FUNDAMENTAL 55: PPE Fundamentals

Key Takeaways:
– Learning about PPE
– Appreciating the value of PPE
– Acknowledging common workplace hazards related to PPE
– Learning about the common types of PPE
– Observing the basic characteristics of PPE
– Recognizing the general worker and employer responsibilities regarding PPE

Course Description
Imagine spilling a caustic chemical on your hand, breathing in gas fumes, having sawdust fly into your eye, and dropping a load of bricks on your toe. Think about losing your eyesight, contracting lung cancer, burning your skin, and losing feeling in your feet. All of these hazards and effects are a reality across industries, which is why personal protective equipment (PPE) is so important. PPE protects the body from both debilitating and often fatal injuries.

The aim of this course is prove to you the importance of PPE and to teach you how to use and implement PPE in your workplace. We will cover general types and functions of PPE for the general workplace. If you are curious about specific types of PPE for your workplace, perhaps respiratory PPE, please view our specific PPE courses.

Even after we agree on PPE saving lives, sometimes it is unclear about what types are needed for your workplace, and what types you should have. There are government regulations for workplaces on this matter, and this course will also teach about these standards. The deciding factors on what PPE a workplace needs are dependent on the hazards present. Is your workplace a construction site? Then you will likely need steel-toed boots, a hardhat, glasses and/or goggles, and gloves. Is your workplace a manufacturing plant? Then you likely need respiratory protection,

glasses, gloves, and possibly coveralls. The hazards of your workplace will indicate the type of PPE that is needed, in addition to the ones required by law. Employee safety is absolutely necessary for a business, and PPE is the best way to guarantee that.

As we progress through the course, we will teach about general worker and employer responsibilities around PPE. There are exceptions, but typically employers must supply all PPE necessary for the job. On the other hand, we will also focus on teaching the importance of workers wearing their PPE. It is crucial for employees to protect themselves in the work environment for their long term lives.