

GuideSheet

Emergency Eyewash & Shower Activation

Emergency eyewash and shower stations are required at all work areas where eye and/or skin may come in contact with substances that cause severe irritation, corrosion, permanent tissue damage, or are toxic by absorption. It is essential, therefore, to know how to activate this equipment in advance of an emergency.

HOW TO USE AN EMERGENCY EYEWASH STATION

1. Shout “HELP” to alert co-workers.
2. Activate eyewash by pulling the handle, pushing the activator, or stepping on the pushplate.
3. Hold eyes wide open and roll them around to allow flushing of the entire surface.
 - If contact lenses are worn, REMOVE while flushing the eyes to prevent entrapment of the hazardous material under the contact lens.
 - NOTE: Contact lenses shall NOT be worn in environments having harmful exposure to materials or light flashes - see [Eye Protection Guide Sheet](#).
4. Continue flushing for at least 15 minutes.
5. Report the incident to DPS (213) 740-4321 and request emergency medical attention.
6. Provide the attending physician a hard copy of the substance’s SDS.

Avoid using eyewashes when the injury involves rigid material such as a metal shaving. Seek medical attention immediately.

HOW TO USE AN EMERGENCY SHOWER STATION

1. Shout “HELP” to alert co-workers.
2. Activate shower by pulling the handle.
3. Close eyes to avoid inadvertent contamination.
4. Shower for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing.
5. Report the incident to DPS (213) 740-4321 and request emergency medical attention.
6. Provide the attending physician a hard copy of the substance’s SDS.



HOW TO ASSIST AN INJURED PERSON

1. If safe to do so, guide the individual to the eyewash/shower station.
2. Activate the eyewash/shower station per instructions in this guide sheet.
3. Offer to hold the individuals’s eyelids open.
4. Offer to shield or provide a barrier for privacy purposes.
5. Report the incident to DPS (213) 740-4321 and request emergency medical attention.
6. Encourage the individual to continue flushing the affected area for at least 15 minutes.
7. Provide the attending physician a hard copy of the substance’s SDS.

NOTE: Eyewash and shower stations will discharge copious amounts of water onto the floor when activated. However, **it is critically important to use this emergency equipment** regardless of the potential flooding and aftermath.

After an activation, follow up with FPM to initiate the cleanup process.

REFERENCE

CCR [§5162](#). [Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment](#)

ANSI Z358.1-2014 Emergency Eyewash and Shower Standard



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