

Emergency Showers and Eye/Face Wash

Emergency response equipment is the first line of defense against potential hazards. Flushing within 10 seconds of exposure is critical to minimize serious injury.



Regulations & Standards

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.151.C

Where the eyes or body of any person may be exposed to injurious corrosive materials, suitable facilities for quick drenching or flushing of the eyes and body shall be provided within the work area for immediate emergency use.

ANSI Z358.1-2014

Establishes the minimum performance and use requirements for eyewash and shower equipment for the emergency treatment of eyes or body of a person who has been exposed to hazardous materials.

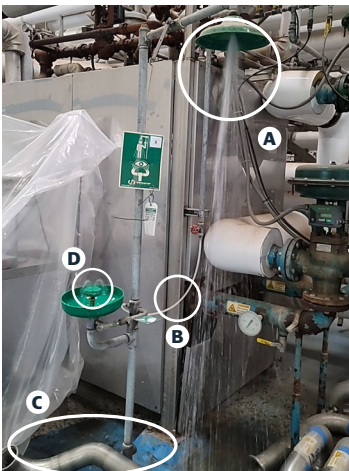
Find These:

Check for Hazards

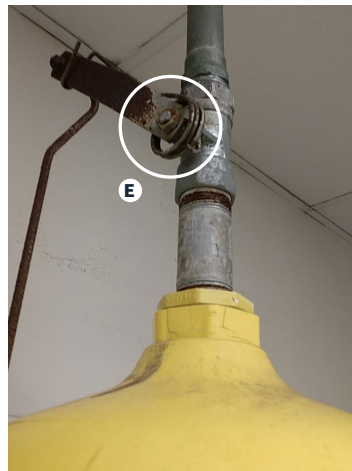
Safety Problem

Solution

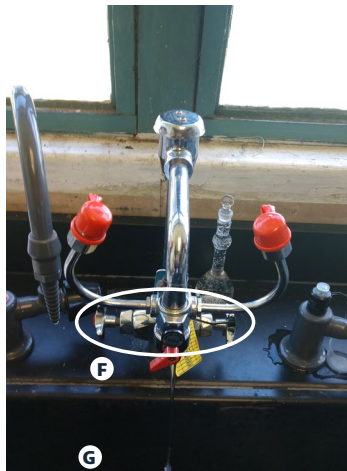
A) Eyewash & shower don't operate simultaneously (not aligned)	ANSI violation	Move shower to be aligned with eyewash
B) Plumbed supply line is too small	ANSI violation	Increase supply line to at least 1.25" (for showers or combination units) or 0.5" (for eyewash only), or recommend tank shower that requires small plumbing or no plumbing
C) Path to unit is obstructed	ANSI violation	Clear path to be free of obstructions
D) Uneven eyewash pattern	ANSI violation	Recommend to repair or replace unit
E) Not hands free operation—does water stay on after activation?	ANSI violation	Replace ball valve with stay-on ball valve or provide hands-free solution
F) Doesn't activate within 1 second	ANSI violation	Recommend eyewash with 1-second activation
G) No control to maintain water temperature at less than 100°F	ANSI violation	Recommend ASSE 1071 mixing valve
H) Confirm type of mixing valve installed	Plumbing code violation	If not compliant, recommend ASSE 1071 mixing valve



Violation: equipment not aligned, obstructed path, supply line too small, uneven eyewash pattern.



Violation: spring loaded valve, doesn't stay on hands-free.



Violation: separate hot/cold handles, not able to reach proper temperature within 1 second. Possible incorrect mixing valve; check below sink for mixing valve ASSE.



Violation: Confirm mixing valves meet ASSE 1071 certification.

Emergency Response



Find These:

Check for Hazards	Safety Problem	Solution
A) Hazardous chemicals present, no emergency equipment within 10 seconds (55 feet) of use	ANSI violation	Check chemical SDS, section 4 for first aid directions, confirm plumbing options, and recommend appropriate model
B) No scald protection valve at unit (usually at inlet to shower and/or inlet to eyewash)	ANSI violation	Recommend self draining unit or scald valve retrofit part
C) Supply line too small	ANSI violation	Increase supply line to at least 1.25" (for showers or combination units) or 0.5" (for eyewash only)
D) No dust covers on eyewash, leads to volume and pattern issues	ANSI violation	Advise to replace or provide alternate model
E) No signage present to make equipment visible	ANSI violation	Recommend appropriate signage
F) Indoor unit with insulation added	ANSI violation	Recommend outdoor model, pre-insulated and heat-traced to prevent freezing
G) No lockout/tagout on supply line valve	ANSI violation	Recommend lockout/tagout program



Violation: no emergency equipment available where chemicals are present or in use.



Violation: no scald protection valve, supply line is too small, no dust covers on eyewash, no signage.



Violation: insulation added, not designed for outdoor use, no lock out/tag out on valve.

Don't forget:

- Water delivered should be tepid, between 60°F-100°F (16°C-38°C).
- For any onsite chemicals, consult the SDS for emergency response or first aid information.
- Equipment must be accessible, easily visible, easy to operate, and maintain water flow hands-free.
- Regularly test emergency response equipment

For more information, contact:

