure.
3. Noise associated with the use of power tools.
4. Exposure to caustic and acidic splashes.

These hazards may require occasional use of special protective clothing and equipment.

Facility operations and employee activities are closely monitored to identify potential hazards.

(14) **EVALUATION OF PPE PROGRAM**

This program shall be evaluated at least annually to determine the overall effectiveness of the program in assuring the proper selection and use of personal protective clothing and equipment. This evaluation shall be conducted by Safety Department. Where deficiencies are noted, appropriate action shall be taken to correct them.

Approved by:	Original at US Concrete Houston
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Effective Date:	1/1/03
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Signature:	Original at US Concrete Houston
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