

Emergency Eyewash Stations and Showers

Introduction:

According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 CFR 1910.151(c), companies must provide eyewash stations and showers for emergency use that allows for quick flushing of the eyes and body at worksite locations. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) specifies that the eyewash stations and showers be within 55 feet or less than 10 seconds from all areas that contain corrosive materials that a person may be exposed to, and the eyewash stations and showers must be able to provide the recommended flow for at least 15 minutes.

It is important to instruct your employees on how to properly use the eyewash station and shower.

Discussion Points:

- Why emergency eyewash stations and showers are required
- Where emergency eyewash stations and showers are required
- How to use the emergency eyewash stations & showers equipment?
- What is the inspection and maintenance requirements?
- What type of emergency eyewash stations and showers are right for your company hazardous locations?

Discussion:

When a corrosive chemical comes in contact with eyes or skin, damage begins immediately and the first ten seconds after exposure is critical, delaying treatment may cause serious injury. Having an emergency eyewash station and shower readily available allows the person to take the first step in first aid by flushing away hazardous substances that cause injury.

It is important to review the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and chemical labels. The company processes and products used will determine the location of the eyewash stations and showers. It is also important to provide regular maintenance and inspections, and keep the eyewash stations and showers clean and free of debris.

As always, be safe out there!

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