

 GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI	<b>Organization Unit</b> <b>Public Health &amp; Safety Department</b>	الوحدة التنظيمية:	 بلدية دبي DUBAI MUNICIPALITY	
	<b>Form sheet title:</b>	<b>Guidelines for Personal Protective Equipment – Foot Protection</b>		اسم النموذج :
	<b>Doc Ref.</b>	<b>DM-PH&amp;SD-P4-TG13</b>		رقم النموذج :

## Personal Protective Equipment - Foot Protection

**Background:** Protective footwear must protect against hazards ranging from contact with chemicals, extremes of cold and heat, slippery surfaces, punctures from nails and other sharp objects, electrical hazards, molten metal and impact in an industrial operation. It is necessary to assess the hazard or combination of hazards and select the items of protection. Every employer shall provide suitable safety footwear for the type of operation performed. Every employee shall wear safety footwear while working in the workplace, to protect against foot injuries. Dubai Local Order No. 61 of 1991 requires the provision of protective devices by the employer and the use of this equipment by the employees.

### Guidelines:

1. Where there is no potential risk of physical injury, but possibility of other associated risks such as chemical spills etc., the employee should wear shoes to protect his feet, The use of slip-on or sandals or chapels are not acceptable as workplace footwear.
2. Safety shoes or boots are required to be worn by all workers engaged in any workplace such as construction, quarry, mines, industry, workshop, laundry and in other places where there is potential hazard of foot injury.
3. Safety shoes and boots with steel toe caps should provide protection from various degrees of impact. The protection is essentially to protect the toes. Instep and shin protection may also be necessary in high risk areas.
4. The protection against cuts and punctures from sharp objects such as nails, scrap metals, glass may be obtained by the use of steel shoe inserts (steel mid-sole) which should be rubberized to prevent rusting and excessive movement.
5. Contact with chemicals, will cause leather to crack and also result in injury due to absorption of the chemical. Plastic and synthetic rubber e.g. Neoprene, sole and uppers made from synthetic materials are more resistant to chemicals.

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6. For hot floor temperatures, heat resistant soles such as expanded polyurethane, wooden soles and foundry shoes are suitable. Ankle boots, spats and leggings should be used when there is a risk of hot materials. e.g. bitumen or cinders, entering over the top of shoes. Foundry shoes and leggings are designed permit the wearer to remove them quickly should molten metal penetrate.
7. For wet and muddy conditions, rubber, neoprene or plastic boots and overshoes either with or without steel toe caps and in-soles should be used. Leg length ranges from ankle boots and shin length, to knee and thigh length should be selected depending upon the need.
8. The buildup static electricity on the person may be reduced by the use of specially selected electrically conductive footwear. This is only suitable for use in areas where the risk of electric shock from any electrical apparatus has been completely eliminated.
9. Where live electrical current above 250 volts is the hazard, non-conductive safety footwear free from nails, metal eyelet must be used. It must be sewn or bonded construction.
10. Table -1 should be used a guide in the selection of safety shoes and boots for certain operations. Where there is doubt about design and component problems, it is advisable to contact the manufacturers and then make comparisons for suitability.
11. Further References:

#### British Standard Specification

BS - 1870	Safety footwear
BS - 2050	Electrical resistance of conductive and anti-static products
BS - 2506	Anti-static rubber footwear
BS - 5451	Anti-static footwear standards
BS - 3825	Electrically conducting rubber footwear
BS - 4696	Gaiters and footwear for protection against burns and impact risks in foundries.

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BS - 953              Steel caps

American Standard Specification

ANSI Z 41.1 Men's Safety - Toe Footwear

En Standards Specification

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT  
Tel: 2064244    FAX: 2270160**

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<b>TABLE 1</b>		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	
<b>BOOTS AND SHOES</b>																						
<b>= SUITABLE</b>																						
<b>Suitable for -</b>																						
Bitumen spraying																						
Boiler/furnace operations																						
Cleaning - high pressure water jets																						
Construction Work- general																						
Crane operations																						
Production operations																						
Electric welding																						
Electrical work- general																						
Engineering Workshops																						
Erection Work																						
Filling cylinders - LPG																						
Filling drums - chemicals (Note -1)																						
Filling drums - oil products																						
Filling gantries - Chemicals (Note-1)																						
Fire - fighting																						
Gas welding /cutting																						
General purposes																						
Handling bags																						
Handling /blending chemicals (Note-1)																						
Handling cryogenic materials																						
Handling drums																						
Handling scrap metal																						
Handling tins																						
Handling tinplate, glass etc.																						
Handling wet/greasy materials																						
Heavy manual work																						
Laboratories - general																						

<b>a.</b>	<b>Knee boots , rubber</b>	<b>b.</b>	
<b>c.</b>	<b>Ankle boots, rubber</b>	<b>d.</b>	<b>Thigh boots, rubber</b>
<b>e.</b>		<b>f.</b>	<b>Leather boots, leather</b>
<b>g.</b>	<b>Leather boots, rubber soles</b>	<b>h.</b>	<b>Leather boots, moulded soles</b>
<b>i.</b>	<b>Leather shoes, leather soles</b>	<b>j.</b>	<b>Leather shoes, rubber soles</b>
<b>k.</b>	<b>Leather shoes, moulded soles</b>	<b>l.</b>	<b>Overshoes, rubber (up to 650 v)</b>
<b>m.</b>	<b>Instep guards</b>	<b>n.</b>	
<b>o.</b>	<b>Footwear, semi-conductive (Note 2)</b>	<b>p.</b>	<b>Over shoes poly-disposable</b>
<b>q.</b>		<b>r.</b>	
<b>s.</b>		<b>t.</b>	

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TABLE 1 (Continued)	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t
<b>BOOTS AND SHOES</b>																				
= SUITABLE																				
<b>Suitable for -</b>																				
Metal spraying																				
Radiation heat																				
Slippery surfaces																				
Slush/oil covered surfaces																				
Spillages, chemical -clean up (note-1)																				
Spillages, oil - clean up																				
Steam cleaning																				
<b>Tank/vessel cleaning:</b>																				
- Chemicals																				
- Leaded gasoline																				
- Crude / other products																				
- Tank dipping / sampling																				
Tin factories																				

a.	<i>Knee boots , rubber</i>	b.	
c.	<i>Ankle boots, rubber</i>	d.	<i>Thigh boots, rubber</i>
e.		f.	<i>Leather boots, leather</i>
g.	<i>Leather boots, rubber soles</i>	h.	<i>Leather boots, moulded soles</i>
i.	<i>Leather shoes, leather soles</i>	j.	<i>Leather shoes, rubber soles</i>
k.	<i>Leather shoes, moulded soles</i>	l.	<i>Overshoes, rubber (up to 650 v)</i>
m.	<i>Instep guards</i>	n.	
o.	<i>Footwear, semi-conductive (Note 2)</i>	p.	<i>Over shoes poly-disposable</i>
q.		r.	
s.		t.	

**Note 1:** Natural rubber is not suitable for aromatic hydrocarbons

**Note 2:** Semi -conductive footwear should only be used when:

- i. Conductivity is checked regularly
- ii. The floor is sufficiently conductive and is earthed.