

*Globus helps to **reduce hand accidents and costs** for Siemens*



// Non-glove users have even been converted since the introduction of **Globus hand protection //**

Lee Wilson Principal Health, Safety and Environmental Engineer - Siemens

Siemens Industrial Turbomachinery Ltd in Lincoln designs, manufactures and services 5 to 15 Megawatt gas turbines for the industrial power generation and oil and gas industries.

The Situation

Over 700 staff working on the shop-floor in four departments; Assembly, Overhauls, Machining Services and Maintenance had previously been wearing a leading general purpose knitted dipped glove.

However, the glove had several issues, resulting in worker dissatisfaction, high glove usage rates and increased risk for the workers:

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| ISSUE 1 | <i>High absorbency resulting in skin contact with various oils</i> |
| OUTCOME | Frequent removal of gloves, putting workers at risk |
| ISSUE 2 | <i>Short lifespan of the glove, averaging one pair of gloves per worker per day</i> |
| OUTCOME | Significant costs for Siemens to fund and implement their glove policy |
| ISSUE 3 | <i>High levels of hand perspiration</i> |
| OUTCOME | Uncomfortable for the user when performing physical tasks, leading to workforce dissatisfaction |
| ISSUE 4 | <i>Glove coloring (white liner with grey foam palm)</i> |
| OUTCOME | Showing dirt more easily, resulting in higher glove usage. |



The Solution

Recognizing that Siemens' employees needed a more durable glove to provide enhanced protection, comfort and grip when working in an oily and greasy environment, Globus, along with the Siemens Health & Safety Department introduced the Globus 5-Step Hand Protection Programme.

The Globus 5-Step Hand Protection Programme

The Globus 5-Step Hand Protection Program aims to understand the precise needs of the user and recommend the right glove(s) that are fit for purpose, fit for the user, and fit for the customer's budget.

Steps 1 and 2 involved an on-site survey and trial across all four departments and Siemens trialled the **Globus SHOWA 380 Foam Grip glove**. The trial involved 50 staff members and the results were as follows:

- 1. Significantly lower glove usage.** The life of the glove was anything up to a week because the foam palm of the Globus SHOWA 380 locked in oil and grease to allow continual use, in comparison to a daily glove change with the previous glove. Plus the perception of the glove being less dirty due to the darker coloring increased the glove life further.
- 2. Increased comfort and dexterity for the user.** The fine cotton liner and anatomical shaping of the glove meant that hands did not sweat as much and the glove was more flexible and comfortable to wear, with an improved sensitivity and feel.
- 3. Higher rate of user acceptance.** The success of the trial even resulted in several non-glove users being converted. The SHOWA 380 is the first glove to do this since the introduction of a glove policy at Siemens.

Step 3 involved presenting the trial results to the Health & Safety Department and due to the success, the Globus SHOWA 380 Foam Grip replaced the previous glove across all four departments. Full staff training, on-site information and reviews were then implemented – forming steps 4 and 5 of the Globus Hand Protection Programme.

“Non-glove users have even been convinced since the introduction of the Globus Showa 380, the first glove to achieve this since the introduction of a glove policy on site. Guys used to come into my office every morning for a pair of gloves, but now I’m lucky to see them once a week.”

Lee Wilson, Principal Health, Safety & Environmental Engineer, Siemens Industrial Turbomachinery



Following on from the successful introduction of the SHOWA 380, other gloves from the Globus portfolio have now been introduced to Siemens in Lincoln.

The **SHOWA 377** is used in the strip areas on the shopfloor where lubricants are used to clean and ease components that might have seized or be contaminated. In addition, for employees handling sharp objects, the **SKYTEC Ninja X4** is used and finally to aid product protection, **SKYTEC Utah** single-use nitrile disposables have been adopted across the Lincoln site.

The Benefits

The Globus SHOWA and SKYTEC gloves are now the approved and accepted gloves on-site, with measurable benefits to both the company and workforce.

Comparing the benefit of the SHOWA 380 glove alone, Siemens estimates that the ratio of replacing the previous glove onsite is 1:5, one 380 for every five of the previous market leading lightweight glove. As a result, Siemens business in Lincoln estimates that it has made a **cost saving of 22% over an equivalent six month period**, due to lower glove usage and a decrease in worker downtime for re-issuing gloves.

From a Health & Safety perspective, occupational health onsite has also seen a measurable benefit, as **reported accidents to hands have also been reduced** by an impressive 12% over the same six month period.

The **environmental policy at Siemens has also received a boost**. Only first grade materials are used to manufacture the gloves and it is SHOWA's policy to not use any materials during that process that may cause irreversible damage to the environment. As such, this also has an impact on waste issues within Siemens, not only is the glove cleaner, the quantity of wastage has now significantly reduced.



Contact our Team

Need more information?

Discuss your requirements with one of our PPE specialists.
Our team is here to help and advise you.

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