

# *Personal Protective Equipment*



# Protecting Employees from Workplace Hazards

- Employers must protect employees from workplace hazards such as machines, hazardous substances, and dangerous work procedures that can cause injury
- Employers must:
  - Use all feasible engineering and work practice controls to eliminate and reduce hazards
  - Then use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) if these controls do not eliminate the hazards.
- **Remember, PPE is the last level of control!**

# Payment for PPE

When PPE is required to protect employees, it must be provided by the employer at no cost to employees, except for specific items, such as:

- Safety-toe footwear,
- Prescription safety eyewear,
- Everyday clothing and weather-related gear, and
- Logging boots

# Engineering Controls

***If . . .***

The machine or work environment can be physically changed to prevent employee exposure to the potential hazard,

***Then . . .***

The hazard can be eliminated with an engineering control.

# Engineering Controls (cont'd)

## *Examples . . .*

- Initial design specifications
- Substitute less harmful material
- Change process
- Enclose process
- Isolate process
- Ventilation