

HOW TO PROPERLY INSPECT REUSABLE MECHANICAL PPE

Mechanical hand and arm Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be inspected before and after use for signs of weakness, damage, or wear that could indicate a reduced level of effectiveness. The need to replace hand and arm PPE will vary based on usage, exposure and application. Workers should follow their organization's standard replacement protocols. However, below are key questions to keep in mind before and after every use:

<p>1</p> 	 <p>Are there holes, snags, tears, or frayed yarn?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If so, replace the PPE.</p>	<p>2</p> 	 <p>Has the coating been compromised or degraded?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If so, replace the PPE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Can skin be seen through the coating? <input type="checkbox"/> Has the coating hardened or cracked? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there signs of chemical burns? <input type="checkbox"/> Has the hand or arm PPE swollen in any way? <input type="checkbox"/> Is there visible discoloration?
<p>3</p> 	 <p>Does the PPE fit?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If not, replace the PPE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Is the material or liner too tight? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand and arm PPE should fit snug, but not so tight to impede movement • Some gloves and sleeves may shrink if laundered at high temperatures <input type="checkbox"/> Is the material or liner stretched out or loose-fitting? <input type="checkbox"/> Does the hand or arm PPE slide or fall off? 	<p>4</p> 	 <p>Look for symmetry - Does one side match the other?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If not, replace the PPE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Is either side distorted? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One side should be a mirror image of the other <input type="checkbox"/> Are there defects hidden by stains or discolorations? <input type="checkbox"/> Does it compare to a new pair of gloves or sleeves?

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Note: For reusable PPE that is not claimed and/or certified for virus protection, proper sanitization and laundering guidelines can be applied to help prevent the spread of viral contamination.

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