

The Importance of Comfort in PPE Gloves

Collaboration SPARKS PERFORMANCE

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is essential for workplace safety, and gloves play a critical role in protecting workers from cuts, abrasions, chemicals, and other hazards. However, even the most advanced gloves are ineffective if they are not worn consistently. Comfort is not just a luxury—it is a necessity.

In Europe, where stringent safety regulations protect workers, ensuring that gloves fit correctly and are comfortable is crucial. Uncomfortable gloves are often removed, leading to increased injury risks, business downtime, and financial and legal consequences for employers.

What are the risks of ill fitting gloves?

WORKER INJURY RATES

Hand injuries are among the most common workplace incidents in Europe. The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) reports that hands account for nearly 25% of all workplace injuries, affecting over one million workers annually. These injuries range from minor cuts to severe lacerations and amputations, leading to long-term disability.

A major contributor to these injuries is improper PPE use. The UK's Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that 30% of workers remove their gloves due to discomfort or lack of dexterity. Ill-fitting gloves that are too bulky or cause excessive sweating are frequently discarded, leaving hands vulnerable.

BUSINESS DOWNTIME AND COSTS

Hand injuries impose significant financial burdens. Workplace injuries cost the EU economy €476 billion annually, with hand injuries accounting for a substantial portion. Beyond medical expenses, businesses face lost productivity, increased insurance premiums, and reputational damage. Additional costs include staff training, incident investigations, and fines for non-compliance with safety regulations.

LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS

Legal Ramifications EU law mandates that employers provide PPE that fits correctly and meets safety standards, as per the Personal Protective Equipment Regulation (EU) 2016/425. Non-compliance can lead to fines and legal action. In 2021, a UK construction firm was fined £800,000 after a worker suffered a severe hand injury due to inadequate PPE. The gloves were ill-fitting, prompting the worker to remove them, underscoring the importance of comfortable, well-designed PPE.

The Challenge of Wearer Acceptance

Ensuring workers wear gloves consistently is a major challenge. Discomfort caused by poor fit, heat build-up, or restricted movement leads to non-compliance, even in hazardous environments.

Tasks requiring fine motor skills or touchscreen use become cumbersome with gloves lacking flexibility. Additionally, gloves that trap sweat increase discomfort and are frequently removed. Workplace culture also plays a role—if safety is not prioritised, PPE compliance suffers.

ATG® understands that even the most protective gloves must be comfortable to ensure consistent use. Designed to meet EN 388 and EN ISO 21420 standards, ATG® gloves prioritise wearer acceptance without compromising safety.

ATG® Technologies FOR COMFORT AND PERFORMANCE



AD-APT® Technology is activated by the movement of your hands and increased temperature within the glove, releasing a natural cooling agent that keeps your hands dry and make them cooler. It's designed to last for the duration of the glove and can be laundered.



AIRtech® provides 360° breathability through a nitrile micro-foam coating, allowing heat to escape while keeping dirt out. This ensures hands remain cool and comfortable during extended wear.



ERGotech® mimics the natural “hand at rest” position, reducing strain and improving flexibility. This ergonomic design helps prevent musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), which account for 60% of work-related illnesses in Europe (EU-OSHA).



TRItech™ is our revolutionary 3-layer technology that redefines comfort in chemical-resistant gloves. Each layer serves a unique purpose, bonded together to create a strong, flexible, and exceptionally comfortable composite.



Cut Protection WITHOUT COMPROMISE

High cut-risk environments require durable gloves, but many options sacrifice comfort for protection. A common misconception is that selecting the highest cut protection level (EN 388 Level F) is always the safest choice. However, overly rigid gloves reduce dexterity, causing workers to remove them, increasing injury risks.

The MaxiCut® Ultra™ series balances cut resistance, flexibility, and breathability. These gloves offer high protection without bulkiness, ensuring workers keep them on throughout tasks. They are also washable and reusable, enhancing durability and sustainability.

By aligning protection levels with actual job risks, ATG® ensures gloves are safe, comfortable, and worn consistently.

The ATG® Difference COMFORT, COMPLIANCE, AND SAFETY

Comfort, compliance, and safety go hand in hand. ATG® prioritises wearer acceptance to reduce workplace injuries and strengthen safety culture. Our gloves meet the highest safety standards while supporting worker well-being and compliance with EU regulations.

BENEFITS OF ATG® GLOVES

Improved Compliance Comfortable gloves encourage consistent wear, reducing injury risks.

Enhanced Productivity Ergonomic designs minimise hand fatigue, boosting efficiency.

Cost Savings Fewer injuries and extended glove lifespan reduce business costs.

Sustainability Washable and reusable gloves support circular economy principles.



Conclusion

In Europe, where worker safety is paramount, ATG® gloves offer a trusted solution. By integrating advanced protective technologies with superior comfort, we help businesses create safer, more productive workplaces.

The MaxiCut® Ultra™ series exemplifies ATG®'s innovation, ensuring workers receive optimal protection and comfort. Whether handling hazardous materials or performing precision tasks, ATG® gloves provide the safety workers need and the comfort they deserve.

Investing in high-quality, comfortable PPE is not just a legal requirement—it is a strategic decision that protects workers, reduces costs, and fosters a culture of safety. With ATG®, businesses can be confident their workforce is equipped with gloves that meet the highest standards for protection and comfort.



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