

Great Western Painting

Mining/Surface – Metal/Non-Metal – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

30 CFR 56.5005

30 CFR 56.15002

30 CFR 56.15003

30 CFR 56.15004

30 CFR 56.15020

Our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Program has been prepared to inform our employees of potential hazards in the workplace and to identify the proper PPE to be used to reduce or eliminate these hazards. This Program relies on a cooperative effort by all personnel to understand the reasons for PPE and to protect themselves from harm.

The use of PPE does not lessen an employee's obligation to use safe work practices and procedures. Employees are expected to be aware of the hazards within their area of responsibility and properly use prescribed PPE.

Our operations, work methods and individual job sites present specific hazards which must be identified, analyzed, and matched with the appropriate PPE through a continuing hazard assessment process.

A Certificate of Hazard Assessment will be kept on the job site for inspection purposes.

Reference Interagency Agreement between the Mine Safety and Health Administration U.S. Department of Labor and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration U.S. Department of Labor. Many MSHA and OSHA standards and requirements are identical in nature and there may be some overlap in enforcement of standards.

When working as an operator in the capacity of an independent contractor performing services or construction at a facility that falls under MSHA standards, the provisions of our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Program, found in Section III of our safety program, apply except as modified below:

Hard hats:

All persons shall wear suitable hard hats when in or around a mine or plant where falling objects may create a hazard.

Protective footwear:

All persons shall wear suitable protective footwear when in or around an area of a mine or plant where a hazard exists which could cause an injury to the feet. In some locations or while performing certain tasks, metatarsal protection may be required.

Eye protection:

All persons shall wear safety glasses, goggles, or face shields or other suitable protective devices when in or around an area of a mine or plant where a hazard exists which could cause injury to unprotected eyes.

Life jackets and belts:

Life jackets or belts shall be worn where there is danger from falling into water.

Control of exposure to airborne contaminants:

Control of employee exposure to harmful airborne contaminants shall be, insofar as feasible, by prevention of contamination, removal by exhaust ventilation, or by dilution with uncontaminated air. However, where accepted, engineering control measures have not been developed or when necessary by the nature of work involved (for example, while establishing controls or occasional entry into hazardous atmospheres to perform maintenance or investigation), employees may work for reasonable periods of time in concentrations of airborne contaminants exceeding permissible levels if they are protected by appropriate respiratory protective equipment.

Whenever respiratory protective equipment is used a program for selection, maintenance, training, fitting, supervision, cleaning, and use shall meet the following minimum requirements:

Note: A respiratory protection program is found in Section III of our safety program.

1. Respirators approved by NIOSH under 42 CFR part 84 which are applicable and suitable for the purpose intended shall be furnished and miners shall use the protective equipment in accordance with training and instruction.
2. A respirator program consistent with the requirements of ANSI Z88.2-1969, published by the American National Standards Institute and entitled "American National Standards Practices for Respiratory Protection ANSI Z88.2-1969," approved August 11, 1969, which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part hereof. This publication may be obtained from the American National Standards Institute, Inc., 25 W. 43rd Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036; <http://www.ansi.org>, or may be examined in any Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health District Office of the Mine Safety and Health Administration.
3. When respiratory protection is used in atmospheres immediately harmful to life, the presence of at least one other person with backup

equipment and rescue capability shall be required in the event of failure of the respiratory equipment

Respiratory Protection:

Standard 56/57.5001(a) requires that a miner's exposure shall not exceed the permissible limit of any substance on the TLV list. When the TLV is exceeded, standard 56/57.5005 mandates that operators install all feasible engineering controls to reduce a miner's exposure to the TLV. Respiratory protection is required when controls are not feasible, as well as when establishing controls, and during occasional entry into hazardous atmospheres to perform short-term maintenance or investigations.

Whenever respirators are required, operators must establish a respirator program containing all elements of the standard, which incorporates ANSI Z88.2-1969. The inspector must evaluate the effectiveness of the respiratory protection in order to determine whether miners are protected from overexposure. If the operator's respiratory protection program fails to include proper selection and fit testing, the .5001(a)/.5005 violation is significant and substantial ("S and S").

Respirator selection directly affects the efficiency of the respirator. Respirators are designed to protect wearers from inhalation of hazardous atmospheres. There are many different types of respirators but each is limited in protection and application. A respirator can only protect against atmospheres for which it is designed. Without proper selection a serious health hazard may occur. A serious hazard may also occur if the respirator, even though properly selected, is not fitted as required by the standard. Fit testing is essential in order to assign the correct model and size respirator to a miner. Otherwise, it is likely that the respirator will leak and the miner will be overexposed to the toxic substance.

There are other factors that should be considered by the inspector on a case-by-case basis when determining whether the violation should be "S and S" with regard to an operator's respiratory protection program. These factors include training, cleaning and sanitizing, and maintenance of respirators.

With regard to listed nuisance particulates and silver metal overexposures between 0.01 mg/m³ and 0.1 mg/m³, operators must use engineering controls to reduce exposure to the permissible limit and comply with the respiratory protection requirements of standard 56/57.5005. However, the .5001(a)/.5005 citation for overexposure to nuisance particulates and to silver metal in the above concentration range is not "S and S."

Overexposures to soluble compounds of silver, such as silver nitrate, above 0.01 mg/m³ should be considered "S and S" if adequate protection was not worn.

Use of Certified Mercury Respirators:

For mercury vapor, the use of MSHA-NIOSH certified chemical cartridge respirators is required. This is the belt-mounted Comfo II respirator with Mersorb cartridges. The purpose of the belt-mounted design is to allow the wearer to easily observe the saturation indicator on the mercury cartridge. The use of face-mounted MSA Comfo II respirators with Mersorb cartridges is only acceptable in work situations where the breathing tube of the belt-mounted respirator can become a safety hazard, the work performed causes tension on the breathing tube which can break the seal, or the breathing tube is too short for the wearer and provided that visual checks of the cartridge indicators are made every half hour. The checks on the face-mounted respirator can be made by looking into a mirror or by checking the respirator in uncontaminated air. Because leakage of mercury vapor into the respirator cannot be detected by the wearer, it is critical that a good facepiece-to-face seal be maintained and that the indicator be monitored to prevent breakthrough through the cartridges.

Definition of Immediately Harmful to Life:

The definition of "immediately harmful to life" in this standard is the same as that of "immediately dangerous to life or health" (IDLH) as defined by NIOSH, which is acute respiratory exposure that poses an immediate threat of loss of life, immediate or delayed irreversible adverse health effects, or acute eye exposure that would prevent escape from a hazardous atmosphere.

Maximum Permissible Concentration (Radon Daughters):

Except as provided by standard 57.5005, persons shall not be exposed to air containing concentrations of radon daughters exceeding 1.0 WL in active workings. In enforcing this standard, the error factor for radon daughter sampling of 20% should be taken into consideration. This means that citations are to be issued when the measured radon daughter concentrations are in excess of 1.20 WL.

Also, this standard applies only to active work areas when workers are present or scheduled during the shift and, if workers are not present or scheduled, when evidence is available that other personnel normally enter the work area during the shift