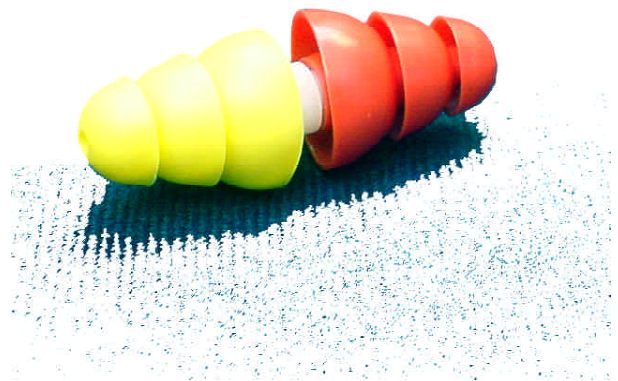


FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When Should I Use Arc Rated Earplugs?

Oberon conducted Acoustical testing on its products in February of 2004. The results indicate that an arc-rated hood can significantly attenuate the sound hazard, but since the sound level for an arc flash event is so high, the worker using an arc rated hood still needs to use hearing protection.

NFPA 70E requires hearing protection for Hazard Risk Categories 2, 3 and 4. That is why Oberon includes a set of earplugs in each complete arc flash PPE kit. NFPA 70E describes hearing protection as ear canal inserts. Full muff type (covers ear) would also be acceptable as long as they fit properly under the hood.



It would not be necessary to use arc rated earplugs for categories 2*, 3 and 4 because NFPA 70E requires you wear a hood at these hazard risk category levels. The arc rated hood, tested under ASTM 2178, would not allow enough energy to be transmitted through the hood to ignite or melt the earplugs or muff type hearing protection. For categories 1 and 2, where NFPA 70E does not mandate the use of a hood, you should use an arc rated earplug.

For over 20 year, since Oberon created the first Arc Flash faceshields and clothing, the industry has looked to Oberon as the leader in Arc Flash PPE.



Pioneer and Leader in Arc Flash PPE

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