

IPENFRARED

The Hierarchy of Control, outlines that any risk must be minimised to the lowest reasonably practicable level by taking the following measures in the following order and as determined by the risk assessment.

A. Elimination the job is redesigned so as to remove the hazard. However, the alternative method should not lead to a less acceptable product or less effective process. If hazard elimination is not successful or practical, the next control measure is:

B. Substitution replacing the material or process with a less hazardous one. If hazard substitution is not successful or practical, the next control measure is:

C. Engineering controls installing or using additional machinery such as local exhaust ventilation to control the risk. Separating the hazard from operators by methods such as enclosing or guarding dangerous items of machinery. If this method is not effective, the next control measure is:

D. Administrative procedures or safe work practices an example of this is to reduce the time the worker is exposed to the hazard. It could also include the prohibition of eating, drinking and smoking in laboratory areas, the provision of training and the performance of risk assessments.

Only after all the previous measures have been tried and found to be ineffective in controlling the risks should Personal Protective Equipment be considered.



With IR Windows

- No exposure to Live Components
- Safer
- Low Risk
- Faster
- Non-Intrusive
- Minimises PPE Requirement



Without IR Windows

Exposed to Live Components

- Dangerous
- High Risk
- Slow
- Intrusive
- Uncomfortable PPE Required

E. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); this is the last control measure to be considered. If chosen, PPE should be selected and fitted to the person who uses it. Workers must be trained in the function and limitation of each item of PPE. For example an operator should know how long the compressed supply in a self contained breathing apparatus will last. PPE may be used as a temporary control measure until other alternatives are installed.

In most cases a combination of engineering controls, administrative procedures and PPE are chosen to effectively control the risks. Where PPE is the main control method it should be (where practical) used in conjunction with another method of PPE and safe work practices.