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# SAF-T-BLOG



Did you know Saf-T-Gard has a blog on our website, which we post new articles to every three weeks? Authored by subject matter experts including Richard Rivkin, Saf-T-Gard President and Chairman of the Board, and the world's leading safety manufacturers, the blog topics range from hazard identification, regulatory standards, and the latest technologies and innovations in safety to help safety managers, workers and business owners across all industries stay informed, make better decisions and work more efficiently. Whatever safety challenge you face, count on Saf-T-Gard to deliver trusted advice backed by more than 85 years of service.

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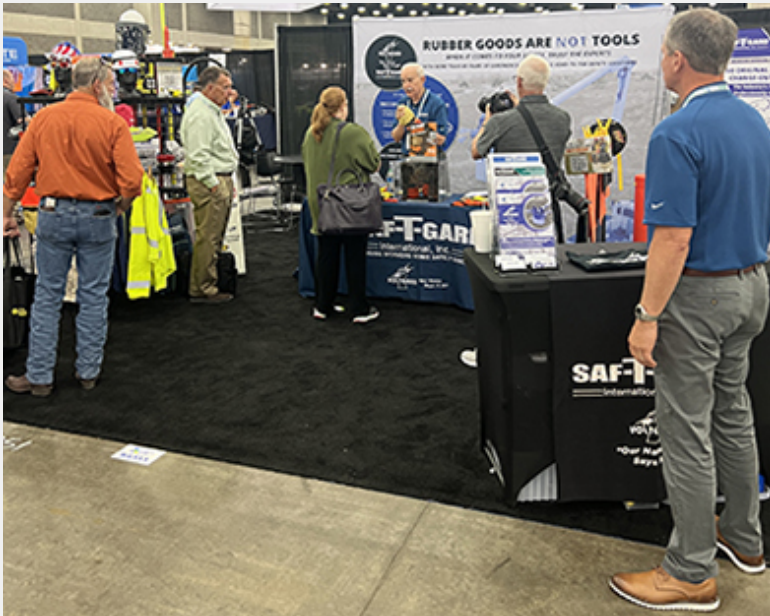
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Do you have a topic that you would like to see explored in a blog article? Please e-mail [LSeminara@saftgard.com](mailto:LSeminara@saftgard.com).

## The Voltgard® Division of Saf-T-Gard Unveils the New and Improved Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather Protector Gloves at The Utility Expo



The Voltgard® Division of Saf-T-Gard International, Inc. was pleased to reveal its new and improved **Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather Protector Gloves** at The Utility Expo on September 26, 2023.

Designed to be soft to the touch and hard on protection while offering high-voltage electrical workers an unequaled alternative to standard leather protector gloves, the **Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather Protector Gloves** are the only leather protector gloves that meet both ASTM F696-06 (2019) Design and ASTM F3258-21 Performance Standards.

ASTM F3258-21 Standard Specification for Protectors for Rubber Insulating Gloves Meeting Specific Performance Requirements goes beyond the ASTM F696-06 Standard Specification for Leather Protectors for Rubber Insulating Gloves and Mittens to require arc, cut- and puncture-resistance testing and reporting with optional abrasion resistance testing and reporting. The **Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather Protector Gloves** deliver a 19 cal/cm<sup>2</sup> arc rating, ANSI/ISEA 105-2016 Level A1 Cut Resistance, ANSI/ISEA 105-2016 Level 4 (the highest possible) Puncture Resistance and ANSI/ISEA 105-2016 Level 4 (the highest possible) Abrasion Resistance for superior performance. "Saf-T-Gard identified the need for electrical workers in high-voltage applications to have softer, more durable yet flexible leather protector gloves in order to increase the chances of them being worn, and the new **Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather**

register for an account to enable online ordering. Click [here](#) for a shortcut to the registration page, and click [here](#) for detailed instructions on how to link your Saf-T-Gard account to a Saftgard.com web login.

### Five Safety Tips



**1. CUTS AND PUNCTURES** - Many glove materials offer different degrees of protection from cuts and punctures, ranging from stainless steel ring mesh to natural and synthetic rubber.

**2. CUTS AND SCRATCHES** - Modern protective eyewear has scratch-resistant coatings, but they are not permanently scratch-proof so be sure to inspect eyewear before use and replace when scratched or pitted.

**3. CUTS, SCRATCHES AND SCRAPES** - Protective headwear can't protect if it is damaged, and cuts, scratches and scrapes reduce the level of protection from your safety helmet.

**4. CUTS, PUNCTURES, SCRATCHES, SCRAPES AND CHEMICALS** - Electrical rubber insulating gloves must be inspected before each use (and more often if necessary) to check for any physical damage that might impact dielectric properties; at a minimum, inflate the glove with air and look for signs of damage.



**Protector Gloves** do just that,” said Richard Rivkin, Saf-T-Gard CEO and Chairman of the Board.

“The new **Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather Protector Gloves** are so comfortable that utility workers, power and communication linemen, electrical contractors, plant and facility maintenance technicians and electrical field service technicians in rubber gloving, hotstick and other various high-voltage operations will actually want to wear them, and they can feel confident in knowing that they are being protected by the only leather protector gloves that meet both ASTM F696-06 (2019) Design and ASTM F3258-21 Performance Standards.”

Click [here](#) for more information and to shop the **Saf-T-Gard® Voltgard® Supreme Leather Protector Gloves** online, or call customer service at **1-800-548-GARD (4273)** today for more information or to place an order.

**BE SUPREME**

**The Utility Expo** is the largest event for utility professionals and construction contractors seeking comprehensive insights into the latest industry technologies, innovations and trends. The Utility Expo 2023 was the biggest show ever with more than 21,000 attendees, 1.5 million square feet of exhibits and more than 900 exhibitors! The biennial trade show, known for equipment test drives and interactive product demonstrations, takes place in Louisville, Kentucky. The next event will be October 7-9, 2025.

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**5. CUTS, PUNCTURES, SCRATCHES, SCRAPES, CHEMICALS, AND MORE** - Be sure your first aid cabinet or kit is fully stocked with antibiotic ointments, antiseptic wipes, gauze pads and adhesive bandages and a wide range of sizes.

**QUESTIONS**

**Q&A**  
**ANSWERS**



**Question** - What are the definitions of "flame retardant" and "flame resistant" in regards to apparel covered by paragraph 1910.269(l)(6)(iii) of the electric power generation, transmission, and distribution standard, 29 CFR 1910.269?

**Answer** - The source of the terms used by OSHA with respect to the paragraph 1910.269(l)(6)(iii) Apparel requirement is the American Society of Testing and Materials Standard, ASTM D 123-93, Standard Terminology Relating to Textiles. This ASTM standard includes the following definitions:

**Flame Resistant:** The property of a material whereby flaming combustion is prevented, terminated, or inhibited following application of a flaming or nonflaming source of ignition, with or without subsequent

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## Keeping up with Changing Electrical Safety Standards: The 2024 NFPA 70E

**Honeywell**  
SALISBURY



The 2024 edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70E, Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace, 13<sup>th</sup> edition, has been released. This standard is used to assist electrical workers in reducing injuries and fatalities from electrical hazards. Below, you'll find some changes that are important to be aware of.

There have been some term changes in this edition. One of those is the phrase "Electric Shock," where the word "electric" is placed before "shock" to help ensure consistent use of the term. "Hearing protection boundary" and "lung protection boundary" are exceptions, where the term "shock" refers to "shock wave," not electric shock.

For manufacturers of **leather protectors for rubber insulating gloves**, note that the word "leather" was deleted to permit the use of protectors other than leather. NFPA 70E will now just use the term "Protectors." To make the standard more user-friendly, "Scope" has been added to the beginning of each article.

Some of the changes in the articles are generally described below. Article 110 General Requirements for Electrical Safety-Related Work Practices, Article 110.2(B) When required, Exception No. 1, "Normal operation of electric equipment," was changed to "Normal Operating Condition". A seventh normal operating condition was added; Normal operation of electric equipment shall be permitted where a normal operating condition exists. A normal operating condition exists when all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The equipment is properly installed
- The equipment is properly maintained
- The equipment is rated for the available fault current

removal of the ignition source.

**Flame-Retardant-Treated:** Having received flame-retardant treatment.

**Flame Retardant:** This terminology should not be used as an adjective except in the terminology: flame-retardant-treated (or flame-retardant treatment). Used as a noun, "flame retardant" is a chemical used to impart flame resistance.

## Saf-T-Gard Spotlight



**Jaclyn (Jackie) Bradek** is our Purchasing Assistant and joined Saf-T-Gard in July 2021.

### What Jackie likes about Saf-T-Gard:

"I like how I am able to utilize everything that I have learned from my previous places of employment, but still have new things to learn here. It is comforting how helpful everyone is, but I especially like the emphasis on safety. Not only for our customers, but for the employees as well. I feel that the emphasis on safety shows how caring of a company Saf-T-Gard is and that it resonates well from upper management down to every employee."

### Jackie's outside interests are:

"Coffee, music, Door County, WI, solitaire, baking, cooking, sewing, drawing, mini golf, wood

- The equipment is used in accordance with instructions included in the listing and labeling and in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- The equipment doors are closed and secured
- All equipment covers are in place and secured
- There is no evidence of impending failure (New note: water damage)

Note: The available fault current should be listed inside the electrical equipment on the manufacturer's information label and on circuit breakers.

Another example of "evidence of impending failure" has been added. Informational Note No. 2: See NEMA GD 1-2019, Evaluating Water-Damaged Electrical Equipment, as an example of a document that provides further information on evaluating electrical equipment that may have been exposed to water.

110.3 Electrical Safety Program, (I) Job Safety Planning and Job Briefing, a new item, an "emergency response plan," was added to the list of required information for the job safety planning. The emergency response plan should address what to do in the case of electrical shock or if an arc flash occurs.

Article 120 Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition, Article 120.5 Lockout/Tagout Procedures, (A) Planning, (1) Locating Sources, A new informational note was added: "Locating sources of supply could include identifying situations where a neutral conductor continues to carry current after phase conductors have been de-energized." An example of this could be the removal of a light ballast from a 277-volt 3 phase multi-wire branch circuit.

Article 120 Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition, 120.6 Process for Establishing and Verifying an Electrically Safe Work Condition, an additional step has been added to the process of Establishing and Verifying an Electrically Safe Work Condition to: (7) Use an adequately rated portable test instrument to test each phase conductor or circuit part at each point of work to test for the absence of voltage. Test each phase conductor or circuit part both phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground. Before and after each test, determine that the test instrument is operating satisfactorily through verification on any known voltage source.

Article 130 Work Involving Electrical Hazards, 130.5 Arc Flash Risk Assessment, (B) Estimate of Likelihood and Severity, an Informational note has been added: In most cases, closed doors do not provide enough protection to eliminate the need for **PPE** in situations in which the state of the equipment is known to readily change (e.g., doors open or closed, rack in or rack out).

Article 130 Work Involving Electrical Hazards, 130.5 Arc Flash Risk Assessment, (G) Incident Energy Analysis Method, Informational notes were added to provide examples of changes that could affect an "incident energy analysis." According to such Informational Notes: changes that could affect the results of the incident energy analysis

carving, and dates with my husband."

### Anything else:

"I take great pride and care in everything that I do and I will work on it until it is perfect for the purpose at hand."

**OSHA Factoid**



"Do OSHA regulations require a shower and eyewash station near a spray booth for use with lacquer and contact adhesive?"

The OSHA requirements for emergency eyewashes and showers, found at 29 CFR 1910.151(c), specify that "where the eyes or body of any person may be exposed to injurious corrosive materials, suitable facilities for quick drenching or flushing of the eyes and body shall be provided within the work area for immediate emergency use." As the standard states, an eyewash and/or safety shower would be required where an employee's eyes or body could be exposed to injurious corrosive materials. If none of the materials used in this work area is an injurious corrosive (as indicated by the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each product), then an emergency eyewash or shower would not be required pursuant to 1910.151(c).



include changes made by utilities or other entities, such as transformer sizing, as well as modifications to protective devices or changes to protective settings.

Article 130 Work Involving Electrical Hazards, 130.7 Personal and Other Protective Equipment, (C) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), (1) General, Informational Note: Where the estimated incident energy exposure is greater than the arc rating of commercially available arc-rated PPE, then Article 130 suggests that for the purpose of testing for the absence of voltage, the following examples of risk reduction methods could be used to reduce the likelihood of occurrence of an arcing event or the severity of exposure: (1) Use of noncontact capacitive test instrument(s) or a permanently installed metering device(s) in the equipment for indication, before using a contact-type test instrument to test for the absence of voltage. The term "Proximity test instrument" is removed, and the 1000-volt limitation removed.

Article 130 Work Involving Electrical Hazards, 130.7 Personal and Other Protective Equipment, (C) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), (15) Arc Flash PPE Category Method (b) Direct Current (dc) Equipment, Table 130.7(C) (15)(b) Arc Flash PPE Categories for DC Systems. The voltage parameters in the table were increased from "Greater than 100 volts and less than 250 volts" to "Greater than 150 volts and less than or equal to 600 volts." Recent arc flash data has indicated that the potential arc flash incident was not sustainable below 250 volts.

Article 130 Work Involving Electrical Hazards, 130.8 Other Precautions for Personnel Activities, (M) Reclosing Circuits After Protective Device Operation, New wording has been added to Article 130.8(M) to clarify who can manually reset circuit breakers.

The article says: After a circuit is de-energized by the automatic operation of a circuit protective device, the circuit shall not be manually re-energized until *a qualified person or persons determines* the equipment and circuit can be safely energized. *Manually reclosing* circuit breakers or re-energizing circuits through replaced fuses shall be prohibited *until the fault has been cleared*.

The Articles also adds an *exception: When it is determined from the design of the circuit and the overcurrent devices involved that the automatic operation of a device was caused by an overload rather than a fault condition, examination of the circuit or connected equipment shall not be required before the circuit is re-energized.*

New Informative Annex S—Assessing the Condition of Maintenance.

Annex S—has been added to help assess the condition of maintenance of electrical equipment. The 2024 NFPA 70B is referenced in Annex S (S.8) as a standard for electrical equipment maintenance which provides additional information on assessing the condition of maintenance. NFPA 70B Standard provides a means to establish and maintain an acceptable condition of maintenance of

While not having the force of a regulation under the OSH Act, the current ANSI standard addressing emergency eyewash and shower equipment (ANSI Z358.1-2004) provides for eyewash and shower equipment in appropriate situations when employees are exposed to hazardous materials. ANSI's definition of "hazardous material" would include caustics, as well as additional substances and compounds that have the capability of producing adverse effects on the health and safety of humans. ANSI's standard also provides detail with respect to the location, installation, nature, and maintenance of eyewash and shower equipment.

## As I See It



It is October 2023 and this month let's ask (and answer) the question "What's New?" Those who know me know that I've been around the safety industry for a long time. I am constantly amazed by the new technologies and new products that have been developed and introduced to our industry. And nearly all of them came about because customers like you said that there was a need. That's the way it should be – listening to customers.

For example, **disposable gloves** have been around for decades. Customers

electrical equipment and systems to address safety and reliability.

Saf-T-Gard carries a comprehensive selection of Honeywell Salisbury Electrical Safety products including arc flash clothing and kits, rubber insulating gloves, sleeves, blankets and matting, hoods, hard hats, faceshields and accessories, line hose, hoods and connectors, dielectric footwear, grounding and jumpers and more. Click [here](#) to shop them online or call customer service at **1-800-548-GARD (4273)** today for more information or to place an order.

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## Watch the FREE Moldex Hearing and Reusable Respiratory Protection Webinar ON DEMAND



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This webinar is designed to give an overview of hearing and respiratory program requirements and product options for chemical manufacturers. We will examine some of the common pains of participating in a respiratory and hearing protection program while introducing the Moldex solutions to these challenges. You will learn more about how important participation in respiratory and hearing protection programs is and how practical and comfortable Moldex makes compliance.

### Learning Objectives:

1. **Understanding the Hierarchy of Controls:** The webinar emphasizes the importance of understanding and implementing the hierarchy of controls in the workplace. This includes eliminating the hazard, substituting the hazard, isolating people from the

told us that they wanted gloves less expensive than nitrile, latex, or vinyl gloves but more durable than polyethylene gloves. Enter the new product of **hybrid thermoplastic disposable gloves**.

Working at heights is a continuing concern. Fall Protection was the #1 cited OSHA violation last year. So this focus on working at heights obviously points to better fall protection equipment including **harnesses, lanyards, self-retracting lifelines, anchorage points** and more.

But wait, there's more! To prevent injuries from dropped tools, there are **tool tethers** available as well as bucket truck tool boards with tool tethering attachment points.

And to top it all off, **protective headgear** for working at heights has evolved to a full family of products complete with chinstraps and front, side, and rear impact protection (ANSI Z89.1-2014 Type II).

These caps feature improved, stronger polycarbonate+ABS material which is far superior to the traditional caps made with high-density polyethylene. Definitely not your father's hard hat!

And now, with winter around the corner, slips and falls become greater seasonal risks. If only there were winter tires (maybe with metal studs) for our feet. Yes, now there are. **Intrinsically-safe ice cleats** fit over all footwear for a safe, sure grip.

hazard, changing the way people work, and finally, providing personal protective equipment (PPE).

2. **Knowing the Importance of Fit Testing:** The webinar highlights the importance of fit testing for respirators. It explains the difference between qualitative and quantitative fit testing, and why quantitative fit testing is the most objective form of testing. It also emphasizes the importance of fit testing in enhancing the protection for the worker.
3. **Recognizing the Role of Personal Factors in Respiratory Protection:** The webinar discusses the role of personal factors such as facial size and shape, facial hair, and pre-existing health conditions in the effectiveness of respiratory protection. It emphasizes the need for a clean-shaven face for a proper seal with the respirator.
4. **Understanding the Assigned Protection Factors (APFs):** The webinar explains the concept of APFs and how different types of respirators have different APFs. It also explains how the method of fit testing can affect the APF of a respirator.
5. **Knowing the Importance of Respirator Maintenance:** The webinar emphasizes the importance of proper cleaning, maintenance, and storage of respirators. It discusses the potential issues with improper storage and the importance of having a cleaning and maintenance program as part of a mandatory respiratory program.

**WATCH NOW**

What else is new? Just ask us. Share your problems, challenges, and opportunities with us and we promise a prompt and professional response. You have my word on it, because we are Saf-T-Gard International - ***Bringing Workers Home Safely Since 1936.***

Sincerely,  
Richard A. Rivkin, Saf-T-Gard CEO and Chairman of the Board

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Saf-T-Gard is a major manufacturer, distributor, importer and exporter of safety solutions for industry since 1936.

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