



# COLD WEATHER SAFETY AND HEATERS

## FROM HEATERS TO HEATED JACKETS, IT'S COOL TO KEEP WARM ON COLD JOBS

What's more unpredictable than winter weather? Pretty much nothing, which is why these manufacturers work so hard to develop versatile and efficient products to keep workers and their job sites warm, dry, safe and productive, no matter what it's doing outside.

### BOSCH

"The latest trend in job site apparel is heat," begins Charlie Chiappetta, associate product manager, Robert Bosch Tool Corporation. "While most jackets are inherently designed to keep you toasty, one line of work wear takes warmth and technology to an entirely new level. Presenting the line of Bosch 12V MAX heated jackets, a series of battery-powered outerwear that combines active heat-

ing technology with battery power capable of keeping portable electronics charged and ready for use."

Three quick-warming heat zones throughout the battery-powered jacket start warming in a matter of seconds to the wearer's comfort level. The built-in heat controller determines the temperature with easy, color-coded indicators: high (red), medium (green) and low (blue) for maximum comfort. The entire system — including a USB charger for

*Taking advantage of its existing 12-volt platform, Bosch 12V MAX heated jackets have three warming zones and can keep the wearer warm for up to six hours on a single charge.*



smart phones or music players — can run up to six hours with a Bosch 12-volt battery.

The line of jackets, while technologically advanced, also incorporates some of the highest quality materials and functionalities for the outdoors. Its water- and wind-resistant design repels harsh weather, and its adjustable sleeves and waist fit the wearer snugly. Five internal and external pockets provide ample storage.

"Being warm on the job site no longer means more layers, but more advanced work wear," Chiappetta states.

### EAGLE INDUSTRIES

With winter in full swing, many construction companies look for ways to keep their job site up to speed and on schedule. Winter tarps and weather enclosure products are widely used to help contractors get through the harsh winter. Tarps and enclosures help keep the job site safe, productive and protected from snow, wind and sub-zero temperatures. Workers will stay warm and materials such as concretes, epoxies and mortar will cure properly. Contractors all across the country turn to Eagle Industries for choosing the right winter enclosure for the job.

"Everyone is familiar with blue tarps and green tarps," says George Wall, business development manager. "While inexpensive and easy to find, the common blue tarp tends to rip easily and has a high risk of failure in use as a construction enclosure.



**No batteries needed** — Eagle's professional tarps and enclosures help keep entire structures protected from the elements. They also include flame retardant versions.

Today, contractors rely on more heavy-duty tarps such as Eagle flame-retardant (FR) winter tarps. Eagle FR tarps range from 6- to 12-mil-thick material made from tear-resistant weather-proof poly. The tarps are constructed with reinforced grommets, D-rings, hemmed edges and even include internal center seams for maximum tie-down installation . . . which is what you want for an enclosure."

Eagle also provides various types of reinforced poly sheeting. Its most popular sheeting is the 12-mil-thick Scaf-Lite scaffold sheeting. This sheeting is made of heavy-duty

reinforced poly with blue bands and elastic bungee ties. The bungee ties are used to safely and securely fasten the sheeting to scaffolding from inside the scaffold frame.

"Scaf-Lite sheeting provides the tightest, most durable enclosure, saving valuable time and labor, with the lowest risk of failure during the winter," Wall says. "That's a fact!"

Eagle stocks an array of other enclosures such as snow tarps, woven poly, string poly, FR tarps and custom-made tarps to order.

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by Tom Hammel

**ERGODYNE**

We're plunging headlong into the season where outdoor workers' exposure to harsh winter conditions puts them at risk for developing a variety of cold-related illnesses, ranging from frostbite to hypothermia. In cold environments, the body spends energy maintaining its core temp, which redirects blood away from the extremities. This makes exposed skin and extremities cool rapidly, and increases the risk of frostbite and hypothermia.

"Layering up – wearing base, middle and outer layers – is considered the best way to combat extreme conditions and stay warm," notes Alsie Nelson, associate product manager. "Base layers wick moisture away from the body, middle layers provide additional insulation

and, as the first defense against the elements, outer layers protect the wearer from wind and rain."

The downside to layering is that it can feel bulky, reduce range of motion, and even harm productivity. So, what's a worker to do? Find an outer layer that is a durable first line of defense, but also insulating and warming.

A prime example is Ergodyne's N-Ferno model 6490 heated jacket with removable sleeves. Two heat zones on the chest and back bring warmth to the core body regions, powered by a rechargeable, lightweight 7.4-volt Lithium-ion battery that provides between four and nine hours of continuous heat. The jacket has adjustable heat settings in case the temperature suddenly drops from slightly nippy to



Ergodyne's winter wear line includes the N-Ferno heated jacket with removable sleeves. Powered by a 7.4-volt Lithium-ion battery, the jacket delivers four to nine hours of continuous heat.

downright bone-chilling. A preheat option provides a 30 percent increase in initial warming time for those who need to warm up quickly.

"It's time to become a lean, mean, working machine," Nelson says. "Find a good outer layer and the days of hearing Michelin Man jokes from your fellow coworkers are over."

**KNAACK**

Keeping supplies at working temperatures on cold job sites is a perennial winter problem. KNAACK's recently released solution is the industry's first job site storage box engineered to keep supplies at optimal temperatures. Designed specifically for contractors working in cold environments, the Thermosteel heated storage unit saves money, reduces downtime and prevents



damage to tools and materials due to cold temperatures. Users can simply plug in the heating element when job site temperatures drop below 40 degrees to ensure supplies are safe from extreme temperatures.

"The Thermosteel is a great addition to our line of KNAACK boxes," says Mike Bykowski, senior product manager. "We wanted to design a product that makes working throughout winter months a little more

The Thermosteel heated box from KNAACK has a built-in heating element that can maintain a temperature of 70 degrees inside even when the mercury hits zero outside the box.

comfortable and convenient. When temperatures drop as low as zero degrees, Thermosteel can get up to 70 degrees within the cabinet. Not only are tools protected from theft, but now from weather damage as well."

Along with the new heated functionality, the Thermosteel cabinet is built with all of the traditional KNAACK features, including security, durability and productivity. In addition, a Tool Kage door and thermal blanket that helps keep everything at the optimal temperature — adhesives, paints, batteries, safety gear and more — are protected from extreme weather conditions.

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by Tom Hammel

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Raychem FrostGuard from Pentair is a contractor grade pre-assembled heating cable system for preventing roof and gutter ice dams and pipes from freezing and bursting.

**RADIANS**

Radians' latest take on the layered for warmth approach is its new quilted reversible 4-in-1 insulated rip-stop jacket which provides superior, cross-seasonal comfort and weather protection. Named the RadWear SJ510, this ultra-lightweight and versatile jacket reverses from dark, low-profile grey to a Class 3 Hi-Viz yellow jacket with reflective tape.

The zippered sleeves can be easily removed converting the jacket into a Class 2 vest or a non-rated quilted black vest. The removable sleeves help the wearer regulate his or her temperature during the work day and provide cross-seasonal flexibility.

"We designed this quilted, ultra-lightweight, water/wind resistant, polyfill, reversible jacket to satisfy the safety, comfort and style needs of end-users," says Joyce Wooley, Radians' Hi-Viz product manager. "The classic fit and reversibility of the jacket and vest from Hi-Viz to charcoal grey means end-users can be highly visible at work and very stylish after work."

The SJ510 is dual-rated for Type R Class 2 and Class 3 protection and meets the new ANSI/ISEA 107-2015

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"Our newest product, Raychem FrostGuard, is a contractor grade preassembled heating cable that is available as an easy plug-n-play system," Myers says. "This versatile product prevents roofs and gutters from ice dams and icicle buildup, or pipes from freezing and bursting. Take extra precautions to protect the exterior and interior of buildings from the harshness that winter brings."

Dubbed the RadWear SJ510, Radians' newest outerwear product is a four-in-one jacket and vest system that converts from hi-viz to charcoal grey.

There is nothing worse than being without water, especially in winter. Extremely low ambient temperatures can cause liquid in water pipes to freeze and swell, resulting in burst pipes. The aftermath includes costly repairs and the inconvenience of being without water. Attaching self-regulating heating systems to the pipe prevents ice from forming within, and thus avoiding burst pipes and water damage.

Heavy snow causes ice dams and icicles to form on roofs which can cause leaks, collapse or personal injury. Self-regulating heating systems can help prevent these problems by stopping the buildup of ice and snow on roofs.



L.B. White's Tradesman 125 propane forced-air heater delivers from 70,000 to 125,000 Btu per hour with 98-percent fuel efficiency and comes with a two-year warranty.

The Tradesman 125 has an output range of 70,000 to 125,000 Btu per hour. Variable output means fuel savings on the job, and this heater is direct fired, with 98-plus percent combustion efficiency. Thermostatic control is standard with this model.

The new Tradesman 125 comes with an industry leading two-year warranty and is certified to meet or exceed CSA-US or CSA-Canadian standards.

**PENTAIR/RAYCHEM FROSTGUARD**

The extreme conditions of harsh winters can cause property damage and potentially endanger lives. Home and commercial building owners and contractors need to take protective, preventative measures to winter-proof properties and ensure they are safe for occupants.

"One winter safety solution is self-regulating heating cables that only emit heat when and where it is needed," says Pele Myers, North America marketing manager for Pentair's Thermal Building Solutions division. "They do this by reacting to the ambient temperature, reducing output when it is warm and increasing it when it is cold. These reliable cables will not overheat, are inexpensive to install and operate, and require little to no maintenance — bringing winter safety into every building project."



MYERS



KOMPERUD

markets around the world by delivering innovative products and quality service that meet the evolving needs of its customers," begins L.B. White Company's marketing product manager Kelly Komperud. "Our newest product, the propane-fueled Tradesman 125 portable forced air heater was designed from the ground up to be the contractor's first choice for job site heating."

The Tradesman 125 features a steel combustion chamber and burner plate for durability. An auto shut-off circuit protects against overheating and an adjustable heat angle directs heat where most needed. A continuous electronic spark ignition system insures the heater will light under adverse conditions.

Optional Junk Trunk quick-access drawers keep needed tools and accessories within easy reach and the raised chest floor offers easy access to tools. Optional casters, four-way skid access and recessed side handles make the Thermosteel easy to maneuver wherever it is needed. Finally, KNAACK boxes are designed to protect against theft and resist job site conditions.

**L.B. WHITE**

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The SnowEx V-Plow for UTVs measures 6 feet wide and can assume straight, "V" or bucket blade scoop positions for optimum performance on sidewalks and through gates.

"on" and float LED lights and are compatible with the SnowEx Fleet Flex electrical system that provides complete fleet interchangeability between other SnowEx plows. **cs**

allows customization for various snow management situations.

"The UTV plow blade is constructed of high-strength, low-alloy steel components that are stronger and lighter than regular steel," states Michael Frank, product marketing manager for SnowEx. "It's also reinforced with six vertical ribs for additional stability. And the 5-inch hardened steel cutting edge has built-in trip-edge protection, which will trip in any position without losing the snow load. A Powercoat finish offers durability and maintenance-free protection."

Operators can choose between the Power Grip hand-held control with backlit buttons or a compact, glove-friendly joystick. The plow can be angled with just one touch of a button. Both controls feature power

In addition to warmth and comfort, Black Stallion's ToolHandz winter mechanic's glove line is constructed of quality materials and offer additional specialized features helpful during the most demanding of winter tasks.

The ToolHandz water-resistant hi-viz anti-impact winter glove, for example, features a reinforced synthetic leather palm for long-lasting protection, water-resistant lining to help keep out the rain and snow and a storm cuff to deter the biting cold and wind. Hi-viz impact guards on the fingers are beneficial when working around heavy machinery and equipment to help keep hands and fingers protected from knocks, bumps and other impacts.

**SNOWEX**

Although this next commentary isn't about a "traditional" cold weather safety product, it's best to hear out folks from Michigan when they give you advice about snow — such as when the SnowEx division of Douglas Dynamics introduces a new, professional-grade V-Plow for utility task vehicles (UTVs).

Measuring a full 6 feet wide, the plow blade angles to 5 feet wide to fit most sidewalks and through gates. Two width settings cover the optimal tire track width on a range of popular UTVs. Configuring the plow to straight blade, "V" position or bucket blade scoop positions

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Black Stallion winter gloves from Revco Industries offer a range of styles and features from elkskin mechanics' and hi-viz insulated models with impact protection to general work gloves.

insulation, we provide solutions to keep workers' hands warm and comfortable in cold winter conditions," says Randal Fisher, marketing director for Black Stallion Industries.

Like their line of welding gloves, Black Stallion winter gloves include innovative design and technology.

"It is important to maintain the fit and dexterity workers expect in their gloves while incorporating materials, coatings and liners designed for maximum warmth and water resistance," Fisher adds.

**REVCO BLACK STALLION**

Few products are more basic to good winter safety than gloves. The Black Stallion winter glove collection offers a variety of insulated and protective mechanics, drivers, and general work gloves, each with unique features and applications.

"From water-resistant, hi-viz, insulated gloves with impact protection to the finest elkskin mechanics gloves with lightweight Thinsulate

standards. Available in sizes from small to 4X, it has six pockets and 120 grams of synthetic insulation. The Hi-Viz shell has diamond-shape ripstop for durability and a DWR coating for water resistance. The charcoal grey fabric is 100 percent 20D ripstop polyester with DWR and colorfast coating. The jacket has a 2-inch drop tail hem and is designed with a hidden zipper in the lower back area to allow for easy custom imprinting of a company logo.

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