

# WOMEN'S PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

## PROTECTIVE OR DANGEROUS?

**94%** of tradeswomen

struggle with ill-fitting PPE according to a recent study

**70%**

reported a lack of access to female-specific gear

**83%**

often modified equipment to make it usable

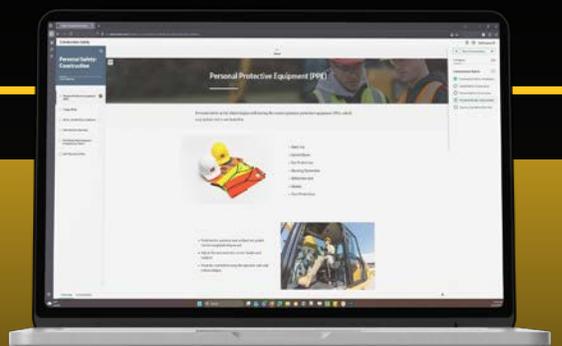
**1 in 5** were injured, **2 in 5** reported near misses linked to inadequate PPE and **over 65%** say poor fit affected their performance

## TIPS TO ENSURE PROPER FIT FOR WOMEN'S PPE

- ✓ Prioritize fit testing.
- ✓ Look for real adjustability.
- ✓ Do not alter gear to make it work.
- ✓ Reevaluate regularly.
- ✓ Encourage ill-fitting reporting.

## POTENTIAL DANGERS

- ☠ **Falls** – loose harnesses, oversized boots and ill-fitting clothing can snag on ladders/scaffolding
- ☠ **Entanglement** – baggy sleeves or gloves can get caught in drills, saws or rotating equipment
- ☠ **Burns** – cuffed pants might collect sparks. Loose fire-resistant clothing can leave skin exposed
- ☠ **Reduced Protection** – ill-fitting hard hats, safety glasses and ear protection can slip off, slide down or not seal properly
- ☠ **Distraction & Fatigue** – constant adjusting of PPE can lower focus, productivity and safety awareness



**SimScholars® curriculum**, a one-to-one match with Cat® Simulators training, offers essential safety training to help operators understand and properly use personal protective equipment (PPE) for their safety and that of others on the jobsite.

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