

| PPE Category | Category Description | Activity | Above-the-neck PPE Product Examples |
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| Category I | Simple PPE (PPE designed to protect users against minimal risks) | Placing product on the market – manufacturers self-declaration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sweatbands - Cold Weather Hood System - Sun Capes |
| Category II | Intermediate PPE (PPE not covered within category I or III) | Initial Product approval | Safety spectacles Industrial helmets Bump caps |
| Category III | Complex PPE (PPE that may cause very serious consequences such as death or irreversible damage to health) | On-going surveillance through testing or factory auditing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respiratory PPE - Industrial helmets claiming Molten Metal and Electrical Resistance (EU) 2016/425 PPE Regulation change: Hearing Protection |