SAFETY AND HYGIENE REGULATIONS

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE)

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RECOMMENDATIONS ACCORDING TO ROYAL DECREE 773/1997, ON THE MINIMUM SAFETY AND HEALTH PROVISIONS FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT BY WORKERS

ARTICLE 2. DEFINITION OF PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

“Any equipment designed to be worn or held by workers for protection against one or more health and safety hazards, as well as any other complement or accessory designed for this purpose”.

All personal protection equipment (PPE) must have the following characteristics:

CE MARKING

CE marking must be formed by the letters CE and a four-digit code identifying the body that monitors quality assurance in the production process (only for category III PPE).

The CE marking must be present on each item of PPE that is manufactured and must remain on it. It should be visible, legible and indelible for as long as the PPE is expected to last or throughout its useful life. When this cannot be achieved due to the characteristics of the product, the CE marking must be displayed on the packaging.

1 CE + XXXX 2

1 = PPE categories I and II

1 + 2 = PPE category III

xxxx = Four-digit code identifying the body that monitors quality assurance in production

ONLY PURCHASE PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT IF IT HAS CE MARKING AND AN INFORMATION BOOKLET BY THE MANUFACTURER.
DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

The EC declaration of conformity is the procedure by which a manufacturer or its representative in the European Union does the following:

a. Makes a declaration certifying that the PPE on the market meets the provisions of the Royal Decree, so that it can be submitted to the relevant body of the autonomous community.
b. Stamps the CE marking of conformity on each item of PPE.

The declaration must contain the following:
- In the case of a manufacturer, the registered name and full address. In the case of a representative, the registered name and full address of the representative and the manufacturer.
- Description of the equipment (brand name, type, serial number, etc.).
- Reference to the regulations to which the equipment conforms.
- Number of CE certification for the type of prototype used as a model to manufacture the equipment (only for PPE categories I and II).
- Name and address of the inspection body that undertook the CE testing of the type of product (only for PPE category III).
- Description of the selected quality assurance method and name and address of the inspection body (only for PPE category III).
- Name and address of the signatory who is authorised to make a commitment for the manufacturer or its representative.

MANUFACTURER'S INFORMATION BOOKLET

Each PPE must have an information booklet written by the manufacturer and containing at least the following information:
- Name and address of the manufacturer and/or its representative in the European Economic Community.
- Instructions for storage, use, cleaning, maintenance, inspection and disinfection. The cleaning, maintenance or disinfection products that are recommended by the manufacturer should not have any harmful effect on the PPE or the user if the instructions for use are followed.
- Performance attained in technical tests to verify degrees and or classes of PPE protection.
- Accessories that can be used with the PPE and characteristics of suitable replacement parts.
- Suitable classes of protection for different levels of risk and corresponding limitations of use.
- Expiry date or service lifetime of the PPE or some of its components.
- Types of packaging suitable for transporting the PPE.
- Explanation of markings, if applicable.
- Name, address and identification number of notified inspection bodies involved in the design phase of the PPE.

The manufacturer's information booklet must be written in the official language or languages of the recipient Member State.
OTHER LEGAL REFERENCES: according to the Prevention of Occupational Hazards Law 31/1995

**Article 17. Work equipment and protection measures**

2. The employer must provide employees with appropriate personal protection equipment to carry out their work, and ensure the effective use of this equipment when required by the nature of the tasks.

   Personal protection equipment must be used when hazards cannot be avoided or sufficiently limited by technical means of collective protection or by measures, methods and procedures of work organisation.

   (...)

**Article 29. Obligations of workers relating to hazard prevention**

2. Workers, in accordance with their training and following employer’s instructions, must do the following:
   1. Appropriately use, according to their nature and any foreseeable hazards, all machinery, apparatus, tools, hazardous substances, transport equipment and, in general, any other resources required to undertake their activity.
   2. Appropriately use all protection resources and equipment provided by the employer, in accordance with the instructions that are given.

   (...)