# Toolbox Talk Eye and Face Protection



### What?

- Thousand of people suffer eye injuries at work every year the correct eye protection can lessen or prevent up to 90% or eye injuries in the workplace
- Each eye and face protective device are designed for a particular hazard. In selecting the protection necessary, consider the type and degree of hazard. There are generally four categories of eye and face protection: safety glasses, goggles, face shields, and welding helmets. Safety glasses are the most common and provide impact and penetration protection to the eyes
- Face shields are designed for face protection and should never be considered primary eye protection. They do not meet the impact requirements for use as eye protection. They are to be utilized in most cases in combination with safety glasses or goggles. The face shield protects the face, forehead, and chin from injury from flying particles, molten metal, and sharp objects
- Welding helmets provide necessary protection from potentially injurious light radiation from a
  welding or cutting arc and from thermal burns. For secondary protection of the eyes, it is
  necessary to wear approved safety glasses or goggles under the welding helmet.
  This is especially important when chipping or hammering metal parts with the welding helmet in
  the lifted position

## Why?

- PPE does not prevent accidents but goes a long way to minimise their effect by reducing the severity of the potential injury and is normally used when there is no other way to eliminate or control the risk
- To allow the right type of PPE to be chosen, carefully consider the different hazards in the workplace. This will enable you to assess which types of PPE are suitable to protect against the hazard and for the job to be done
- The Company has an obligation to provide suitable protective equipment which has a mark to verify it meets appropriate standards (i.e. CE marking)

## Do



- ✓ Use machine guards if appropriate
- Ensure your eye protection suits you
- ☑ Clean equipment regularly
- ✓ Visually inspect it prior to use
- Wear or use the equipment before commencing the task and continue to wear or use the equipment while the risk is still present
- Encourage others to wear or use the correct eye protection
- Observe signs in areas where eye protection is required
- ☑ Store equipment in a safe place when not in use
- ☑ Replace any damaged eye protection
- ☑ Ensure an eyewash station is nearby

### Don't



- Start work without wearing or using the correct eye protection necessary for the task
- Use ill-fitting or damaged eye protection
- Remove or stop using eye protection when the danger is still present
- Leave eye protection lying around
- Use equipment that is not suitable for the task being carried out



