

SAFETY NOTE #1: Overhead Hazards and Head Protection

April 15, 2020

Welcome to **SAFETY NOTE #1!**

What happened?

In light of a recent head bump injury resulting in a laceration to the scalp.

Takeaway recommendation:

The Executive Safety Committee strongly recommends that bump caps or hard hats be required and worn in areas with overhead head bump risks. Hard hats should continue to be worn for overhead dropped/falling object risks. Signage stating that this PPE is required should be placed where it is readily viewable, and individuals should follow the directions provided.

Be aware and look around before starting the task! **GUARD YOUR NOGGIN!**

Please see the attached slide (PDF file) which compares the benefits and acceptable use of hard hats and bump caps for overhead hazards.

PPE is covered in the Safety Manual in Ch. 537

- 537.0 Personal Protective Equipment



Your partner in safety,

The Executive Safety Committee
(astro-soscexecutive@list.arizona.edu)

Hard Hat Vs. Bump Cap

They are not the same!



Question...	Hard Hat or Helmet	Bump Cap
<i>What's it look like?</i>		
<i>What does it protect against?</i>	Dropped or falling objects from above, moving object impact hazard, crane usage	Lacerations and head bumps while working in low overhead-clearance areas (under equipment, etc.)
<i>When is this not a good choice?</i>	Could impede your ability to move about freely in tight spaces with poor overhead clearance.	Never wear this if there are overhead dropped/falling object hazards; wear a hard hat instead.
<i>What certification is required?</i>	Must be ANSI-Approved to meet OSHA requirement	Not ANSI approved, and not regulated by OSHA

Make the safe choice...

Plan Ahead! Unsure? Ask...