



KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Foot Protection

OSHA requires that safety footwear must meet ANSI minimum compression and impact performance standards in ANSI Z41-1991 (American National Standard) or provide equivalent protection. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) international standards supersede ANSI Z41. Each pair of shoes must have one shoe with a stamped or stitched in label on the shaft, gusset, tongue or lining with the standards that the footwear meets. Job activity, the equipment being used, and potential workplace hazards should be considered when choosing the type of foot protection needed. Use the information below to help find boots that fit your needs.

Signatures

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How do you read the ASTM 2413-2005 label?

- Line 1 = ASTM F2413-11 The F2413 identifies the ASTM Standard and the "11" signifies the year of the standard
- Line 2 = M (Male) or F (Female) and I/75 is the impact safety-toe protection and C/75 is the compression safety-toe protection
- Line 3 = references any additional protective features which are listed in the order that they appear in the standard; for example MT, CD, EH, SD, PR

Features of Safety Boots and Shoes:

1. Metatarsal or MT protects the top of the foot from being crushed
2. Conductive or CD minimizes build up of static electricity to reduce the potential of explosives or volatile chemicals from igniting and are worn in environments that are highly flammable and explosive (avoid wearing in EH environments)
3. Electrical Shock Resistant or EH is used for protecting the body against environments with electrical hazards
4. Static Dissipating or SD reduces the amount of static electricity build-up on your body and worn in computer component handling facilities and "nuisance" static electricity environments (avoid wearing in EH environments)
5. Puncture Resistant or PR uses a plate between the insole and outsole to prevent wounds on the bottom of the foot
6. A composite toe is essentially the same as a steel toe, but it is non-metallic and non-magnetic; it is slightly lighter but still meets the same ANSI/ASTM safety requirements as a steel toe

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.96

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