

OSHA Issues Final Rule on PPE Fit in Construction

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently issued a [final rule](#) updating its personal protective equipment (PPE) standard for construction (29 CFR 1926.95(c)), to explicitly require that PPE fit properly. This revision aligns the language in the PPE standard for construction with the corresponding language in OSHA's PPE standards for general industry and shipyards. The new PPE regulation goes into effect on January 13, 2025.

The new regulation states that employers must ensure all personal protective equipment: (1) is of safe design and construction for the work to be performed; and (2) is selected to ensure that it properly fits each affected employee. However, the rule provides little guidance on how employers should measure proper fit.

While NDA strongly supports existing OSHA PPE guidance to protect workers, NDA [submitted comments](#) to OSHA last year questioning the agency on how they would implement and enforce an ambiguous new regulation in geographically diverse and multifaceted construction work environments.

It is not clear whether the incoming Trump administration will try to alter or overturn the regulation after it goes into effect in January. NDA will be in contact with the Trump administration next year to seek additional guidance and clarity on enforcement for employers.

The text of OSHA's new PPE regulation can be [found here](#). A frequently asked questions guide from OSHA can be [found here](#). OSHA's general guidance on PPE in construction can be [found here](#).

DOT Announces \$20 Million to Modernize Airport Infrastructure

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is awarding \$20.5 million for 25 grants across 14 states and Puerto Rico to modernize airports under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG) program. This is part of the \$25 billion total included in the law over a period of five years for airport and air traffic control infrastructure improvements.

The funds will be used for airport planning, development, sustainability, terminal expansions, baggage system upgrades, runway safety enhancements, and noise compatibility projects at eligible airports. [More information on the grants can be found here](#).