



EMERGENCY EYEWASH AND SHOWER INSPECTION PROCEDURES

*Prepared by Chief Executive Office, Risk Management Branch
Loss Control and Prevention Section*

3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Contact Loss Control and Prevention at (213) 738-2269 for additional information

The following guidelines are intended to give reasonable assurance that emergency eyewash and showers remain operable:

1. Every emergency eyewash and shower must be inspected on a monthly basis. During this time, the eyewash and shower must be activated to flush the line and to verify proper operation.
2. Caps must be installed on all emergency eyewash units (the cap should not be installed with force).
3. Emergency eyewash and showers must be installed in accessible locations that require no more than 10 seconds for the injured person to reach. If both the eyewash and shower are needed, they must be located so that one person can use both at the same time.
 - a. Emergency eyewashes must be installed in all work areas where, during routine operations or foreseeable emergencies, the eyes of an employee may come into contact with a substance which can cause corrosion, severe irritation or permanent tissue damage or which is toxic by absorption – water hoses, sink faucets or showers are not acceptable eyewash facilities.
 - b. Emergency showers must be installed in all work areas where, during routine operations or foreseeable emergencies, an area of the body may come into contact with a substance that is corrosive or severely irritating to the skin or which is toxic by skin absorption.
4. Areas in front of eyewash and showers must be maintained free of items that obstruct their use.
5. An inspection tag should be installed on each unit. Upon completion of the inspection, initial/date the tag and state the condition of the unit.
6. Immediately notify your supervisor if a defective unit is identified.

NOTE: The American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) Z358.1 standard recommends the use tempered water in emergency eyewash and showers. The accepted range for tempered water is 60°F to 100°F.

