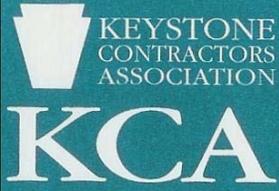


KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Eye Protection



TEAMWORK
IMPROVES SAFETY

Signatures

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Eye injuries from dust and particles, welding light, and chemicals are common on a jobsite. Often workers wear the wrong eye protection or none at all. Although some eye injuries are minor, even a simple scratch from sawdust, cement, or drywall dust can cause lasting pain. Metal slivers from a grinding wheel, or rebounding nails from routine hammering and carpentry can puncture the eye and lead to vision loss. Nearby workers and bystanders are also at risk. Work-related eye injuries can have life-long consequences. Welding light can cause “welders’ flash” and burn eyes and surrounding tissue.

William's Story: William was hand grinding a small section of a cement floor. Since it was a quick project, he did not put on his safety glasses. William was finishing up the job when he felt a sharp pain in his right eye. He had to stop work and use the eye station to rinse the dust particles from his eye.

1. Have you or someone you know suffered a workrelated eye injury? If so, what happened?

Remember this:

1. Identify the eye hazards before you start work.
2. Always wear the correct eye protection for the hazards present.
3. Safety glasses help protect against particles and dust. Look for “Z87+” on the frame or lenses as an indicator of impact protection.
4. Use vented goggles for caustic dust, such as cement dust and non-vented goggles for chemicals.
5. Use face shields with safety glasses or goggles for protection from flying objects or chemical splashes.
6. When welding, use a welding helmet or goggles with the correct lens shade for the job (shade 10-14 for arc welding; 4-8 for gas welding; and 3-6 for torch brazing). Welders’ helpers and bystanders also need UV protection.
7. Take care of your eye protection. Replace it when damaged.
8. If injured, **do not** rub your eyes. For dust, small particles or chemicals use the eye wash station. Rinse with clean water for at least 15 to 20 minutes.
9. For cuts, punctures, and objects in the eyes, **seek medical attention**; don’t wash out your eyes or try to remove objects yourself.

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.102

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Teamwork Improves Safety!

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