

Personal Protective Equipment

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Introduction

- It is estimated that over 50% of bitumen related accidents occur during the delivery of hot bitumen.
- The objective of this Toolbox Talk is to raise awareness of the need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for safe delivery of hot bitumen into the customer storage tanks.



What we know

- The main hazard is the risk of contact burns and the risk is increased during the delivery.
- Bitumen is delivered at temperatures up to 200°C.
- The following controls are designed to minimise the risk of making contact with hot bitumen:
 - Flange shrouds.
 - The 6-metre exclusion zone.
 - Site supervision.
 - The presence of the delivery driver.
- PPE will protect you, (as a final layer of protection) provided it is used and worn correctly.
- Ensure that the driver has an escape route in the event of an emergency.



What the guidance says

- Any person within 6 metres of the bitumen delivery point, irrespective of their duties, **MUST** wear the appropriate PPE.
- The PPE must be compliant with, or superior to, the standards given in Appendix 2 of the 2018 Guide to the Safe Delivery of Bitumen.
- The PPE must be in good condition and fit for purpose.
- PPE must be provided by the haulier for all drivers whilst the site must provide PPE for relevant site staff.
- PPE must be regularly checked and cleaned or replaced whenever it is no longer fit for purpose.



Bitumen Delivery PPE

1. Safety helmet with chin strap.
2. Full visor to protect the face.
3. Safety Glasses.
4. Neck Apron.
5. Heat-resistant gloves with long sleeves.
6. High Visibility Coverall, 100% cotton and fire retardant.
7. Coverall legs worn over the boots.
8. Safety boots (Rigger style).

Note - Site specific PPE requirements may apply outside the 6-metre zone



Best Practice

- Implement a 6-metre exclusion zone around the delivery point with signs or barriers.
- Ensure the driver has an escape route and direct access to the safety shower.
- Only operatives directly involved in the delivery and wearing the appropriate PPE are allowed within 6 metres of the delivery point.
- Site personnel to have the complete and correct PPE readily available



Bitumen Safety Documents

Guidance documents on a range of bitumen safety related subjects can be downloaded free from the Eurobitume website:

- UK Version of the 2018 Guide to Safe Delivery of Bitumen.
- Safety Showers
- Eurobitume Bitumen Burns Card
- Safety Footwear Risk Assessment for Bitumen Delivery Drivers
- Operational considerations for Hot Bitumen Storage Tanks and Off-loading Systems.
- Design and use of Ground Based Pumps (EBUK/MPA document).
- Safe Bitumen Tank Management (EBUK/MPA document).
- Returning Bitumen Storage Tanks to Service.

See also the Energy Institute Model Code of Safe Practice Part 11: Bitumen Safety Code

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Other Bitumen Toolbox Talks

The following toolbox talks can be downloaded free from the Eurobitume website:

- Bitumen Delivery Driver Induction
- Bitumen Discharge Permit
- Emergency Safety Showers
- Ground Based Pumps
- Blocked/Partially Blocked Pipelines
- Trace Heating of Bitumen Pipelines
- Emergency Shutdown of Bitumen Delivery Vehicles
- 'Pocket' Guide to the Safe Delivery of Bitumen

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