

Compliance and ergonomics in personal protective equipments

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Introduction PPE: Compliance and ergonomics

The compliance and ergonomic requirements for PPE : contradictory or complementary ?

- * Our experience as ergonomist and officer in charge of the regulations on design and use of the PPE**
- * Several reflections concerning :**
 - * The principles coming from EU directives**
 - * The statements on PPE compliance**
 - * The feedback from the field on ergonomics**
 - * Conclusions : the way forward**

The principles coming from the EC directives

- * **Ergonomics and compliance in the EC directive on design of PPE**
- * **Ergonomics and design of the work situations : the choice of PPE in the hierarchy of prevention principles**
- * **The requirements concerning the use of PPE :**
 - **compliant**
 - * **appropriate for risks**
 - * **take account of ergonomic requirements**
- * **The ergonomic work analysis and the design of the PPE**

The statements coming from the field

PPE: Compliance and ergonomics

- * **Shortcomings in the design of protective clothes against chemical risks**
- * **Test results on the compliance of the type 3 and 4 clothes : penetration and permeation of the pesticides in some clothes**
- * **The follow up :**
 - * **ban or underclassification of PPE**
 - * **proposals for standardization**
- * **An more holistic approach concerning the design and use of PPE**

The feedback from ergonomists:

- * to combine objective and subjective approaches in the use of PPE
- * **Efficiency of PPE :**
 - * a need of useful information,
 - * A need to prevent wrong protection,
 - * A need to avoid risk denial
- * **Uncomfort of PPE :**
 - * Heat sensation ,
 - * necessary long time to be equipped,
 - * need of combined PPE systems
- * **A matter of image :**
 - * user + PPE = polluter
 - * the need of a global approach in the pesticide use and PPE protection

Conclusions : requirements that are dealt with in the future

- * **Design of efficient PPE**
- * **Training of distributors, users,...**
- * **Improvement of the instructions for use**
- * **PPE integrated systems**
- * **Design and use of protective machines cabins**
- * **Field studies relating more clearly the PPE use and the different critical exposure situations**