

Service

How to Care for Safety Showers and Eye/Face Wash Equipment

A Checklist for Weekly Inspections



ANSI/ISEA Z358.1-2014 states that safety equipment should be visually inspected and activated every week. But do you know what to check for? Use the helpful checklist below to make sure your showers and eye/face wash stations meet the ANSI requirements. Keep track of your weekly inspections and note any areas that may need maintenance on the Weekly Activation Test Record available on our website.

Weekly Visual Inspection:

- Is the path to the shower and/or eyewash well-lit and clear of obstacles?**
Remember, a person who needs to use a shower or eyewash could have impaired vision. Make sure there are no obstructions (i.e. boxes, ladders, equipment, etc.) in the path.
- Is the shower and/or eyewash station clearly visible and demarcated?**
Ageing signs may fade or fall off the wall – replace damaged signage as needed. Also, make sure the area is well lit and light bulbs/light fixtures are working.
- Are there any electrical connections close to the equipment?**
Keep all electrical equipment at least 3 feet away from a safety shower or eyewash station.
- Does the shower and/or eyewash station appear in working order?**
Check for leaking water or moisture, as well as damage to the unit. Are the dust covers positioned properly? Look for dust, dirt and other contamination on the shower nozzle/rose or the bowl/sink area and clean as needed.

Weekly Activation Test:

- Does the shower or eye/face wash equipment activate properly?**
The unit should go from “off” to “on” in 1 second or less. The supply valve must remain open after activation without the use of the operator’s hand, only turning off when intentionally closed.
- Is there a steady flow of water?**
For an eye/face wash, verify that the initial flow of water removes the protective dust covers. Are the streams of water the same height and in a pattern that will flush both eyes at the same time? Is there enough space to hold eyelids open with hands while rinsing the eyes? Observe the flow pattern to make sure it’s not erratic or at a velocity that would further injure the eyes.

For showers, ensure that the water flows easily through the shower nozzle or rose. Make sure the stream does not halt or stutter.
- Is the water dirty or cloudy?**
Tiny particles found in dirt or rust can cause further damage to the eye or skin. Flush the equipment until all contaminants are out of the system and the water is clear.

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