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Introduction

Your comments on this draft are invited and will assist in the preparation of the consequent standard.

For international and European standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee before submitting the consensus UK vote and comments. If the draft standard is approved, it is usual for the resulting published standard to be adopted as a British Standard.

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BS 30417

Provision of inclusive personal protective equipment (PPE) – Guide

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Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 30 September 2025. It was prepared by Technical Committee PH/23, *Horizontal topics for PPE*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to the committee manager.

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Presentational conventions

The guidance in this document is presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Any recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “should”.

Additional commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

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Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

In particular, attention is drawn to the following specific regulations:

- PPE Regulation 2016/425 [1];
- PPE Regulations at Work 1992 [2];
- The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993 [3];
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 [4];
- Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 [5];
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 [6];

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- The Management of Health and safety at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 [7].

Introduction

Diverse workforces are important to the future of all organizations and are a huge asset to those which foster inclusive cultures.

Increasingly, manufacturers are working to develop more inclusive offerings but, in the vast majority of cases, ethnic or cultural/religious considerations are not taken into account. This is even more challenging for people with disabilities or medical conditions which mean they have needs outside of those currently accommodated for by most PPE.

The current position is rendering many unable to join certain industries or job roles as a result, or in the case of protective equipment for sports (such as horse riding), is denying access to activities which are good for both physical and mental wellbeing.

The intention of this British Standard is to provide guidance to organizations and individuals involved in the purchasing, supply and use of PPE to ensure the needs and requirements of diverse workforces are accommodated through the development, availability and provision of inclusive PPE.

Particular attention is drawn to the guidance and recommendations for engagement and consultation with the whole workforce, ensuring representation from those in marginalized communities, diverse social groups and the individuals requiring inclusive PPE.

This British Standard is intended to be an important step towards PPE that is inclusive and will play a role in supporting equity in the workplace.

It has been developed by a diverse team that includes end users, health & safety professionals, manufacturers, distributors and those experienced in the application and development of PPE standards.