



EYE WASH STATIONS & SAFETY SHOWERS GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

These guidelines support the *Health and Safety Policy* and *Health and Safety Management Standards* and provide assistance on the application of Australian Standard 4775 - Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment. It relates to assessing the type of equipment required within a particular area and outlines the testing and maintenance requirements of the University, in accordance with the standard.

DEFINITIONS

Combination Unit	An interconnected assembly of emergency equipment supplied by a single source of flushing fluid.
Drench Hose	A supplemental device consisting of a flexible hose connected to a flushing fluid supply and used to provide fluid to irrigate and flush face and body areas.
Emergency Shower	A device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to cause that fluid to cascade over the entire body.
Eye/Face Wash	A device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to irrigate and flush both the face and the eyes simultaneously.
Eye Wash	A device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to irrigate and flush the eyes.
Flushing Fluid	Drinking water, preserved water, preserved buffered saline solution or other medically acceptable solution manufactured and labelled in accordance with applicable government regulations.
Self-closing Valve	A valve that closes automatically when released by the user.
Self-contained Eyewash	An eyewash device that contains its own flushing fluid and needs to be refilled or replaced after use.
Self-contained Shower	A shower that contains its own flushing fluid and needs to be refilled or replaced after use.
Stay Open Valve	A valve that needs to be closed manually by the user.
Tepid	Moderately warm, lukewarm. (Recommended temperature range for tepid fluids is 15.6 degree Celsius to 37.8 degrees Celsius.
Valve Actuator	A device connected to the valve to facilitate its operation.



1. Testing of Eyewash stations and Safety Showers

Plumbed equipment shall have performance inspections carried out annually to ensure conformance with AS 4775. Self-contained units shall be monitored to determine if flushing fluids need to be changed or supplemented.

Under AS 4775, all plumbed eyewash and shower systems shall be activated weekly however, this may be varied on the basis of a documented risk assessment. As well as the weekly activation, the eyewash and safety shower should be inspected during the workplace inspections as per the [Workplace Inspection checklist](#).

Records must be kept indicating that the Unit has been activated weekly, or in a timeframe as determined by a risk assessment.

2. Requirements of different types of equipment

NB: This checklist does not indicate specific manufacturer or installation requirements.

	Emergency Showers	Plumbed In & Self Contained Eye Wash Stations	Plumbed in or Self Contained Eye/Face Wash	Combination Units	Drench Hoses	Supplementary Equipment
Water Requirements						
Tepid Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Flow Rate	75.7L/Min for 15 minutes	1.5L/Min for 15 minutes	11.4L/Min for 15 minutes	75.7L/Min for 15 minutes for the safety shower and 1.5L/Min for 15 minutes for the eye wash station	Low enough to be non-injurious to the user	Low enough to be non-injurious to the user
Protected from temperature extremes where required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S
Valve Requirements						
Valve fully closed to fully open in one second or less	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Valve shall remain open once activated without the use of the users' hands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/A
Is required to have the capacity to deliver immediate flushing fluid without being injurious to the user	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



	Emergency Showers	Plumbed In & Self Contained Eye Wash Stations	Plumbed in or Self Contained Eye/Face Wash	Combination Units	Drench Hoses	Supplementary Equipment
Actuator Requirements						
Actuators easy to locate and readily accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Access Requirements						
Unobstructed access to the unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unobstructed travel path to the unit within 10 seconds or 15 meters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Located on the same level as the hazard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Where strong acids or corrosives are used, the unit shall be located immediately adjacent to the to the equipment	N/S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Nozzle Requirements						
Nozzles are protected from airborne contaminants	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/S
Flow of the flushing fluid is provided to both eyes and the face simultaneously	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
The design allows for the eyelids to be held open while the eyes are in the flushing stream	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/A
Signage & Visibility Requirements						
Signage is highly visible complying with ISO 7010	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Where the flushing fluid is time limited, signage indicating this, is required	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/S
Area around the unit is well illuminated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S
Maintenance & Testing Requirements						
The Unit is to be activated weekly for long enough to verify that it is working correctly (may be varied according to a risk assessment)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If plumbed in)	N/A



	Emergency Showers	Plumbed In & Self Contained Eye Wash Stations	Plumbed in or Self Contained Eye/Face Wash	Combination Units	Drench Hoses	Supplementary Equipment
Fluid needs to be monitored for regular replacement when required	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Manufacturer to supply operation, inspection and maintenance instructions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Instructions and expiration dates to be permanently affixed to the unit	N/A	N/S	N/S	N/A	N/S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operation, inspection and maintenance instructions to be available to maintenance & training personnel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Performance testing required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/S	N/A
Annual inspection and tagging required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	As per manufacturer's instructions	As per manufacturer's instructions
Training Requirements						
Any staff exposed to hazardous materials are to be trained in the location & use of the equipment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

N/A = Not applicable
 N/S= Not specified within AS 4775
 Required for this type of unit

3. Additional Notes

- a) Supplementary equipment does not replace the need for plumbed in or self-contained equipment.
- b) Where equipment is intended for use by people with disabilities is should:
 - Comply with AS/NZS 1428 for emergency access
 - Be located within 10 seconds for the user to be able to access
 - Have clear access, including the ability to use the equipment, height of the equipment and clearance for wheelchairs
 - Be able to be adjusted to suit all potential users
 - Be reviewed to determine whether assistance will be required to operate the equipment
 - Be reviewed for other relevant issues such as lighting, floor markings, potential slip hazards etc.



- c) Where areas have had safety showers/eyewash stations installed as part of projects it is a requirement of the University that the location, make/model and testing information be forwarded to Properties, Facilities and Development to ensure that the facilities are:
 - Included on the list for annual testing and maintenance requirements
 - Referenced on the Emergency Management Plan to ensure that the relevant evacuation drawings are updated.

EXEMPTIONS

Please note: There is no requirement for emergency eye wash or safety shower equipment within areas or departments to be automatically upgraded to comply with AS 4775. Where refurbishments or changes to processes within the area are to occur, a risk assessment of the requirements of the area is to be completed to determine the specific needs, and appropriate equipment installed.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS/LINKS

- [Health and Safety Policy](#)
- [Health and Safety Management Standards](#)
- [Workplace Inspection Checklist](#)

Australian Standard 4775 Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment

International Standard 7010 Graphical symbols – safety colours and safety signs – registered safety signs

Australian New Zealand Standard 1428.Parts 1 – 5. Design for access and mobility

CONTACT DETAILS

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REVISION HISTORY

Revision #	Date	Amendment Description
1	08/03/2013	Issued for use
2	09/09/2016	Updated Sections 2 and minor administrative updates
3	21/5/2018	Addition of H&S Management Standards to Purpose and Relevant Documents sections