



Tailgate Safety Talk

Information You Can Use to Prevent Accidents & Injuries

Avoid Eye Injuries

Of all our senses, the one most precious perhaps is our sense of sight. Yet each year, thousands of us suffer eye injuries that impair our vision or deprive us of our sight all together. These injuries are, to a large extent, avoidable. In fact, over 90% of all eye injuries can be prevented by following established safety guidelines and using the appropriate protective eye protection for the jobs you do.

Recognizing Eye Hazards. Among the most common eye hazards are flying particles, a hazard of many machine operations such as grinding or sawing. Dusts such as wood, metal and other airborne particles, welding sparks, fumes, and chemical splashes can all cause eye injury unless the appropriate protection is used.

The following guidelines for on-the-job eye safety can help you save your sight-for-life:

- Be alert to the eye hazards in your workplace and out on the job.
- Wear the appropriate eye protection -- glasses, goggles, hoods, face shields, welding helmets -- which are provided for specific hazards.
- Remember that regular eyeglasses or contact lenses will not protect you from eye hazards -- if you must wear corrective lenses, you'll need to wear protective eyewear over them.
- Safety corrective lenses can be purchased at low to no-cost through vision benefits.
- Check to see that your eye protection meets ANSI (American National Standards Institute) standards.
- Make sure that your protective eyewear fits properly and is clean and in good condition before and after each use.
- Replace faulty eyewear immediately.
- Follow established safety procedures for eye protection.
- Learn basic first-aid for eye injuries.
- Know where all eyewash stations and emergency equipment is located.
- In the event of an eye injury, you should get medical attention immediately.

Users of this tailgate talk are advised to determine the suitability of the information as it applies to local situations and work practices and its conformance with applicable laws and regulations.