

HSE Bulletin 01 in 2017

Storage of dirty gloves in hard hats

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Background

At industry level it was recently reported by a major contractor that an employee developed a severe skin infection (Cellulitis) on his head. The most likely cause was the storing of dirty/soiled gloves in the individual's hard hat.

Gloves can become soiled and contaminated during work. Bacteria can then build up and when placed in a hat, the dirty gloves have direct contact with the skin and if there is a break in the skin this will cause infection.



Instruction

- Do not store dirty or soiled gloves inside your hard hat.
- Check your skin regularly for cuts and abrasions.
- Cover any cuts or abrasions with a suitable dressing
- Check your PPE regularly! Look at the condition of your hard hat. Get a new one if necessary (you can also just replace the head band).
- Check the condition of your gloves. If they are heavily soiled or contaminated, clean or replace them.
- Make sure you keep your immunisations up to date. If you are unsure of your immunization status, contact your GP Surgery.

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