



TAILGATE SAFETY

Care of Eye Protective Gear and First Aid for Eye Injuries

Protective eyewear needs to be maintained and cared for in order for it to last and protect you when you need it most. The following outlines tips for caring for your protective eye gear:

- Inspect prior to wearing. Check for worn, stretched or twisted straps on goggles.
- Check the lenses and face shield for pitting, scratches, or other damage. Turn in damaged gear for replacement immediately.
- Use mild soap or detergent to clean the lenses or face shield.
- Store clean eyewear in a closed container so they don't get dirty, or damaged in-between use.

Sometimes, even with the proper protection, accidents can occur. The following is a general outline for first aid (not intended to substitute for medical attention):

- Hazardous Chemical splash – Flush eyes with water immediately for fifteen minutes holding your eyelids open then seek medical attention right away.
- Object in eye (dust, metal, wood, dirt, etc.) – DO NOT RUB YOUR EYE. Try to flush with water or eye solution or pull eyelid down over lower lashes to try to remove object. Loosely bandage eye to stop movement, then seek medical assistance.
- Blow to the eye – Use cold compress for pain and swelling. If discoloration, pain, or visual impairment is present seek medical attention immediately.
- Sharp object imbedded in eye – Do not rinse with water or saline solution. Do not try to remove an object. Cover eye lightly with bandage and seek medical attention immediately.
- Light burns (such as flash burn) – The effect of a flash burn may not be felt for hours later when the eye begins to feel gritty and becomes sensitive to light, redness and swelling can occur. Eyes should be kept closed or covered then seek medical attention if it does not improve.

It is important to know where the closest eyewash or other rinsing media is located. When it comes to your eyes, when in doubt always seek medical attention immediately.

Training Tips: a) Outline your company policy for on the job injuries. b) Indicate where your eyewash or washing facilities are located. c) Demonstrate proper eyewear maintenance, cleaning, and storage.



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