BSiF
BRITISH SAFETY INDUSTRY FEDERATION

BSIF GUIDANCE FOR PPE

CHECK YOUR PPE

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is designed to help provide protection against hazards in the workplace; however, it can only provide that protection if it is adequate for the hazard, suitable for the wearer, used correctly and stored and maintained in line with the manufacturer's instructions.

Failing to check your PPE is fit for purpose could leave you or your employees, for whom you have a duty of care, vulnerable and unprotected.

So how do you ensure that your PPE is fit for purpose? The following check list (see reverse) may go some way to helping you and your business make sure that your PPE complies with the law and conforms to the PPE Regulation, 2016/425.

How can you take the risk out of specifying PPE?

The **BSIF Registered Safety Supplier Scheme** is in place to help those specifying, sourcing and using PPE and Safety Equipment to reduce the risks involved in purchasing these products. BSIF Registered Safety Suppliers commit to trading ethically and only providing, conforming and fit for purpose products into the Market. We encourage all those charged with specifying PPE to;

Check that the supplier is a BSIF Registered Safety Supplier

Select the correct PPE, using the guidance provided by their qualified staff

Protect your most valuable asset – your people

*To answer any of your concerns over genuine, compliant PPE and the identification factors and documentation please download BSIF's '**Is it genuine**' document by using the QR Code.*

BSIF PPE CHECKLIST

Product Markings	Examples			Yes	No	N/a
Does the PPE have a UKCA, UKNI or CE Mark applied to it? (Obligatory requirement)	UKCA	UKNI	CE			
If the PPE is Category III, does it have the 4-digit number of the certifying body shown? The numbers shown in this illustration are random examples and do not relate to any specific certifying bodies	UKCA 0010	UKNI 9999	CE 0001			
Does it detail the standards to which it has been approved?	BS EN ISO 21420:2020					
Does it show relevant pictograms and performance scores (may be on the label or immediate packaging)?	4.X.2.2.D	Type C: K	Class 2			
Are the markings clear and able to be understood?						

Required Documentation	Yes	No	N/a
Was the PPE issued with User Instructions included? If not, was there a link (URL) or QR code provided with the product where the User Instructions can be downloaded?			
Was the PPE issued with a Declaration Of Conformity included? If not, was there a link (URL) or QR code provided with the product where the Declaration of Conformity can be downloaded?			
Are the documents available in the primary language of the Country where they will be used or in a language that is easily understood?			
Were the User Instructions available with the smallest available unit of commercial sale?			

Product Condition	Yes	No	N/a
Is the PPE clean, undamaged and suitable for use?			
Has the PPE been suitably maintained as advised within the User Instructions?			

Storage	Yes	No	N/a
Was the PPE stored correctly, according to the User Instructions?			
If it is damaged or unfit for use, do you know how to dispose of it?			
Have you or the employees for whom you are responsible been trained in how to store, use, care for & maintain the PPE?			
Was there a risk assessment carried out prior to PPE being specified?			

If you have answered 'No' to any of the questions above, or are unsure as to the answer then you should seek further support & guidance. The person responsible for Health & Safety in your business should be able to provide some direction and the manufacturer of the PPE should be able to assist.

The BSIF will be pleased to provide some general guidance to you, however the specifics of the suitability of use of any PPE are the responsibility of the company providing the PPE to you as their employee (whether directly employed or indirectly through a third party).
PPE should only ever be specified following a full risk assessment of the working environment.

BSIF, Fourth Floor Offices, The Roberts Building, 48 Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4SQ
Tel: 01442 248744 Email: enquiries@bsif.co.uk Website: www.bsif.co.uk

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