

Do I Need An Eye Wash/Shower Equipment In My Facility?

If You Have Employees That May Come Into Contact With A Substance Which Can Cause Corrosion, Severe Irritation or Permanent Tissue Damage or Which Is Toxic By Absorption, **the Answer Is “YES”**

What Are The Requirements For These Stations?

- In general, the standard has been interpreted to require plumbed or self-contained eyewash, deluge showers or eye/face-wash equipment
- Emergency eyewash facilities and deluge showers must be in accessible locations that require no more than 10 seconds for the injured person to reach. If both an eyewash and shower are needed, they must be located so that both can be used at the same time by one person. The area of the eyewash and shower equipment shall be maintained free of items which obstruct their use
- Plumbed and self-contained eyewash and shower equipment must supply potable water to produce a fifteen minute continuous supply of fluid
- The control valve must ensure that water flow remains on without requiring the use of the operator's hands and will not shut off unless the operator does so
- Plumbed eyewash and shower equipment must be activated at least monthly to flush the line and to verify proper operation. Other units shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions
- Make sure that your eye wash/deluge shower meets all applicable regulations and ANSI standards

What Is Not Allowed?

- Water hoses, sink faucets or showers. These are generally not considered adequate under the standards
- Personal eyewash units (small bottles with eye dropper attachments) and drench hoses may be used in conjunction with but not instead of the plumbed or self-contained units

Section 5162 of the California Code of Regulations deals specifically with Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment requirements in the workplace. For further review, it can be found here: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5162.html>

Contact Your CompWest Loss Control Consultant

If You Have Any Questions or Need Assistance

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