



Head, Eye, Face, & Hearing Protection: **Economy-Priced PPE Costs More Than You Think**

An MSA White Paper

It's not what you spend—it's what you get.

Everybody loves a bargain, yet no discount is worth putting workers at risk.

With PPE, there's a monumental difference between buying cheaper hard hats and face protection and investing in high-quality helmets like the MSA V-Gard® safety helmet and complete above-the-neck safety solutions.

Purchasing head, eye, face, and hearing protection (HEFH) from a value-added safety partner lets you maximize your PPE budget. That means you get a better, more consistent return on the money you spend.

MSA has developed thousands of products, owns hundreds of patents, and has a global reach in the millions—all to keep in motion the mission of worker safety that started more than 100 years ago. In our experience, many industrial customers can realize a savings of between 20 and 80 percent.

So, what does this mean for you?

Look at the total value of your purchase instead of only the per-item cost. You'll realize the money you invest in with MSA, including V-Gard Hard Hats and accessories, can pay you back in ways that spending on discount hard hats never could.

- Purpose-built for the type of work
- Tested to perform in some of the toughest of environment imaginable
- Engineered for increased service life
- Designed to meet all norms/standards but also MSA's strict safety, function, durability, and usability criteria

HEFH PPE Purchasing Checklist

Even if you factor in the initial savings provided through bargain brand PPE, it may in fact equate to larger and potentially extreme costs over the life of the hard hat. Use this pre-purchase checklist when selecting your PPE.

EXAMINE THE QUALITY

There's a reason MSA is known worldwide as "The Safety Company." It's because we harness precision engineering to craft high-quality safety products to help people across the world work safely in their environments. Quality materials and construction mean better durability and a longer wear life. The MSA V-Gard Hard Hat is the #1 Hard Hat for a reason.

WILL WORKERS WEAR IT CONSISTENTLY?

If it's not comfortable, workers will find an excuse not to wear it. That's unsafe and not compliant and could lead to serious injuries. The MSA V-Gard® safety helmets provide superior comfort through our Fas-Trac® III Suspension, in fact in a blind study conducted by MSA the Fas-Trac III Suspension was chosen 92% of the time of the competition. With features like an adjustable nape strap for increased balance and stability, flush suspension tabs to help eliminate compression headaches, integrated perforated sweatband for added cushioning and sweat management, nape strap cushioning to increase airflow, retention and prevent hair pulling, the Fas-Trac III Suspension helps to keep the worker comfortable while getting the job done.

CHECK ITS PERFORMANCE RATING

Every application is different, so every piece of safety equipment must be, too. Whether it's welding, grinding, cutting, or operating heavy machinery, working at height, confined space entry, electrical works or other applications, MSA has a range of solutions that helps you protect the worker for the job at hand.

LOOK UNDER THE PROVERBIAL HOOD

PPE needs to work, and it needs to last, even in tough environments. UV inhibitors in our colorant are designed for and tested against some of the harshest environments, for 5 years of outstanding performance.

STANDARDS - OUR APPROACH

MSA prides itself on not only meeting standards, but exceeding them! Within our internationally accredited laboratory, our helmets are tested beyond requirements of standards to provide best-in-class resistance and durability. MSA also maintains ISO 9001 quality management system registrations at major production and service locations.

LOOK AT OPTIONS

The MSA V-Gard portfolio is comprised of 12 different models, including the V-Gard 900 series providing integrated eye and face protection, and the V-Gard H1 helmet designed for working at heights. The V-Gard range includes 2 different suspension options to ensure a secure fit for different sizes and application needs, as well as a continuous weave webbing that contours to the wearers head for a comfortable custom fit.

DETERMINE THE "COOL FACTOR"

Today's workers want to look as good as they feel in their PPE. This enhances the acceptance of the PPE, thus wearing, thus compliance. And workers take better care of their PPE when they think it looks good. The MSA V-Gard family offers 9 gloss color options, 9 matte color options (V-Gard H1) and can color match thousands of others (consult us). We offer [Logo Express and personalization capabilities](#) with second to none turnaround and quality.

CERTIFIED ACCESSORIES

Alone, a hard hat is good, including accessories for the job at hand, even better. MSA offers more than 100 accessories designed, tested and approved specifically for use with the V-Gard range to ensure optimal performance. For improved compliance, the eye and face accessories come integrated within the safety helmet (V-Gard 930 and V-Gard 950 helmets).

Benefits of Full-Solution HEFH Protection

It's a simple fact: The safest PPE won't do any good if workers won't wear it. And they won't wear it if it looks ugly or disposable, feels uncomfortable or awkward, and performs subpar or haphazardly. While the initial savings of the bargain brand might be intriguing, that small savings can be quickly outweighed by increased replacement costs, worker dissatisfaction, or even worse. The MSA V-Gard Hard Hats not only protect heads—they help to save lives. And there's no price you can put on that.

Get More Value with MSA

While it's tempting to buy cheaper head, eye, face, and hearing protection, you may be sacrificing quality, performance, and service life. Let the company with more than 100 years of safety experience help you take head, eye, face, and hearing protection to a higher level.



QUALITY

At MSA, premium stands for high-quality materials, durable construction, maximum comfort, and long wear life at a competitive cost.



INNOVATION

We continually improve the look, fit, features and performance of our PPE with options and details like personalization or matte finish. Our innovation capabilities translate into the hundreds of patent we own.



COMPLETE SAFETY SOLUTIONS

We design everything to work together, so it's simple and cost-effective to switch, swap, and customize.



WORKER-CENTRIC

MSA is a leader in the industry, manufacturing cutting edge products because we listen to you. MSA is unfailingly committed to hearing what you have to say so we can create new, and improve existing PPE, always tailored to your needs, constraints and working environment.



AWARD-WINNING SUPPORT

MSA is proud to work with a strong *Channel Partner network* providing global coverage with local expertise. Our knowledgeable and experienced *sales* and *customer service associates* are here to support you in finding the best safety solutions.



MSA IS YOUR BEST CHOICE FOR HEFH PROTECTION

Want to experience the V-Gard?

Email us at MSA.Industry.Marketing@MSAsafety.com

Our Mission

MSA's mission is to see to it that men and women may work in safety and that they, their families and their communities may live in health throughout the world.

MSA: WE KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE.

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While product uses and performance capabilities are generally described, the products shall not, under any circumstances, be used by untrained or unqualified individuals. The products shall not be used until the product instructions/user manual, which contains detailed information concerning the proper use and care of the products, including any warnings or cautions, have been thoroughly read and understood. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

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