

Cal Poly Eye Wash and Safety Shower Inspection Program

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Reference

- California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5162 Emergency Eyewash and Shower
- ANSI/ISEA Z358.1-2019

Policy

It is the policy of Cal Poly to provide and maintain Emergency Eye Wash and Safety Shower facilities where, during routine operations or foreseeable emergencies, the eyes or body of a student or employee may come into contact with a substance which can cause corrosion, severe irritation or permanent tissue damage or which is toxic by absorption.

Purpose

It is the purpose of this document to provide guidance and methods for providing and maintaining Emergency Eye Wash and Safety Showers on Cal Poly in accordance with the above stated policy

Scope and Application

This document shall apply to all Eye Wash and Safety Shower locations on Cal Poly campus and property

Responsibilities

Management (Deans and above) – Upper management shall be responsible to ensure that this program is implemented and being followed. Further, management shall receive audit results and, as necessary, take corrective action to ensure compliance with this program

Departments, Managers, Supervisors, Technicians – This group may perform regular eye wash and safety shower inspections themselves or designate an individual to perform the inspections (as defined below).

Eye wash and Safety Shower Designee – This individual shall:

- Conduct regular inspections of department Eye Wash and Safety shower stations consistent with this policy.
- Ensure proper operations of Eye wash and Safety Shower stations by reporting deficient, or poor performing units to Facilities Services for repair
- Maintain records of inspections in the form of inspection log(s) attached to the Eye wash and Safety Shower stations.

Office of Environmental Health and Safety – EH&S shall

- Maintain this Eye wash and Safety Shower program
- Maintain an inventory of Safety Shower and Eye wash stations on campus and Cal Poly property
- Provide resources, training, and consultation on all matters relating to this program.
- On a regular basis, EH&S will audit inspection records and the department's performance relating to this program and provide results of audit to Management

Cal Poly Facilities Services – Facilities services will:

- Provide routine maintenance consistent with cited regulatory standards and manufacturers recommendations
- Provide timely repairs as requested by departments or department's designee

Specific Requirements

Plumbed eye wash stations shall be activated on a monthly basis (see test procedures in Appendix B). Free standing, reservoir type eye wash stations shall be inspected and serviced according to manufacturer's specification. Proof of this activation/inspection will be the inspection log attached to the eye wash station. The date and initials of the inspector shall be recorded on the log.

Safety showers are to be activated on a monthly basis (see test procedures in Appendix B). Proof of this activation will be the inspection log attached to the eye wash station. The date and initials of the inspector shall be recorded on the log.

Training

Training on the activation, flow rate testing, and the inspection log of the safety shower and eye wash stations shall be conducted by the department and/or EH&S

Record Keeping

The record of Safety Shower and/or Eye Wash activation (per Specific Requirements above) shall be kept on the inspection log attached to the device. This record shall be kept by the department designee.

Appendix A: Definitions

Activation of Eye Wash/Safety Shower – the periodic qualitative testing of water flow from said equipment consistent with this program document

Department Eye Wash and Safety Shower Designee – the individual in a department, lab, shop, area, etc. tasked with inspecting and ensuring the proper function of the eye wash and safety shower(s) within their area and according to this program.

Eye Wash – An emergency eye wash is a piece of equipment designed to drench or flush the eyes with water when dust, irritants, or chemicals have entered one or both eyes.

Eye/Face Wash – A device used to provide fluid to irrigate and flush both the face and the eyes simultaneously.

Safety Shower - A safety shower is a piece of equipment designed to wash any chemicals that may have come into contact with the skin or clothing during a chemical spill.

Self-Contained - A term used to describe a stand-alone [not plumbed] device containing flushing fluid.

Appendix B: Test Procedures

Monthly Eyewash Flushing and Testing

To ensure eyewash stations properly function with clean water in the event of an emergency, laboratories, shops, etc must activate their plumbed eyewash stations monthly.

Regulation: ANSI Z358.1-2014 Standard - Plumbed units should be activated long enough on a monthly basis to be sure flushing fluid is provided (Section 5.5.2 and 6.5.2).

NOTE: Self-contained [not plumbed] eye washes are to be inspected/activated according to manufacturer's instructions (ANSI Z358.1-2014 Standard, sec 5.5.3 and 6.5.3)

When performing a monthly eyewash flush, check the following:

- ▶ **Caps in place:** Outlets shall be protected from airborne contaminants
- ▶ **Access and signage:** Ensure that the eyewash station is easily identifiable and unobstructed. Carts, chairs, glassware and equipment can all obstruct an eyewash station, which may slow the response in the event of an emergency
- ▶ **Operation:** Ensure that the eyewash station activates easily with one-handed control; the flow removes eyepiece covers on an eyewash, and water flows evenly and in a steady stream on either device.
- ▶ **Water:** Allow the eyewash station to run for approx. 60 seconds to flush stagnant water from the line. If this is your first time flushing the station, you may have to run it longer to ensure that the water is clean.
- ▶ **Record:** Record your initials and date of test on the inspection tag. Inspection tags may be obtained from the EH&S office.

Report malfunctioning eyewash stations to Facilities, 756-5555 or facserv@calpoly.edu

Helpful hints:

- **Turn on the eyewash slowly.** To avoid a puddle underneath the eyewash, open slowly, then push on all the way.
- **Have a roll of paper towels on hand** in case of water leakage.

If you have questions or if you are unable to flush your eyewash/drench hose station, contact your supervisor, or Environmental Health & Safety.



Monthly Safety Shower Flushing and Testing

Emergency shower units are required in research and instructional areas where personnel may come into contact with hazardous materials. All showers must be activated monthly to test mechanical function and flow and purged to remove particulate matter from the water line.

Safety Showers testing procedure:

1. Ensure shower is clear of obstructions and easily visible from all directions. Showers must have a clearance of 48 inches along the side and 30 inches across (creating a surface area of 10 square feet around the shower unit).

2. When flushing the safety showers, use a 5 gallon bucket or large trash can on wheels and shower water catcher. Note that:

- The ON/OFF valves must be operational, activated by a single motion
- Running water should be clear- this may take a few seconds.

3. Testing the safety shower:

- Place safety shower net over the entire face of the shower unit

4. Flush monthly, and record the flushing date and your initials on the inspection tag hanging from shower and in the departmental Safety Equipment Inspection sheet.

5. Record on departmental Safety Equipment Inspection(if applicable), cleanliness, and ability to access shower. Initial and date shower inspection tag hanging from unit.

If there are issues with access to the shower, contact and notify the P.I. or technical staff member associated with the lab immediately.

If there is flow or operational deficiencies in the safety shower, notify the Facilities Work Center immediately at 756-5555.



¹Grainger, a Cal Poly contracted vendor has unit available on their website (Emergency Shower Tester, Cat.# 8ND03)

² See EH&S website under Laboratory Safety to download Laboratory Safety Equipment Inspection Sheet