

# INTERIOR SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM (SPF) INSULATION PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



## OSHA REQUIRES PROTECTION FOR SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM APPLICATORS - 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 incorporated in a mask design or separate safety glasses 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.
- **Nitrile gloves** are used to protect the hands: use heavy work gloves for spraying and lighter thickness gloves for gun cleaning or repair.
- 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:** Interior applications by definition are conducted indoors and may not have significant natural air movement or are conducted in smaller cubic air volume spaces. For interior applications, sprayers must wear a NIOSH-approved Supplied Air Respirator or SAR. Helpers also may need a SAR, if working in close proximity to the sprayer. A full facepiece Air Purifying Respirator or APR with organic vapor/particulate (P100) cartridges may be used by helpers if adequate ventilation is provided or if outside the immediate overspray area.
- **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 if:

- respirators no longer fit or are damaged;
  - hazards are not adequately controlled in the workplace; and
  - concerns exist regarding the Respiratory Protection Program
- **WORK BOOTS:** Steel-toed work boots are desirable in most work areas. Protection from overspray can be provided by rubber overshoes or disposable coveralls, 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 Maintenance	INTERIOR SPF Application	EXTERIOR SPF Application	Coating Application	Trimming and Cleanup
Safety Glasses with Side Shields or Safety Goggles		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Supplied Air Respirator (SAR); Fitted Full Face Mask or Hood			✓				
Air Purifying Respirator (APR); Organic Vapor (P100) Cartridge + Dust Protection	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Nitrile Gloves	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disposal Coverall	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

The American Chemistry Council's Center for the Polyurethanes Industry  
[www.americanchemistry.com/polyurethane](http://www.americanchemistry.com/polyurethane) or [www.spraypolyurethane.com](http://www.spraypolyurethane.com)

Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance  
[www.sprayfoam.org](http://www.sprayfoam.org)

