

Monthly Eyewash Flushing and Testing

To ensure eyewash stations properly function with clean water in the event of an emergency, plumbed eyewash stations in laboratories, shops, etc must be activated monthly.

Regulation (ANSI Z358.1-2014 Standard, section 5.5.2 and 6.5.2): Plumbed units should be activated long enough on a monthly basis to be sure flushing fluid is provided.

NOTE: Self-contained (not plumbed) eye washes are to be inspected/activated according to manufacturer's instructions (ANSI Z358.1-2014 Standard, section 5.5.3 and 6.5.3)

When performing a monthly eyewash flush, check the following:

- ✓ **Caps in place:** Outlets shall be protected from airborne contaminants
- ✓ **Access and signage:** Ensure that the eyewash station is easily identifiable and unobstructed. Carts, chairs, glassware and equipment can all obstruct an eyewash station, which may slow the response in the event of an emergency
- ✓ **Operation:** Ensure that the eyewash station activates easily with one-handed control; the flow removes eyepiece covers on an eyewash, and water flows evenly and in a steady stream on either device.
- ✓ **Water:** Allow the eyewash station to run for approx. 60 seconds to flush stagnant water from the line. If this is your first time flushing the station, you may have to run it longer to ensure that the water is clean.
- ✓ **Record:** Record your initials and date of test on the inspection tag hanging from station and in the departmental Eye wash and Safety Shower Inspection log.

Malfunctioning eyewash stations shall be reported to Facilities Management via work order.

Helpful hints:

- Turn on the eyewash slowly. To avoid a puddle underneath the eyewash, open slowly, then push on all the way.
- Have a roll of paper towels on hand in case of water leakage.

