



Do You Need an Eyewash Station?

The CompWest Difference

CompWest customers are assigned a dedicated loss control consultant to identify and address loss trends while serving as a safety resource.

Do you need an eye wash station in your facility? If you have employees who may come into contact with a substance that can cause corrosion, severe irritation or permanent tissue damage or one that is toxic by absorption, then the answer is YES!

Requirements: 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 positioned so both can be used at the same time by one person.
- The area of the eyewash and shower equipment must be maintained free of items that obstruct their use.

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- 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's not allowed?

- Water hoses, sink faucets or showers. These are generally not considered adequate under ANSI 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>.

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