



EYE WASH STATIONS

The Navy's Sight Conservation Program states "All Activities shall provide emergency eyewash facilities meeting the requirements of the most current ANSI Z358.1, Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment, in all areas where employees' eyes may be exposed to corrosive materials."

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EYE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS AND HAZARD AREA MARKING

OPNAVINST 5100.19 requires all personnel to wear approved eye protection while working in areas with eye hazards or during related operations. All eye protection must meet at minimum American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87 or Z87+ standards. Eye hazard areas on ships, construction sites or repair yards must be marked with three-inch black and yellow CAUTION tape. CAUTION signs, conforming to NSN 9Q/9905-01-100-8203, stating 'CAUTION: Eye Protection Required in this AREA,' should be mounted directly above the hazardous work area.

Naval Safety Command (NAVSAFECOM) has identified overall lack of adherence to fundamental policy, program structure and functional areas of responsibility.

Common mistakes found include:

- Lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Failure to Follow Established Policies
- Incomplete Industrial Hygiene Program
- Lack of Documentation
- Insufficient Training



NAVSAFECOM Recommends Following Actions:

- Provide eyewash stations capable of delivering potable water at a flow rate of 0.4 gallons per minute for 15 minutes continuously.
- Position eyewash stations within 10 seconds of travel from eye hazards, unobstructed and easily accessible.
- Install eyewash nozzles 33 to 45 inches above the deck and 6 inches from walls or obstructions.
- Protect eyewash nozzles from airborne contaminants and debris.
- Provide tepid flushing water (60 to 100 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Secure potable water valves to eyewash stations and showers with lock-shield keys or tamper-proof lanyards marked with a "W" fitting.
- Install shower heads 82 to 96 inches above the deck and 16 inches from walls or obstructions.
- Maintain shipboard emergency eyewash and shower equipment through the planned maintenance system. The hanging of inspection and maintenance tags is not required, but may be implemented via best practices.
- Clearly mark eyewash stations with green and white signs close to the unit, meeting NSN 9905-01-345-4521 or international standards.
- To ensure full compliance with 29 CFR 1915.89, refer to the complete regulation for detailed requirements and additional safety measures.
- Refer to OPNAVINST 5100.19F Chapter B5 for a full list of eyewash facilities requirements.



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