





PPE

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

ARC FLASH WORKERS

The most recent NFPA 70E standard identifies 4 PPE categories related to incident energy analyses. Each number represents an increased risk of danger and requires a higher level of PPE as shown below.

| PPE CATEGORY | PPE CATEGORY | PPE CATEGORY | PPE CATEGORY |
|--|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| <p>Arc Rating Minimum 4 cal/cm²</p> | <p>Arc Rating Minimum 8 cal/cm²</p> | <p>Arc Rating Minimum 25 cal/cm²</p> | <p>Arc Rating Minimum 40 cal/cm²</p> |
| <p>This is the lowest level when arc-rated PPE is required to perform a work function. This category requires a single layer of arc-rated PPE material.</p> <p>Body: Long sleeve shirt or coat and pants. Workers can also use coveralls.</p> <p>Face and Head: Wrap-around face shield with guarding or a comparable arc flash suit hood.</p> <p>Supplemental PPE: Arc-rated jackets, rainwear, and lined hard hats.</p> | <p>Although this is the second category for protective measures when dealing with arc flash, most businesses utilize Category 2 materials in place of Category 1 for added protection and versatility.</p> <p>Body: Arc-rated long sleeve shirt or jacket, pants, and/or coveralls.</p> <p>Face and Head: Arc-rated face shield or flash suit hood and sock hoods.</p> <p>Supplemental PPE: Arc-rated jackets, rainwear, and lined hard hats.</p> | <p>Both PPE categories 3 and 4 require multiple layers of PPE. Arc flash hoods and rubber insulated gloves with leather protectors are mandatory.</p> <p>Body: arc-rated flash suit jacket, pants, and/or coveralls.</p> <p>Face and Head: Arc-rated flash hood.</p> <p>Hands: Rubber insulated gloves with leather protectors or specific arc-rated gloves.</p> <p>Supplemental PPE: Arc-rated jackets and rainwear.</p> | <p>Both PPE categories 3 and 4 require multiple layers of PPE. Arc flash hoods and rubber insulated gloves with leather protectors are mandatory.</p> <p>Body: arc-rated flash suit jacket, pants, and/or coveralls.</p> <p>Face and Head: Arc-rated flash hood.</p> <p>Hands: Rubber insulated gloves with leather protectors or specific arc-rated gloves.</p> <p>Supplemental PPE: Arc-rated jackets and rainwear.</p> |
| | <p>Mandatory</p> <p>For environments requiring Category 2 PPE, it is also mandatory to use protective eyewear, gloves, hearing protection, and leather shoes.</p> | <p>Mandatory</p> <p>For environments requiring Category 3 PPE, it is also mandatory to use hard hats, protective eyewear, gloves, hearing protection, and leather shoes.</p> | <p>Mandatory</p> <p>For environments requiring Category 4 PPE, it is also mandatory to use hard hats, protective eyewear, gloves, hearing protection, and leather shoes.</p> |