

EXTERIOR SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM (SPF) PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



OSHA REQUIRES PROTECTION FOR SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM SPRAYERS, HELPERS AND OTHERS – THOSE USING HIGH PRESSURE DISPENSING EQUIPMENT - AS FOLLOWS:

- **HARD HAT:** Use if needed to protect head from falling objects.
 - **EYE PROTECTION:** Must be worn when spraying or working in areas where spray polyurethane foam aerosol or mist is present. Eye protection can be provided by a full face mask design or separate safety glasses with side shields or chemical safety goggles if a half face respirator is selected for use.
 - **SKIN PROTECTION:** Protective garments are used to keep spray and mist from contacting skin and clothing. Personal protective garments are not just for convenience – in rare cases, skin exposure to spray or mist may result in serious health concerns.
 - Fabric gloves fully coated in nitrile, neoprene, butyl, or PVC; or cotton over nitrile gloves could be used for spraying. Tape may be used to seal arm and feet openings as needed.
 - If a breach of gloves or garments is noticed, change out the personal protective garments immediately or repair with tape over tears or rips.
 - **Respiratory Protection:** Exterior applications by definition are conducted in open air and typically have air movement minimizing SPF aerosol concentrations. For exterior applications, sprayers must wear a NIOSH-approved Air Purifying Respirator or APR with an organic vapor/particulate (P100) cartridge. A NIOSH approved Supplied Air Respirator or SAR, if chosen, may provide greater protection for sprayers. Overspray should be monitored to avoid problems with objects, animals or unprotected persons downwind of the sprayer. All spray areas should be posted with warning signs/tape.
 - **MAINTENANCE:** Employees should care for and maintain respirators as instructed by the manufacturer and store in a clean, dry, sanitary location (such as in a sealed bag or container – especially for organic vapor cartridges), and away from direct sunlight.
- Inform job superintendents about:
- damaged or imperfect respirators
 - workplace hazards; and
 - questions about the Respiratory Protection Program
- **WORK BOOTS:** Steel-toed work boots are desirable in most work areas. Protection from overspray can be provided by disposable overboots with skid-resistant soles, if it does not compromise the grip of the work boot.
 - Always read and understand the spray polyurethane foam manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheet or MSDS before you start any spray foam application.

ACTIVITY	Chemical Handling	Equipment Maintenance	Gun and Equipment	EXTERIOR SPF Application
Safety Glasses with Side Shields or Safety Goggles		✓		✓
Supplied Air Respirator (SAR); Full Face Mask or Hood	✓			
Air Purifying Respirator (APR); Organic Vapor Particulate (P100) Cartridge				✓
Fabric Gloves Fully Coated in Nitrile, Neoprene, Butyl, or PVC; or Cotton Over Nitrile Gloves	✓	✓		✓
Disposable Coveralls	✓			✓

This document was prepared by the American Chemistry Council (ACC) Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI) and the Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance (SPFA). It is intended to provide general information to persons who may handle or apply spray polyurethane foam chemicals. It is not intended to serve as a substitute for in-depth training or specific handling or application requirements, nor is it designed or intended to define or create legal rights or obligations. It is not intended to be a "how-to" manual, nor is it a prescriptive guide. All persons involved in handling and applying spray polyurethane foam chemicals have an independent obligation to ascertain that their actions are in compliance with current federal, state and local laws and regulations and should consult with their employer concerning such matters. Any mention of specific products in this document is for illustration purposes only and is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement of such products.

Neither ACC, CPI, SPFA, nor any of their member companies, nor any of their respective directors, officers, employees, subcontractors, consultants, or other assigns, makes any warranty or representation, either express or implied, with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this document; nor do the ACC, CPI, SPFA, nor any member companies assume any liability or responsibility for any use or misuse, or the results of such use or misuse, of any information, procedure, conclusion, opinion, product, or process described in this document. NO WARRANTIES ARE GIVEN; ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE EXPRESSLY EXCLUDED.

This work is protected by copyright. Users are granted a nonexclusive royalty-free license to reproduce and distribute this document, subject to the following limitations: (1) the work must be reproduced in its entirety, without alterations; and (2) copies of the work may not be sold.

Published October 1, 2009. This document may be updated. For the most current version of this document, visit the American Chemistry Council's Center for the Polyurethanes Industry www.americanchemistry.com/polyurethane or www.spraypolyurethane.com

Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance www.sprayfoam.org

