

Health and Safety Standard

EMERGENCY SHOWERS AND EYEWASH STATION STANDARD

1. PURPOSE

This standard supports the SaskPower Health, Safety and Environment Policy and specifies the requirements for emergency showers and eye wash stations.

2. SCOPE

This standard outlines the minimum requirements that shall be met or exceeded by SaskPower workers and contractors. Failure to comply may result in injuries, damage to equipment and property, environmental harm, performance management or any combination thereof.

The use of the word “shall” within this standard denotes a mandatory action, whereas the use of the word “should” or “may” denotes a recommended action.

3. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this standard:

Corrosive - have the ability to react strongly with metals. Contact with these materials usually results in destructive and irreversible damage to eyes, skin, throat, etc.

Emergency Showers (Permanent) - are devices specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to cause that fluid to cascade over the entire body. Water must be delivered at a velocity that is not injurious to workers for 15 minutes. The shower must deliver at least 75.7L/min (20gal/min) for plumbed or self-contained units of lukewarm/tepid water. The on/off control must be easy to reach and start the water flowing within 1 second or less of being activated.

Eyewash and Eye/Face Wash Stations (Permanent) – are designed to deliver fluid to both eyes simultaneously at a volume of not less than 1.5 litres/minute (0.4 gallons/minute) for 15 minutes. However, the volume should not be at a velocity which may injure the eyes. The unit should be between 83.8 and 114.3 cm (33 to 45 inches) from the floor, and a minimum of 15.3 cm (6 inches) from the wall or nearest

obstruction. Plumbed eyewash/face wash equipment used for flushing should be of lukewarm/tepid temperature.

Flushing Fluid - is any of potable (drinking) water, preserved water, preserved buffered saline solution or other medically acceptable solutions.

Personal Eye Wash Station (Personal) – is designed to deliver flushing fluid immediately, personal eye wash stations can be used while transporting the victim to the permanent eyewash station or medical facility. These stations do not replace the requirement to have a 15 minute-supply eyewash station. The expiry date of the fluid should be printed permanently on the unit.

4. REQUIREMENTS

4.1. SELECTION

- Emergency showers and eye/face wash stations shall meet the requirements of the needs specified by the hazard/aspect identification and risk assessment, taking into consideration the likelihood of exposure to the hazard and impact if exposed, in the work being completed.
- Emergency showers, and eye/face wash stations shall meet the requirements of ANSI Z358.1 Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment Standard.

4.2. PROVISIONING

- Emergency showers and eye wash stations (both permanent and personal) shall be supplied through SaskPower Central Stores or through the Division's purchasing process.

4.3. USE

- An emergency showers and eye/face wash station (both permanent and personal) is required where workers handle on a regular basis, substances that are corrosive or otherwise harmful, in a manner of use that may result in harmful exposure to the employee.
- The emergency showers and eye/face wash stations shall be located as close to the hazard as possible and be readily accessible. It shall be on an unobstructed path between the workstation and the hazard.
- Emergency shower and eye/face wash stations shall be located in an area where further contamination will not occur.

- Drainage systems are subject to environmental regulations if the water contains hazardous materials. As a result, Divisions operating shower and eye/face wash stations are responsible for ensuring that disposed water meets discharge requirements.
- Efforts shall be made to ensure that there is adequate drainage or containment in place for the excess water to be collected during shower or eye wash.
- Emergency shower and eye/face wash stations shall not come into contact with any electrical or battery equipment that may be a hazard when wet.
- Personal eye wash stations must be protected from freezing when installing emergency equipment outdoors or stored in vehicles.
- Flushing fluid shall be changed as per manufactures' recommendation, unless otherwise determined to be of an acceptable quality. Documentation shall be provided if change in schedules differs from manufactures' recommendation. Plumbed eyewash stations shall be activated and flushed monthly at a minimum. Divisions shall incorporate administrative controls and maintain records for each of the above.
- Any occurrences when an emergency shower and/or safety eye wash are used for an incident shall be documented as an incident in the safety software.

4.4. TRAINING

- Each division shall identify and be provided hazard/aspect and risk assessment awareness. Workers require general instruction on the proper use and location of eyewash stations. Written instruction should be made available and posted beside the eyewash station. Part of the instructional process should include a "hands on" drill on use of the equipment.

5. RESOURCES

5.1. INTERNAL RESOURCES

Related Policies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SaskPower Health, Safety and Environment Policy • Hazard /Aspect and Risk Assessment (HARA) Policy
Related Standards:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard/Aspect and Risk Assessment (HARA) Standard

Additional Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health, Safety and Environment Rule Book</i>
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5.2. EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Related Legislation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Saskatchewan Employment Act, 2014</i> • <i>The Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, 2020</i>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OHS Guidelines for Emergency Showers and Eyewashes in the Workplace • American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard z358.1 – 2014

5.3. OWNERSHIP

Division:	Health and Safety
Department:	Safety Performance & Planning
Review Frequency:	3 years
Approved by:	Health & Safety Council
Approval Date:	6/13/2019

5.4. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Revised by	Revision Purpose	Date
Health and Safety Department	Scheduled Review Cycle	6/26/2015
Health and Safety Department	Scheduled Review Cycle	6/13/2019