K05 PPE - SELECTION AND CARE OF HEADWEAR

SAFETY INFOGRAM

Headwear consists of a shell and the suspension. These work together as a system and both need regular inspection and maintenance.

• CHOOSE the correct headwear for the job. Refer to CSA Standard Z94. 1, "Industrial Protective Headwear":

Type I Hat (full brim)

Type II Cap (with or without peak)

Class A General Use, Limited Voltage

Class B Protection High Voltage Protection

Class C General Use, Metallic No Voltage Protection

- DO NOT TRANSPORT headwear in rear windows of vehicles.
- INSPECT headwear before each use.

SHELL

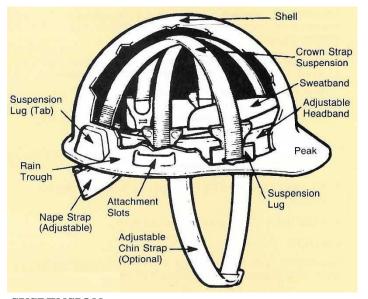
The shell is rigid and light, and is shaped to deflect falling objects. Correct maintenance is important.

DOs

- INSPECT and replace a shell that shows signs of wear, scratches or gouges. Shells exposed to heat, sunlight and chemicals can become stiff or brittle. There can be a visible pattern of tiny cracks. Hats can be dull in colour or have a chalky appearance.
- REPLACE headwear when hairline cracks start to appear. These cracks will spread and widen.
- REPLACE headwear that has been struck, even if no damage is visible.
- REMOVE and destroy any headwear if its protective abilities are in doubt.

DO NOTs

- DO NOT DRILL holes, alter or modify the shell.
 Alterations may reduce the protection provided by the headwear.
- DO NOT PAINT the plastic shell. Paint solvents can make plastic headwear brittle and more susceptible to cracks. Instead, use reflective marking tape to make numbers or symbols for identification purposes. Metal headwear may be painted.
- DO NOT USE winter liners that contain metal or electrically conductive material.
- DO NOT USE metal labels on Class B headwear.
- DO NOT DRAW chin strap over brim or peak of Class B headwear.



SUSPENSION

The suspension system is as important as the shell. It holds the shell away from the head and acts as a shock absorber. It also holds the shell in place on the head and allows air to flow freely.

- ADJUST headband size so that headwear will stay on when wearer is bending over, but not so tight that it leaves a mark on the forehead.
- ENSURE that the suspension is in good condition. The main purpose of the suspension is to absorb energy.
- LOOK closely for cracked or torn adjustment slots, frayed material or other signs of wear.
- CHECK suspension lugs carefully. Perspiration and hair oils can cause wear. Long periods of normal use can damage the suspension.
- REPLACE suspension that has torn or broken treads.
- DO NOT PUT anything inside headwear. There must be a clearance inside the headwear while it is being worn. In the event of a blow to the head, that space helps absorb the shock.

MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

The care and maintenance of headwear is needed if the headwear is to protect as designed. Its lifespan is affected by normal use and by heat, cold, chemicals and ultraviolet rays.

- CLEAN the suspension and shell regularly.
- USE a wet sponge or soft brush with mild dish detergent and thoroughly rinse with water to remove dirt and stains.