

# HEAD, EYE & HAND SAFETY

LOOKING GREAT AND BEING SAFE ON THE JOB ARE NOW THE SAME THING



Safety manufacturers have discovered that the way to a man's heart (as in compliance) is to hit him with comfort, style and foolproof reliability. These manufacturers are checking off every box with products that look great, fit superbly and offer unparalleled performance.

## BRASS KNUCKLE

"Fogging caused by sweating and humidity make safety glasses unwearable!" If you've ever heard this complaint from workers who need protective eyewear on the job, there is a better solution. Brass Knuckle is pleased to offer two models of safety eyewear that go above and beyond typical anti-fog eyewear.

"The fact is, EN166/168 is the only anti-fog standard for protective eyewear; there is no ANSI standard for anti-fog protection," says Tony Spearling, vice president of Brass Knuckle. "When wearers experience poor-quality anti-fog protection on safety glasses, it is likely because those glasses were manufactured with zero adherence to standards of any kind."

Brass Knuckle Snap eyewear (left) with exclusive N-FOG PLUS coating exceeds the world's toughest anti-fog standard by 300 percent for clear vision in the most humid conditions.

"We could apply any anti-fog chemical to the lens and say we have anti-fog protection," Spearling says, "but instead, we developed our own higher anti-fog standard and then held our products up to be measured. No one says we have to do this. There is no U.S. standard. We went out and found the toughest standard and then crushed it."

Enter Brass Knuckle Snap (BKFIX-3100NP) and Mega (BKDST-1030NP) eyewear. Regardless of whether you have water spray, wastewater, high humidity or dramatic changes in temperature — these glasses don't steam up. Both are manufactured to "crush" the most stringent anti-fog standard — EN166/168. Both feature Brass Knuckle's proprietary N-FOG PLUS lens coating, which delivers anti-fog protection more than 40 times greater than what is required, exceeding the world's toughest standard by 300 percent.

Snap gives users ultra-light comfort and crisp vision even in the wettest, most humid conditions. It features a partially rimless design and a soft, flexible PivotEase nose-piece that locks into the perfect no-slip position.

Mega (BKDST-1030NP) features a cushioned foam dust protector designed to help prevent fine particulate matter from falling into or behind the frame and lenses. The Mega also converts easily into a dust goggle with a strap.

All Brass Knuckle dust goggles meet or exceed the

EN166/168 standard for anti-fog performance; however, only the Mega includes N-FOG PLUS anti-fog coating. Snap and Mega eyewear also feature heavy-duty impact-, abrasion- and UV-resistance properties to ANSI Z87.1+, EN 166K, EN166N and EN 166UV standards.

## BON TOOL CO.

"The biggest trend we are seeing in PPE is its overall acceptance and usage," says John Bongiovanni, Bon Tool vice president of sales. "Maybe the stigma of having to wear more equipment is fading away, or contractors no longer feel that they are 'too macho' to use it, but I think one of the key factors is the development of the products themselves."



Whether they have lighter weight and more breathable materials, gel-filled gear for comfort, suspension designs to create a well-balanced feel or some combination of all these things, contractors wear PPE regularly now.

"The next time you walk into a contractor supply house, take a look around; many contractors will still have their



Bon Tool's updated safety products include second-skin-comfortable knee pads, bricklayer's Leather Finger Guards and Spray Guard Head Covers for drywall professionals.

gear on and not even think about it. It has become second nature to them."

Bon's new Easy Walk double felt leather knee pads are one example. They are notched for easier walking but are still made with heavy-duty leather.

"A few years back, we reviewed our PPE line and saw that it had not changed in years," Bongiovanni continues. "So we set off to find technologies to refresh the line and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 66

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make it more comfortable. Results include our Kneeler Boards, which are a big improvement over a piece of plywood, our gel-filled Knee Pads, which offer better support and comfort than traditional foam padding, and our Bricklayer Gloves, which provide grip, keep your hands protected when handling abrasive materials and have an open-knit back to keep them cool and comfortable.”

Another example is Bon Leather Finger Guards, which are designed to protect fingers and thumbs while laying brick or block. They have a leather face and elastic back to keep them in place. They help protect your hands while keeping you cool — perfect for the mason who prefers not to wear gloves. For drywallers, Bon offers a Spray Guard Head Cover, made of mesh cotton fabric that stretches for comfort.

“Safety equipment has made some great strides in becoming commonplace,” he says. “Now our objective is to continue to make these products better and safer while also making them lighter, thinner and more comfortable for the user. Look for more products in the next few years with high-visibility features incorporated into them as well.”

### EDGE EYEWEAR

“Safety eyewear trends have changed drastically over the past decade, and the industry is becoming as interested in style and comfort as it is in safety,” begins Jared Carter, Edge Eyewear vice president of sales. “This contemporary approach to protective eyewear and its technologies has resulted in options that outlive the safety glasses of the past. Additionally, the public has a greater need for education and training on safety standards.”



CARTER

In 1998, Edge Eyewear started rethinking safety eyewear and its applications, going on to start many new trends within the industry. These included cutting-edge frame and lens technologies, comfortable materials and Edge Eyewear’s Safety Certification training program. The company’s advanced approaches to safety and education are undoubtedly some of its strongest assets.

“We became the first company ever to offer polarized safety glasses in the industry,” Carter says. “Polarized safety eyewear not only provides unbeatable eye protection on the job, but also allows safety eyewear to be used for sports and recreational activities. Considering that 63 percent of eye injuries happen off the job, Edge Eyewear forever changed the industry by making safety eyewear a part of working safe as well as playing safe.”



Edge Eyewear introduced polarized safety glasses to the industry and continues to lead with models like the TXB236 (in black). Edge also pioneered anti-fog technology such as that in the model DZ111-G2.

“When all is said and done, Edge Eyewear has revolutionized the industry by starting these and other trends, furthering safety awareness and introducing various solutions for different applications,” Carter states. “We are proud to supply consumers with safety glasses they enjoy rather than ones they feel forced to wear.”

All Edge Eyewear glasses are tested in independent accredited laboratories to ensure their compliance with ANSI Z87.1+2015 and Ballistic MCEPS GL-PD 10-12 standards.

### ERGODYNE

Much of what is considered “new” technologies could more accurately be described as “better” versions of technologies that have been in the market in some form, but have been improved. Today’s cut-resistant materials are lighter, more flexible and breathe better than those from a decade ago, yet also provide superior protection. This is also true of materials designed to resist abrasion, provide grip and maintain breathability.

However, wearing a specific type of glove, especially one with enhanced features such as cut resistance, may



give workers a false sense of security. A cut resistant glove, like any PPE, is the last line of defense. Engineering controls, proper training and technique and an overall culture of hand safety awareness should always be top of mind in any situation where a hand injury risk is present.

“When it comes to selecting proper work gloves, choose the right one for the application,” says Andy Olson, Ergodyne associate product director. “Don’t skimp, because low-cost, poor-quality, one-size-fits-all gloves will be removed at every opportunity. For example, if a worker’s daily tasks involve using a touch-screen-capable or mobile device, a glove with touch-screen-capable technology should be used. Not only is this convenient for the worker, but more importantly, it ensures compliance even when using touchscreen devices, keeping hands safe and protected at all times.”

Ergodyne’s new ProFlex Trades Series gloves feature eight updated and six new models that boast better functionality and protection with traits like touch-screen-capability, enhanced cut resistance, improved abrasion resistance and more. Incorporated technologies include



Ergodyne’s mega-cool ProFlex Trades Series gloves include eight updates and six all-new models with improved cut and abrasion resistance and touch-screen capabilities.

abrasion-resistant Tena-Grip, touch-screen-capable synthetic leather and reinforcements, AX Suede materials and the latest cut-resistant Armortex.

### PYRAMEX SAFETY PRODUCTS

Pyramex is a familiar name in the PPE space, with a well-earned reputation for quality products. Now Pyramex proudly introduces the Proximity to its line of innovative safety eyewear. A stylish, lightweight safety glass

CONTINUED ON PAGE 68

# MURO

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designed for optimal comfort and safety, Proximity offers all-day durability and all-day comfort for the user.

*Pyramex Proximity eyewear features inner-lens flame-resistant foam padding and co-injected temples for a secure fit. The Ridgeline hard hat is offered with four- and six-point suspensions.*

"The inside lens is lined with flame-resistant foam padding that assists in keeping out dust, wind and airborne particles," explains Larry Word, Pyramex marketing communications manager. "The lens has a 9.5 base curve that provides excellent side protection. The Proximity's slim co-injected temples ensure a snug, secure fit on any wearer. Several lens color options are treated with Pyramex's H2X lens technology, blocking out fog, mist, sweat and steam. The scratch-resistant polycarbonate lens provides 99 percent UVA/B/C protection."

The Proximity meets the U.S. ANSI Z87.1 High Impact standards, the European CE EN166 standards, and the Canadian Cert.Mod.-CAN/CSA Z94.3-07.

"In hard hats, the Ridgeline is the ultimate combination of high-performance impact protection and exceptional personalized comfort," Word adds. "We spent over a year developing the design and features that would make our head protection one of the most comfortable products on the market today."

Constructed of ABS materials, the Ridgeline is considered superior for its hardness, toughness and electrical insulation properties. The ultra-light weight of the cap-style Ridgeline features a low-profile design with a vented option at the top and rear of the hard hat, providing air circulation to help keep your head cool and dry. It is available in both four- and six-point suspensions. The full-brim version is also available with a four-point suspension and can be converted to a six-point suspension with optional strap. Ridgeline hard hats meet ANSI Z89.1 standards.

*Radians has launched nine new gloves with a variety of features to cater to specific user needs. They range from general-purpose models to Cut Level 3 or 5 versions with TPR overlays for impact resistance.*

**RADIANS**

"Hand injuries are the second-leading cause of work-related injuries and are expected to reach three million this year," observes Radians president, Bill England. "The Bureau of Labor Statistics states that 70 percent of hand injuries occur because workers, especially construction workers, don't wear hand protection, primarily because of dexterity issues. The other 30 percent are wearing the wrong glove for the application."

Radians has added nine new gloves to protect hands at work. The new line includes protective gloves with added dexterity, cut protection, abrasion resistance and thermal plastic rubber (TPR) overlays for impact protection.

"With Radians' developments in glove technology to enhance dexterity, comfort and safety, users will be able to select the correct gloves based on their job applications — and hand injuries will decrease," England says. "Hand protection is one of Radians' fastest growing product categories because we offer a quality product line with great features. Our product managers and safety specialists are equipped with the expertise and knowledge to help our customers choose the right glove for the application."

Radians' expanded line includes three new CE Cut 3 gloves in 13-gauge (RWG534), 15-gauge (RWG536), and 18-gauge (RWG533); four general-purpose coated gloves (RWG14, RWG15, RWG16), one of which is a two-ply winter-coated glove (RWG17); one CE Cut 5 glove with Thermal Plastic Rubber (TPR) overlays for impact-resistant protection (RWG603); and one CE Cut 5 glove with TPR overlays and a 7-gauge acrylic terry liner for warmth in cold conditions (RWG604). **cs**

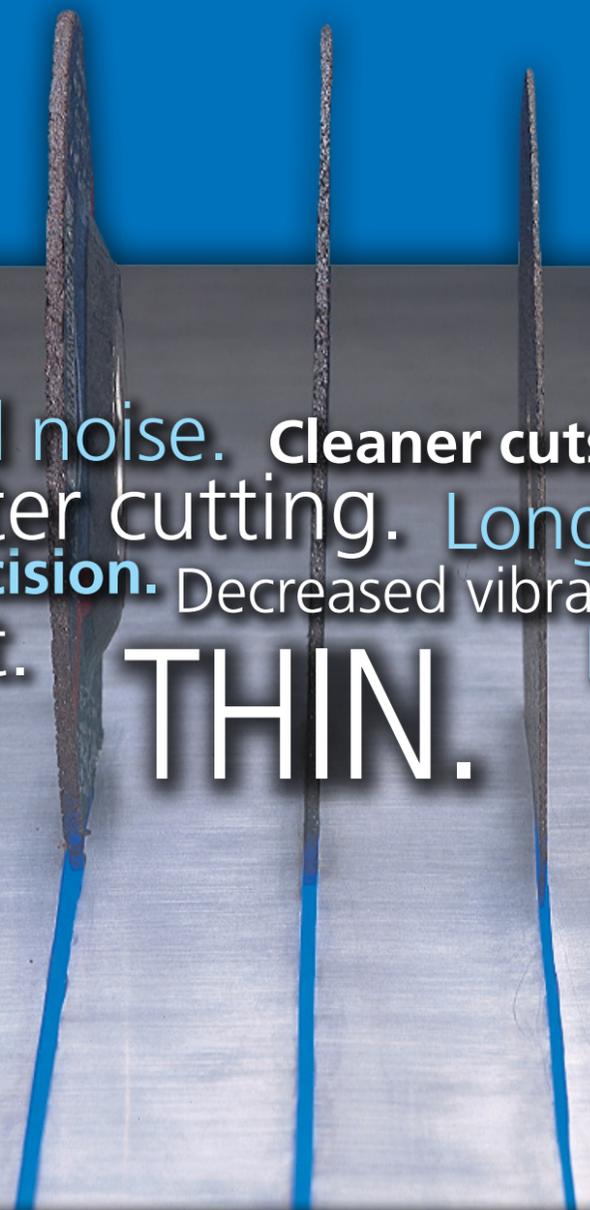


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