

Personal Protective Equipment for Truck Drivers

“The employer shall assure that personal protective equipment, including any personal protective equipment provided by an employee, is inspected before initial use during each work shift. Defects or damage shall be repaired or the unserviceable personal protective equipment shall be replaced before work is commenced.”

OSHA 1910.266(d)(1)(ii)

THE EMPLOYER MUST INSURE THAT ANY PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

1. Meets industry standards.
2. Is maintained in serviceable condition.
3. Is used consistently in the field.



Hard Hat: ANSI Z89.1-2003. Hard Hats must be worn whenever the driver is outside the truck cab – in the woods, at a mill or wood yard, or when tightening straps roadside.

Eye Protection: ANSI Z87.1-2003. Normal prescription eyewear or sunglasses do not meet this standard—Z87.1 must be stamped on the frame. Eye Protection must be available in the cab and worn:

1. When mill policy requires its use.
2. When on a landing with a chipper or grinder.
3. When performing some maintenance and repairs, especially if under the truck.

Hand Protection. Leather palm gloves are preferred and provide the best protection for the hands. Hand Protection must be worn when handling cable binders and during some maintenance and repair procedures.

High Visibility Clothing. The #1 cause of in-woods fatalities is Separation-of-Operation. This hazard is most severe when an individual on the ground (truck driver) enters the work zone of an operating piece of equipment (loader, chipper, etc.) without being seen. In this situation, staying alive means being seen. High Visibility Clothing will help. For night operations, clothing with reflective material should be worn.

Safety Boots: ANSI Z41-1991 or ASTM 2413 05. Slips, trips and falls are the #1 cause of workplace injuries. Safety boots shall be worn at all times and must:

1. Protect feet from dropped or rolling objects – steel toe.
2. Cover and provide support to the ankle.
3. Provide adequate traction in all conditions – aggressive lug sole. Consider wearing traction-adding devices during icy conditions.



Hearing Protection. It must be immediately available and is required if the driver operates or is near a loader, chipper, grinder, or other equipment.

Personal protective equipment for chain-saw operation includes all of the above plus:

- **Leg protection:** UL – Class A, ASTM 1897
- **Cut-resistant footwear:** UL Classified, ASTM F1818-04

If a driver carries or uses a chain saw, all PPE for that operation must be carried with the saw and worn whenever the saw is used.

This OSHA standard, along with compliance directives and other related information, may be viewed in its entirety at:

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/logging/manual/logger/personal equip/personal equip.equip.html>

