

2.1 DEFINITION

Personal Protective Equipment (see Appendix 1 “Legislative Decree 81/08, Articles 74-79”), hereinafter “PPE”, means any equipment designed to be worn or held by workers to protect them against one or more health and safety hazards (see Appendix 2 “Indicative and non-exhaustive list of personal protective equipment” Legislative Decree 81/08 - App. VIII) and any supplementary or ancillary devices used for that purpose.



Personal Protective Equipment

PPE IS DIVIDED INTO THREE CATEGORIES

Category I



PPE in Category I is of simple design and is intended to protect people from minimal risks of physical harm. The designer assumes that the PPE user is able to assess its effectiveness and to perceive the gradual occurrence of harmful effects, before being damaged by them.

Category I contains only PPE protecting against:

- a) Mechanical action whose effects are superficial;
- b) Contact with cleaning materials of weak action, with easily reversible effects;
- c) Contact or impacts with hot surfaces not exceeding 50 °C;
- d) Ordinary atmospheric conditions encountered during work;
- e) Minor impacts and vibrations that do not affect vital organs or cause permanent injury;
- f) Damage caused by exposure to sunlight.

Category II



Category II contains PPE that is not covered in the other two categories.

1. Definition

TRANSLATION OF ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS

Category III

PPE in Category III is of complex design and is intended to protect against risks that can cause death or serious and permanent injury. The designer assumes that the PPE user is not able to identify in suitable time the immediate effects of the dangers. Category III contains only:

- a) Filtering respiratory devices protecting against solid and liquid aerosols or irritant, hazardous, toxic or radio-toxic gases;
- b) Devices providing insulation, including those for use in diving;
- c) PPE providing limited protection against chemical attack and ionising radiation;
- d) PPE for activities in environments with temperatures of 100 °C or more, which may or may not have infra-red radiation, flames or molten material;
- e) PPE for activities in environments with temperatures of -50 °C or less;
- f) PPE to protect against falls from height;
- g) PPE to protect against risks connected to activities involving exposure to hazardous voltages or used as insulation for high-voltage work;
- h) Motorcycle helmets and visors.