



A GUIDE TO PPE

dimensions

WHAT IS PPE?

WHY IS IT NEEDED?

HOW DIMENSIONS CAN HELP YOU

Personal Protective Equipment

I'VE HEARD OF IT, BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

PPE stands for Personal Protective Equipment. PPE affects all industries and is equipment which will protect the user against health and safety risks and hazards at work. Types of PPE are:



**Respiratory
protective
equipment**



**Hand and arm
protection**



**Protective clothing
& foot protection**



**Head and eye
protection**



Hearing protection

Examples of PPE include: hard hats, gloves, eye protection, hi-vis clothing and safety footwear.

DID YOU KNOW?

30% of businesses lost £250,000 through improper use of PPE in the last year.

(Source: Cortexia.com)

AS AN EMPLOYER

You have a duty to provide PPE at work where it is needed and you must follow regulations.

PPE should be provided with training on how and when to use it, as well as how to maintain items.

Under the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999, employers must assess risks to health and safety of workers and others (contractors, site visitors) arising from work activities.

The employer then needs to take appropriate steps to eliminate, avoid or adequately control the risks.

It's important to note that whilst employers do have duties concerning the provision and use of personal protective equipment at work, PPE should only be a last resort.





Twenty Three Thousand

*workers in Britain
are estimated to be
suffering from work
related hearing
problems*

(Source; Personal Protective Equipment - A guide to the selection and use of PPE at work.)

ARE THERE SPECIFIC RULES WITH REGARDS TO PPE?

YES! But don't worry, we are on hand to help.

- 1 As of the 21st April 2019, there is a new PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425. This includes new standards and responsibilities for anyone purchasing PPE.
- 2 This supersedes the previous PPE Directive 89/686/EEC.
- 3 The Regulation is mandatory and is legally binding for all countries who are subject to European Union Laws and must be applied in its entirety without separate national legislation.



146,000

people in Britain who have ever worked, are estimated to have breathing or lung problems they regard as caused or made worse by work

(Source: Personal Protective Equipment - A guide to the selection and use of PPE at work.)

WHY IS THIS REGULATION IMPORTANT?

The PPE Directive 89/686/EEC was initiated over 20 years ago. The new Regulation reflects current technologies and processes for bringing PPE to the market, affecting the supply and distribution chain.

The change from a 'Directive' to a 'Regulation' is a substantial alternation as a 'Regulation' is a binding legislative act that sets out an objective that all EU countries must achieve by a given date.



Wearing gloves reduces hand injury risk by 60%



99% of noise induced hearing loss is preventable if proper hearing protection is used



Source: Safety & Health Practitioner. PPE: Complete guide to Personal Protective Equipment

WHAT ARE THE CHANGES FROM THE OLD DIRECTIVE TO THE NEW REGULATION?

DIRECTIVE



REGULATION

Mainly:

Issuing an EC Declaration of Conformity with each product or at least a web link to where it can be obtained

Manufacturers must place their name and address on the products

Increased responsibilities for importers and distributors of PPE, including keeping records for at least 10 years

All PPE items, including Category I, will require a technical file

Some products which were Category II are now moved to Category III

A compulsory maximum 5 year certificate validity (will need to be renewed in 2023)



90%

of workplace eye injuries are preventable with the use of proper safety eyewear

Source: Safety & Health Practitioner. PPE: Complete guide to Personal Protective Equipment

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT PPE CATEGORIES?

There are three main categories associated with PPE which determine the necessity of the workwear.

C A T E G O R Y

1 Category I (simple design) where workers assess the level of protection needed against minimal risks. This could include the use of garden gloves, footwear or ski goggles for example.

2 Category II (neither simple or complex) clothing that does not clearly fall within the descriptions of Category I or Category III, which can include the likes of dry and wet suits.

3 Category III (complex design) any item that falls under this section is complex in design and is intended to protect workers against mortal dangers and any irreversible harm that could impact a person's health. To give you an idea, this could potentially include harnesses and respiratory equipment.



A study for HSE found that 24,000 reported accidents over a 7 year period could have been prevented if PPE was correctly used and maintained.

Source; Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the workplace; Employee Factsheet, Barbour

WILL BREXIT HAVE AN IMPACT ON THIS REGULATION?

The EU Regulation 2016/425 will continue to apply even after Brexit. This will mean that the UK will no longer be authorised to certify any PPE products to an EU/EN standard through UK notified bodies.

Therefore, we have linked with our UKAS accredited notified bodies and established certification facilities in 3 EU member states so that we can ensure continuous supply.





Last year Dimensions dispatched

NEARLY
ONE
MILLION

items of PPE and footwear

WHO DO DIMENSIONS SUPPLY PPE TO?



FACT:

In 2018, it is estimated that non compliance cost businesses £79billion
(Source: Cortexia.com)

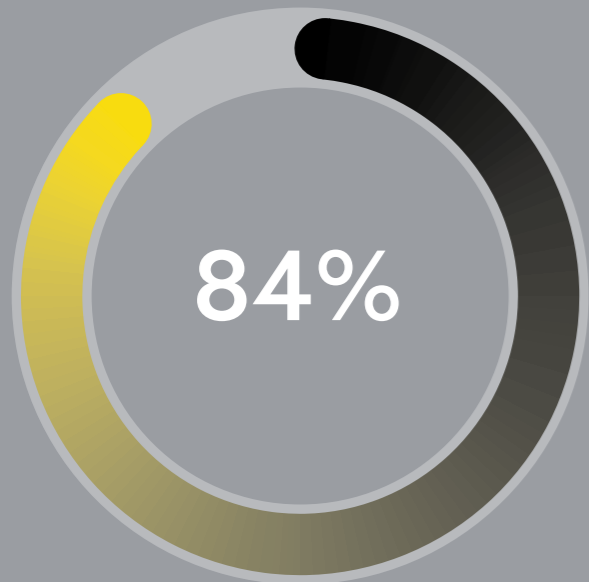
I THINK I NEED HELP WITH PPE,

**HOW CAN
DIMENSIONS
ASSIST
ME ?**

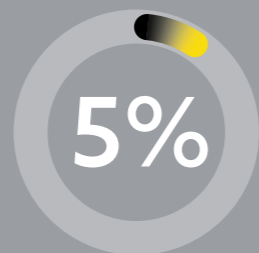
We are always here to help. It is important for us as your supplier to stay on top of the latest legislations and regulations so we can inform you of any changes which will affect you.

We are members of the BSIF (British Safety Industry Federation) and also have an internal PPE steering group.

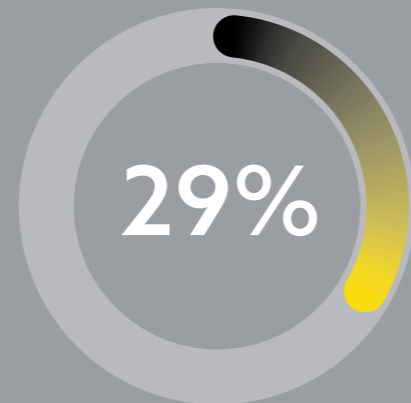
It should be noted that if the people responsible for implementing PPE are not aware of the latest rules and regulations, it could cost their company hundreds of thousands of pounds in compensation and injury claims.



of business lost money from injuries due to PPE non-compliance in the last year



of days off work could have been prevented through the proper use of PPE



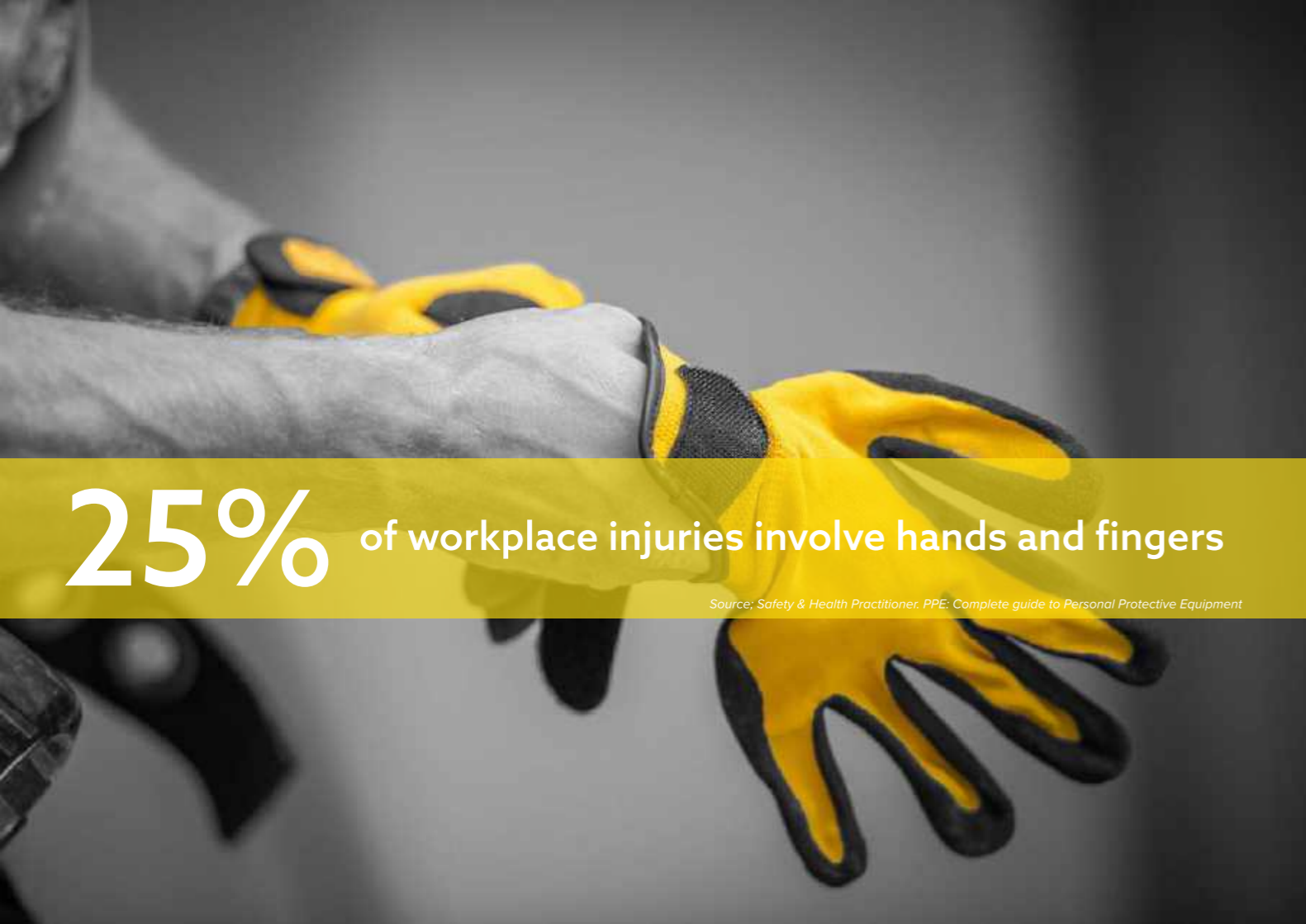
of business lost over £1m through improper use of PPE in the last year

I THINK I NEED HELP WITH PPE,

HOW CAN DIMENSIONS ASSIST ME ?

If you need help with regards to risk assessments, speak to your account manager. They in turn will introduce you to our subject matter expert and together, we will be able to find a PPE solution to your problem.





25% of workplace injuries involve hands and fingers

Source: Safety & Health Practitioner. PPE: Complete guide to Personal Protective Equipment

MEET OUR EXPERTS



Ann Harbour

Strategic Account Executive

Simon Barnes

Senior Buyer

Mick Spencer

QA & Production Manager

Michael Barker

Product Garment Technician

Treasa Fowler

Quality Control Manager

32 years
in the Garment Industry

35 years
in the Garment Industry

40 years
in the Garment Industry

42 years
in the Garment Industry

34 years
in the Garment Industry

22 years
at Dimensions

10 years
at Dimensions

14 years
at Dimensions

7 years
at Dimensions

20 years
at Dimensions

22 years
with PPE products

10 years
with PPE products

40 years
with PPE products

1 year
with PPE products

20 years
with PPE products

NINETY EIGHT%

of employees have seen colleagues not wearing PPE when they were supposed to

Source; Safety & Health Practitioner. PPE: Complete guide to Personal Protective Equipment

Our expert team has created a new register of all the PPE we supply to provide us with a dedicated system for coding and traceability of items.

Working with our manufacturing base and the BSIF, we ensure all products will be manufactured in line with the new regulation. We also work extremely closely with our inspection partner for ongoing surveillance of PPE within our supply chain.

This new register ensures any product that is on our system as a PPE product conforms to the EN standard required.

The group meet at least once a month to discuss any related items to PPE regulations and find more effective ways of working with regards to PPE.

They share knowledge and good practice within their teams, and help communicate PPE topics across the business.

- This team is extremely important within Dimensions to help ensure conformance across our PPE offering
- We can help our customers identify what is a true PPE product and ensure they are wearing garments that conform to the required EN standard within the environment they are working in
- We understand that any non-conformances found have more serious consequences than with the previous legislation, so it is essential that we provide our customers with the right product to match the risk



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people were fatally
injured in the workplace
in 2017/2018

Source: Safety & Health Practitioner, PPE: Complete guide to Personal Protective Equipment

WHAT IS THE BSIF?

- As your supplier, we are able to advise you on different types of PPE products available. If you undertake risk assessments in your workplace, our team at Dimensions, headed by your account manager, will be able to help you decide which items are suitable following the risk assessment review of hazards.
- The BSIF is the lead association for the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Directive and is recognised as a Competent Authority by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). (BSIF website)
- The BSIF provide us with support and guidance on a wide range of occupational safety issues.

References

A Guide to PPE:

<https://www.shponline.co.uk/downloads/download-a-guide-to-ppe/>

PPE: Complete guide to Personal Protective Equipment

<https://www.shponline.co.uk/ppe-personal-protective-equipment/>

The Ultimate PPE Guide

<https://www.swift360.co.uk/the-ultimate-ppe-guide/>

PPE non-compliance costing businesses £79bn a year

<https://www.cortexica.com/ppe-non-compliance-costing-businesses-79bn-a-year/>

New Personal Protective Equipment Regulation

<https://legislationupdateservice.co.uk/news/new-personal-protective-equipment-regulation/>

The transition from Directive 89/686 / EEC to Regulation (EU) 2016/425:

[\(http://arsutoriamagazine.com/transition-directive-89686-eec-regulation-eu-2016425-main-changes-personal-protective-equipments-ce-certification/\)](http://arsutoriamagazine.com/transition-directive-89686-eec-regulation-eu-2016425-main-changes-personal-protective-equipments-ce-certification/)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Regulation (EU) 2016/425

<http://www.csagroupuk.org/2018/01/personal-protective-equipment-regulation-2016-425/>

Health & Safety at work. Summary statistics for Great Britain 2018

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/overall/hssh1718.pdf>

Personal protective equipment (PPE) at work. A brief guide

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg174.pdf>

A Barbour Guide Personal Protective Equipment

<https://www.shponline.co.uk/downloads/download-a-guide-to-ppe/>

The PPE Directive and the PPE Regulation

<https://www.bsigroup.com/LocalFiles/en-GB/product-certification/Personal-Safety/BSI-PPE-Whitepaper-UK-EN.pdf>

Be prepared – the countdown has started

<https://centurionsafety.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/BSIF-PPE-Regs-update.pdf>

British Safety Council; Personal Protective Equipment A guide to the selection and use of PPE at work April 2019

PPE Regulation Changes – What you need to know

<https://www.rocketlawyer.co.uk/blog/ppe-regulation-changes-what-you-need-to-know/>

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SCAN ME

<https://www.dimensions.co.uk/campaigns/ppe-2019>