OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY · HAND PROTECTION

VITS

The right gloves

No glove protects against everything: its marking shows what it was tested against. **A worker moved a part under a running drill. The pillar drill caught the glove and tore off a finger.**

Possible consequences

- Cut injury
- Chemical burn
- Burns
- Vibration white finger
- Finger loss
- Time off work

MECHANICAL HAZARDS

EN 388
example
4X43DP

- **4** abrasion resistance
- **X** cut resistance, Coup test
- **4** tear resistance
- **3** puncture resistance
- **D** cut resistance, TDM test
- **P** impact protection

CHEMICALS

EN ISO 374-1
example
Type A
JKLOPT

- **Type A** at least 6 chemicals, over 30 min
- **Type B** at least 3 chemicals, over 30 min
- **Type C** at least 1 chemical, over 10 min
- **JKLOPT** chemicals the glove resisted

HEAT AND FLAME

EN 407
example
412X4X

- **4** limited flame spread
- **1** contact heat
- **2** convective heat
- **X** radiant heat
- **4** molten metal splashes
- **X** large molten metal splashes
- glove with this symbol is not flame resistant

VIBRATION

EN ISO 10819

- **200–1250 Hz** reduced by at least 40%
- **below 150 Hz** barely reduced

A glove reduces the risk but does not remove it.

GLOVE IS A HAZARD



Rotating part

Do not wear gloves

- Drill and lathe chucks
- Rotating part grabs glove
- Glove pulls the hand in

A higher number means better protection; of the cut resistance letters, F is best; X – property not tested or result not given. Contact heat 1–4: 100, 250, 350 and 500 °C for at least 15 s. Hazards and effects that may come with wearing protective equipment must also be considered.

DO

- Choose gloves for the hazards of each task.
- For sharp edges, check the cut level A–F.
- For hot surfaces, check the contact heat level.
- Check glove material on the safety data sheet.
- Check the glove is intact before work.
- Choose a glove that fits: not too big or too tight.
- Replace torn, worn or very dirty gloves.
- Keep hands warm and dry with vibrating tools.

DON'T

- **Don't handle sharp edges with ordinary work gloves**
  Ordinary work gloves may not resist cuts and punctures.
- **Don't use uncoated fabric gloves with chemicals**
  Fabric absorbs them and they reach your skin.
- **Don't choose a chemical glove by type alone**
  The type doesn't show if it resists your chemical.
- **Don't exceed a chemical glove's wear time**
  Chemicals permeate the glove material over time.
- **Don't wear ordinary work gloves for welding**
  Welding gloves must protect against heat and mechanical hazards.
- **Don't grip a vibrating tool tightly**
  A tight grip passes more vibration to your hands.
- **Don't rely on anti-vibration gloves with power tools**
  Gloves don't significantly reduce vibration from most power tools.

REMEMBER

Know the risk. Read the mark. Right glove.

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