

WHY IS EYE & FACE PROTECTION NECESSARY?

Figures show that 50% of construction workers will suffer a serious eye injury during their career. This includes injuries and conditions such as impacts and burns. Research also suggests up to 90% of all workplace eye injuries are preventable with correct use of eye protection (Safety & Health Practitioner, 2020).

Workplace hazards can have serious, long-term effects on eye health and vision. Below are examples of some of the potential effects of harmful light and impact risks encountered in the workplace.



EYE AND FACE INJURIES



Hard, sharp flying particles pose a risk to exposed eye and face area while working. Debris, such as dust particles produced when using a staple gun, can enter the eye and cause damage and irritation.

BLINDNESS



Partial or total blindness can be caused by exposure to UV radiation, blue light, and infrared. Blindness can occur suddenly or more gradually, for example as the result of a cataract.

BURNS



Hot solids and molten metals, particularly a risk when grinding, welding or working in a foundry environment, can result in serious burns and eye injuries.

VISUAL COMPLAINTS



Caused by UV radiation, sunglare, irritation or injury. Often temporary but can lead to long-term problems.

PHOTOKERATITIS



Inflammation of the cornea caused by UV radiation. Snow blindness is an extreme form of photokeratitis.

PTERYGIUM



Pterygium is a growth on the cornea. It is caused by excessive exposure to sunlight, wind, or sand.