

HARD HATS 101

HARD HATS PROTECT EMPLOYEES FROM HEAD TRAUMA

TYPE I hard hats reduce the force of impact resulting from a blow only to the top of the head.

TYPE II hard hats reduce the force of impact resulting from a blow that may be received off-centre or to the top of the head.

The outer portion of the hat is the shell, and inside is the harness. When a force strikes a properly-fitted hard hat, the force is distributed throughout the hard hat.

TIPS

- Ensure it's the proper hat for the job.
- Make sure all parts are included.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions to assemble.
- Adjust the headband; it should be snug, but not tight.
- Make sure the suspension is secured to the shell.
- Inspect your hard hat when it's new, before each day's use and after an incident where the integrity has been challenged.
- Look for gouges, cracks, deterioration and discoloration.
- Check to see if all straps are in good condition.
- Do not store your hard hat in direct sunlight.
- When a hard hat is damaged, replace the damaged part or replace the entire hat.
- Clean the suspension and shell regularly according to the manufacturers' instructions.