

Fit for purpose

There's more to good boots than steel toecaps – materials and overall fit are just as important. **Nitti** explains how to be a clever clogs when it comes to choosing safety footwear.

When selecting safety footwear, it is important that companies understand how the design of each part of the boot affects its performance, so that they make the right purchase. The important factors are the upper, the lining, the insole, the outsole and the overall fit.

The upper

The upper not only gives the boot its shape, but also plays a role in safety and comfort. Nitti's 23281-BN is made of genuine, full-grain, S3 water buffalo leather – this makes the boot water resistant yet breathable. The leather also protects the user from accidental cuts and spills, and gives it a premium look. Work boots have to be worn for long shifts – possibly up to 12 hours on an offshore rig – so it is important to have a boot that not only feels comfortable, but also takes care of the foot.

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The lining

The lining, the inner textile of the boot, is important because it helps to regulate temperature. Nitti's Cambrelle lining quickly absorbs sweat, and only releases it once the boot is removed. This ensures that no excess moisture builds up and prevents the growth of bacteria that can cause foot odours and diseases.

The insole

The insole has the most contact with the foot, and therefore the greatest influence on whether the boot is comfortable to wear. A pre-moulded insole provides better support for the arch; this keeps the heel in a fixed position, reducing the risk of ankle sprains. Insoles can be either be fixed inside the boot or be removable – the latter is recommended, as this

allows the insoles to be cleaned, aired and replaced when necessary.

The outsole

The design of the outsole influences a boot's slip resistance, while its weight and flexibility affect comfort. Nitti uses a flexible yet lightweight polyurethane outsole that is oil, chemical and slip resistant.

Overall fit

Component selection needs to be combined with a good understanding of the fit required and the people the boots are intended for. Asian people have wider and shorter feet than Americans and Europeans, so it is important that manufacturers adjust production to each market.

Wearing boots that do not fit properly can be hazardous, as the foot can slip easily. In order to deliver the best fit, Nitti uses an extra-wide comfort toecap and a crease-free lining that ensures there is no friction around the toes, reducing the risk of blisters. To make sure that the right product is chosen, Nitti recommends that companies ask their supplier to provide all the necessary certificates and detailed material description to ensure that their safety boots will keep working.

About Nitti

Nitti was established in 1996 in Singapore to develop high-quality and comfortable safety footwear. By promoting safety, comfort and durability for the past 15 years, Nitti has gained popularity across Asia and the Middle East.

Dedicated to safety, Nitti has focused its resources and ensured that its entire footwear collection is 100% safe by complying with and exceeding international standards. Every style in its collection conforms to CE 20345 standard (European Union), TÜV SÜD PSB SS513:2005 (Singapore) and AS/NZS 2210.3:200 (Australia/New Zealand). Nitti footwear also has a number of regional certificates, including Malaysia's SIRIM MA 1598:1998, Korea's KOSHA and China's GB 21148. ■



Nitti's footwear is as comfortable as it is safe.

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SAFETY ★ COMFORT ★ DURABILITY

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