

SHE BULLETIN

Ref: **SHE T244 B 2024 Don't store Gloves in your hard hat**
Issued by: Kier SHE Transportation Department
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DON'T STORE YOUR GLOVES IN YOUR HARD HAT!

Gloves are designed to protect hands from injury and hazardous contaminants. Inevitably gloves will become soiled and possibly contaminated with potentially harmful substances during the work tasks for which they are being worn. These contaminants might include irritants, chemicals, corrosive or caustic substances like concrete or harmful biological items including bacteria and fungi.



By storing used gloves in your hat, these substances have direct contact with your head and your skin. If there is a break in the skin or prolonged contact, this can cause injury or inflammation which can develop into a severe skin conditions such as dermatitis or even severe infections such as cellulitis. Sweating opens the skins pores, and helps potentially harmful substances to permeate the skin and therefore increases that risk of infection.

Although your hardhat may present a “convenient” storage area, your hard hat is not designed for this and should not be used to store your gloves.

Key Reminders

- Do not store dirty or soiled gloves inside your hard hat.
- Regularly check your skin for cuts and abrasions and cover them with a suitable dressing if practicable.
- Check your PPE regularly! Look at the condition and cleanliness of your hard hat – particularly inside the shell, the harness and sweatband insert.
- When the sweatband becomes heavily contaminated with dirt and sweat – replace it! (NB replacement sweatbands for the JSP range of helmets are available via Arco)
- Look at the condition of your gloves. If they are heavily soiled or contaminated with potentially harmful substances, get them replaced.

Remember - nothing is so urgent or important that we cannot take the time to do it safely!