

# Eye and Face Protection

## *Faceshields*

*For all-purpose face protection, faceshields are hard to beat. They protect the face from splashes, heat, flying particles and other hazards while allowing for plenty of ventilation. They are especially recommended for welding, riveting and operations that involve extreme heat. But it is important to remember that faceshields do not protect your eyes—they must be used in combination with goggles or safety glasses.*



**Faceshields protect you from splashes, heat, flying particles and other hazards. A welding helmet is a specialized faceshield that protects you from sparks, intense light and splashes of molten metal.**

### **Types of Faceshields**

Most faceshields are constructed of high-strength, flexible plastic such as acetate. Faceshields designed for use in a high-impact environment may be made of polycarbonate, the material used in many safety glasses. Wire-screen faceshields are used in extremely humid environments. Faceshields may be equipped with a crown to protect against falling particles or sparks, or a chin scoop to guard against chemical splashes. Some shields are tinted to protect from glare, while others feature glass inserts for the best visibility. Specially designed faceshields can be fitted to hard hats. A variation on the faceshield is the welding helmet, a complete face-and-head covering that protects the wearer from sparks, intense light and splashes of molten metal.

### **Care and Fit**

Choose a faceshield with adjustable straps that fits snugly but not uncomfortably around your head, without sliding forward or to the side. A faceshield should not be uncomfortable to wear. A strap across the top of the head provides support. The shield should cover your face from the forehead to the base of your neck without obstructing your vision. Because faceshields are easily scratched, store your shield in a protected area. Replace a scratched faceshield before it causes a vision-related accident.

Remember, a faceshield protects your face, not your eyes. Wearing your safety glasses or goggles along with your faceshield is the best way to protect your eyesight. 