



# WORKPLACE EYE SAFETY

## PREVENTING EYE INJURIES IN THE WORKPLACE

Each year, thousands of Americans visit the emergency room due to a workplace eye injury, many of which occur in jobs where employees work with electricity, tools, chemicals, machinery, construction materials or explosives. The Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) requires safety eyewear in all environments where eyes are at risk. With the proper eyewear, the risk of injuring your eye in a work-related accident is extremely reduced.

OSHA's website ([www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)) provides guidance on which type of safety eyewear is most appropriate for different jobs. The most popular and effective are safety eyeglasses and goggles, both of which provide impact protection. Goggles offer even more protection by adding dust and chemical splash protection, in addition to providing a secure shield around the entire eye which guards debris from all directions. If you feel the need for safety eyewear or your workplace requires it, check with your Davis Vision provider to see if they offer and carry any safety frames covered by your plan.



## CHOOSE YOUR EYEWEAR ACCORDINGLY



Wearing the wrong kind of eyewear can lead to unsafe circumstances while in a hazardous environment. For instance, regular eyewear or sunglasses may shatter on impact while safety eyewear with polycarbonate lenses do not. In some cases, these two types of eyewear may appear similar, although safety eyewear is designed to provide significantly more eye protection.

## TIPS FOR EYE SAFETY

- If you are working in an area that has dust particles in the air, at minimum wear safety glasses with side protection (side shields).
- If you are working with chemicals, be sure to wear goggles.
- If you are working near hazardous radiation (welding, lasers or fiber optics), wear special-purpose safety glasses, goggles, face shields or helmets designed for that task.

