SAFETY, GLOVES & PPE
STAYING SAFE HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER OR MORE COMFORTABLE

Ignorance of the law is no excuse; nor is “It’s just not comfortable,” an excuse for safety noncompliance. Not anymore anyway, because these new fall protection systems and PPE products deliver more range of motion, comfort and increased productivity than ever.

Join us in this survey of the latest safety products from these 11 industry-leading manufacturers.

WERNER CO.

“Recently, there have been significant changes in the regulatory environment that should make new PPE and fall protection an even higher priority for contractors,” states Chris Filardi, vice president of marketing at Werner Co. “After more than 15 years of deliberation and work, OSHA published a final rule on Slips, Trips and Falls in November of 2016 that updated a previous rule from 1990. These new standards are not expected to be challenged by congress, so it will be important for professionals to research, understand and implement any applicable changes.”

According to OSHA, “The final rule’s most significant update is allowing employers to select the fall protection system that works best for them, choosing from a range of accepted options including personal fall protection systems. Other changes prohibit the use of body belts as part of a personal fall arrest system; and requiring worker training on personal fall protection systems and fall equipment.”

Per OSHA’s ruling, any workers still using body belts for fall protection need to upgrade their equipment. Werner Co.’s complete line of fall protection equipment is OSHA and ANSI compliant. The collection includes harnesses, lanyards, anchors, lifelines and new products, with more coming in 2017.

Werner’s new temporary rope Horizontal Lifelines (HLLs) provide a complete lifeline system in a convenient backpack. Available in four styles, these systems provide flexibility and efficiency in work situations that require fall protection but will not sacrifice worker mobility. They allow quick set up and uninstall with a wide working range of 30-, 60- and 100-foot lengths. Later this year, Werner will further round out the fall protection product lineup with a new premium product.

Werner’s robust, comprehensive lineup of fall protection products provide quality options to keep workers safe and compliant with new and existing OSHA and ANSI regulations.

TRIMACO

With roots back to 1906, Trimaco is a manufacturing leader in the paint, construction, flooring, marine, disaster restoration, facilities maintenance and automotive industries. Ignorance of the law is no excuse; nor is “It’s just not comfortable,” an excuse for safety noncompliance. Not anymore anyway, because these new fall protection systems and PPE products deliver more range of motion, comfort and increased productivity than ever.

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CONTRIBUTED BY TOM HAMMEL
industries, offering a comprehensive line of surface, personal and job site protection products. Trimaco plants in Phoenix, Arizona, Manning, South Carolina, Portland, Oregon and Elk Grove Village, Illinois ensure swift order fulfillment.

“American-made X•Paper is Trimaco’s newest surface protection product,” begins Charlie Reaves, vice president. “Being 1.5 times thicker than regular contractor’s paper, it provides excellent protection for floors and surfaces and provides protection from minor spills. X•Paper is breathable and can be laid over curing floors and is available in 36-inch by 120-foot rolls.

“Also made in the USA, X•Board is a lightweight, tough alternative surface protector that will last for the endurance of the job and features Trimaco’s Spill Block liquid repellent technology. Made from 100 percent recycled fibers, X•Board protects new and existing concrete, wood, stone, tile, linoleum, epoxy, vinyl composition tile (VCT) and most other hard surfaces. X•Board is breathable and can be laid over curing floors. It is 36 inches wide and comes in 50- and 100-foot rolls.”

FloorShell Surface Protector heavy-duty construction board is likewise made in the USA. It is breathable to allow concrete to continue curing. Its Spill Block protects against paint, mud, water and more. Made from 100 percent recycled newsprint, FloorShell protects concrete, stone, wood, tile, linoleum, epoxy and VCT and is strong enough for forklifts. A scored edge makes it simple to fold and protect skirting boards and walls. FloorShell is 38 inches wide and comes in 50- and 100-foot rolls.

FloorShell seam tape is 72mm wide and joins FloorShell seams quickly and easily. FloorShell seam tape is designed with kraft backing and contractor grade adhesive. Breathable FloorShell seam tape can also be used with X•Board Surface Protector.

**ELK RIVER**

From its beginnings in 1988, Cullman, Alabama-based Elk River has grown to produce more than 2,000 safety products for industries worldwide. Two new products illustrate the company’s broad range.

“For workers at height, the model 18727 6-foot twin leg RETRACTAMASTER LE SRL is an unparalleled work of engineering,” begins Mike Lowry, director of marketing. “From the durable, compact, and light-weight aluminum housing to the Dynema webbing, it is designed to be the premium SRL on the market.”

RETRACTAMASTER’s unique design features a dual-action safety locking mounting bracket that attaches to the harness webbing under the D-ring. This design allows the D-ring to be available for other uses.

The unit also has redundant swivel devices. Each of the rebar hooks is swivel on each of the two legs. Each of the two unit housings is swivel independently and also swivels at the mount. This makes the unit virtually impossible to tangle and gives the worker freedom to maneuver in the work area without having to continuously reposition the hooks.

Each RETRACTAMASTER is equipped with RFID, which makes required inspections and keeping track of the unit easy to do. RETRACTAMASTER LE units range in size from 6 to 50 feet in various configurations.

“Elk River also has a new 25-pound-capacity heavy-duty Bolt Bag,” Lowry continues. “The model 84523 is riveted and sewn for increased durability and features heavy-duty webbing on the bottom to prevent sharp tools from penetrating. Tool sleeves have been moved to the front for easy access and tool rings have been added for tool lanyard connections. The interior pocket is designed for smaller items and the drawstring top prevents accidental spillage of the contents.”

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Breathe easy... Safely capture silica dust

The deadline to comply with OSHA’s new silica dust rule for construction is June 2017. Nilfisk’s line of HEPA filtered wet/dry vacuums collect fine dust and contain it so it doesn’t blow back into the air. And self-cleaning filters keep the vacuum running at peak performance. So now you can breathe easy, knowing your job sites are safe and compliant.

Visit www.NilfiskVacuum.com to learn more.
ERGODYNE  
Both the U.S. and EU hand protection standards were revised in the past 12 months: ANSI/ISEA 105-2016 and EN 388:2016. Both contain significant revisions specific to the classification of cut resistance.

Advancements in glove materials continue to drive innovation in the hand protection category. Manufacturers continue to develop gloves that provide increased protection from hazards such as cut, puncture and abrasion without compromising dexterity, flexibility and hand function. In addition, materials that allow for the operation of a tablet or smartphone can be integrated so gloves can remain on (and hands remain protected).

“Ergodyne has recently launched a collection of ProFlex gloves addressing cut hazards,” says Andy Olson, product director. “The 812CR Utility + Cut Resistance and the 710CR Heavy-Duty Utility + CR employ a technical cut-resistance material on the entirety of the palm that provides enhanced cut and slash protection in a variety of industrial applications.”

The ProFlex 925CR offers not only enhanced cut protection, but a patent-pending system of rugged armor on the back of the hand for applications such as oil and gas or mining where dorsal impact hazards exist. All Ergodyne CR gloves are tested to both U.S. and EU standards.

“As materials continue to evolve, wearers will continue to demand options that address more than one hazard and do so while still maintaining the high degree of functionality that their job demands,” Olson says.

“Also, training and education will continue to evolve. With the changes to both major global glove standards designed to give wearers more information on the gloves they are selecting comes the need to explain this new criteria. Look for gloves from manufacturers who can also assist you in understanding the available options and choosing the right gloves for the job.”

FALLTECH  
Over 20 years, Compton, California-based FallTech has developed fall protection solutions for the real-life challenges workers face. The company has recently updated its Contractor+ family of harnesses.

“The updates to the Contractor+ resulted from the feedback we captured from users of the prior version of the Contractor harness,” explains Shatiana Griffin, marketing specialist for FallTech.

“The Contractor+ family of harnesses now offers a more supportive, secure and sturdy fit while adding functional elements for all day comfort to meet the demanding needs of workers.”

Upgrades to the Contractor+ family of full body harnesses include new chest slides with integrated lanyard keepers that provide a lower profile and easier attachment points for lanyard connectors and stiffer waist belt that improves longevity.

The waist pad now includes belt loops and is sewn into the torso straps to keep the waist pad from slipping. An improved, stiffer waist pad supports heavy tool bag loads and increased padding offers superior internal reinforcement to allow better D-ring positioning, improved comfort and usability.

Along with these improvements, the Contractor+ line continues to offer breathable padded air mesh shoulder yokes with nondrip dorsal D-ring adjustments, low-profile spring-tension torso adjusters and paired single-loop dual-fastening lanyard keepers.

The line also features a 5.5-inch torso-sewn waist support positioning pad for construction belted harnesses and a mating buckle chest closure with either mating buckle or tongue buckle leg closure options. The line is available in standard non-belted and construction belted models.

“The updated Contractor+ family of harnesses provides an affordable harness with the durability required for daily-to-day use with exceptional fall protection qualities and complies with all applicable ANSI and OSHA standards,” Griffin says.

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Gateway Safety

“Those working in dusty environments, foam-lined safety eye wear is a must,” says Gateway marketing manager Katie Mielcarek. “Gateway Safety expands the popular StarLite family and now offers a new foam-lined, anti-fog eye wear solution: StarLite FOAMPRO. These safety glasses are lined with a soft, closed-cell foam to prevent dust and debris from getting into the eyes.

“Gateway’s StarLite FOAMPRO safety glasses are lined with a soft closed-cell foam that prevents dust and debris from getting into the eyes. Versions are also available in a 1.5 and 2.0 bifocal MAG model.

Recognizing that older workers need foam-lined safety eye wear too, FOAMPRO is available in a 1.5 and 2.0 bifocal MAG version as well.

“We looked at the current products in the market and wanted to develop something with superior performance, a MAG option and better fit and comfort,” Mielcarek says.

FOAMPRO, with the same popular look as the original StarLite, also offers superior style. Instead of a stark black foam color, which often produces a “raccoon-eye” look, FOAMPRO’s smooth foam is a soft gray color.

FOAMPRO is a powerful anti-fog solution as well. Venting channels along the foam lining help with air circulation behind the lens, and all lens options include Gateway Safety’s quality anti-fog coating. Together, these two features help combat fog in a tough way.

“FOAMPRO is truly a one-of-a-kind safety eye wear solution,” says Mielcarek. “It fits so many worker needs including dust protection, improved foam fit, anti-fog performance and a bifocal option to help workers see small parts or read detailed drawings.”

Just like the original StarLite, FOAMPRO is lightweight and third-party certified by UL to meet ANSI Z87.1 and CSA Z94.3. With many products independently certified to meet ANSI and CSA standards, Gateway Safety ensures its products are not only safe, durable and of the highest quality but also products that workers want to wear. This helps companies increase safety compliance, improve the overall welfare of their employees and reduce the high costs associated with workplace injuries.

French Creek Production

Designed to be used as a connecting device in a personal fall arrest system, the sub-compact Rogue SRL from French Creek connects the user’s harness to the anchor point. The self-retracting lifeline provides freedom of movement to workers performing their jobs at heights.

“As the worker moves toward or away from the device, the spring tensioned webbing will retract back into the unit or will draw out of it,” explains Chris Williams, French Creek vice president. “The device automatically takes up the slack in the webbing, keeping it out of the way while minimizing free fall distance should a fall occur. A centrifugal breaking mechanism minimizes free fall distance. In addition, a visual load indicator warns the user that the unit has been involved in a fall.”

The Rogue SRL is available in a single-leg or dual-leg unit. It attaches directly to the back of the harness. The single-leg unit attaches to the back D-ring, while the dual-leg unit attaches through the webbing loop below the back D-ring, keeping the

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Gateway’s StarLite FOAMPRO safety glasses are lined with a soft closed-cell foam that prevents dust and debris from getting into the eyes. The Rogue SRL from French Creek Production is offered in single- or dual-leg versions, stops a fall within inches and has a 400-pound total weight capacity.
industry update
by Tom Hammel

The Anchor Loop swivels 360 degrees to help limit line twisting for smooth operation. Its high-strength, lightweight, sub-compact housing provides excellent durability. Starting at 1.9 pounds, these units are light enough to replace a lanyard to improve safety performances.

The Rogue SRL features an in-line tear-away impact indicator that allows visible inspection of the slightest falls — the indicator will show actual wear prior to the shock absorber being engaged. The shock pack is designed to tear-away if the unit is fallen into, helping to reduce fall-arrest forces. The unit will stop a fall within inches, reducing fall distances and fall arrest forces to 900 pounds or less.

ROGUE SRL units offer a 400-pound total weight capacity for worker and tools and are offered in a variety of options, providing a unit for every job site.

MECHANIX WEAR

“When it comes to work gloves, The Original has set the standard for fit, feel and function,” says Michael Hale, Mechanix Wear CEO. “Hardworking hands around the world reach into their toolboxes for The Original work glove day in and day out for its simplicity and versatility. So, when we decided to build our most popular work glove with genuine leather, not just any leather made the cut.”

The new Leather Original work glove sets the bar even higher with the inclusion of DuraHide genuine leather to protect the wearer’s hands. Unlike full-leather work gloves, the Leather Original features TrekDry active cooling material to allow air in while working.

“So what’s great about Dura-Hide?” Hale asks. “Well, it’s rated CE Level 4 for abrasion resistance, which translates to extended wear and extreme durability where you need it most. Dura-Hide leather is porous and softens with time to create a custom fit unique to the way you work.”

Further, Dura-Hide is treated to resist water and prevent the hide from cracking or splitting. If you’re a leather guy, you know how bad water is for leather work gloves. Unlike traditional leather work gloves, DuraHide gloves are machine washable, and if you work with your hands often, an occasional wash goes a long way.”

The Leather Original gloves feature a flexible thermoplastic rubber (TPR) closure that provides a secure fit to the wrist, form-fitting TrekDry to keep hands cool and comfortable while working and a double-stitched index finger and thumb reinforcement.

Pinched fingertip construction improves fingertip strength and Dura-Hide leather fourchettes improve finger durability. Finally, the Dura-Hide leather palm provides extreme abrasion resistance.

REVO BLACK STALLION

“The new TruGuard 250 Hi-Vis FR cotton jacket and vest from Black Stallion are a true ‘first in the industry,’” says Steve Hwang, Revco president. “They are the first value-priced FR-treated 100 percent cotton garments with ANSI/ISEA 107-2015 high visibility compliance, designed specifically for the welding, safety, and industrial markets.”

The flame-resistant reflective striping on both garments meets ANSI/ISEA standards for retroreflective material, and the unique stripe configuration on the back maximizes the available print area to customize with a graphic or company logo.

The jacket includes several key features. The front is extended to 32 inches to provide extra protection. There is a slot on the back for access to a fall protection harness D-ring. The welder’s collar keeps sparks and debris off the neck and interior and exterior pockets securely hold small...
items. The concealed snap fasteners allow for quick and convenient on and off. This jacket also meets the newest ANSI standards for Type R Class 3.

“The vest design is based on a traditional surveyor’s vest,” Hwang continues. “Seven exterior pockets provide lots of options for securing small tools, paint markers and other items and the concealed snap fasteners make off and on quick and easy. This vest meets the newest ANSI standards for Type R Class 2.”

TruGuard 250 by Black Stallion is the value choice for FR garments. TruGuard 250 garments are constructed of durable FR-treated cotton and meet a host of industry standards, including ASTM F1506, ANSI/ISEA 107 and NFPA 70E.

The flame-resistant and hi-vis jacket and vest are designed for workers in environments exposed to traffic in the roadway, temporary traffic control (TCC) zones, or from work vehicles. Targeted applications include utility workers, railway workers, oil and gas extraction workers, refinery workers, and roadway construction workers.

PIP PROTECTIVE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

PIP’s theme for 2017 is “Winnovation.” The company’s goal is to work with distributor-partners who want to win with innovation. PIP salespeople will make it a point to work with key distributor-partners to maximize opportunities for growth with better safety products for the user. Supporting this initiative are three new glove technologies that further fortify PIP’s leadership in cut protection.

“One again, PIP demonstrates that our strong power brands such as G-Tek, Bouton, KutGard and Assurance continue to have global appeal,” states Joe Milet, president of PIP.

The new gloves include the G-Tek Supreme, G-Tek PolyKor Xystal and G-Tek Kev.

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The G-Tek Supreme features a revolutionary new fiber that is born of the latest breakthroughs in nanofabrication technologies,” Milet says. “PIP launched four new glove styles featuring this innovative new fiber, each with unparalleled strength and physical properties.”

The G-Tek PolyKor Xystal glove represents the latest iteration of PolyKor, in which it is combined with naturally hardened, crystallized minerals. The result is a super tough, durable cut resistant fiber that is at the apex of performance. PIP has introduced four new gloves under the G-Tek PolyKor Xystal label.

The third new glove, the G-Tek Kev is launched in collaboration with DuPont’s quest for advanced Kevlar gloves that go beyond the traditional yellow glove. Five new glove styles will bring Kevlar Engineered yarns to the forefront of the industry. The innovative Red G-Tek Kev 09-K1640 with A4 cut protection and the Bumblebee G-Tek Kev 09-K1600 with A7 cut protection styles were awarded the coveted DuPont Innovation Award.

FORNEY INDUSTRIES

It’s safe to say that work gloves and technology go hand in hand. Looking back a decade or so, work gloves focused on function and provided very few user benefits—leather gloves were made only with animal hide and cotton gloves contained just cotton and fabric.

Today, “engineered” and “designed” are essential in describing modern work gloves. As job functions in the workforce increase in complexity, the idea of creating proprietary blends of fabrics and combining synthetic leathers
is now more of a requirement than an option.

“Forney Industries is listening,” says Todd Romero, senior product line manager. “It’s not uncommon to find a glove designed to serve several job functions. Adding thermal plastic rubber (TPR) patches to string knit and leather gloves is a growing trend.

“When a user feels fine about wearing a glove all day long, it proves that the glove is highly functional and comfortable and that we have succeeded. Staying on technology’s cutting edge is paramount to providing solutions to our customer’s needs.”

One such example is the ForneyHide Utility Multi-Task Cut & Impact Resistant Glove. The name alone screams “multiple functions.” This glove was engineered with a contoured blend of high visibility, cut resistant fibers on the palm, TPR pinch and crush protection in key contact areas and a Neoprene slip-on cuff that allows easy on and off donning of the gloves. This is the perfect glove for a mechanic, contractor or steel worker.

Forney Industries’ ForneyHide Utility Multi-Task Cut & Impact Resistant Glove has a mouthful of a name and a fistful of features including hi-viz cut resistant fibers, TPR pinch and crush protection in key areas and a Neoprene cuff.

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